

## MEETING SUMMARY

### **Air Transportation Advisory Committee September 3, 2020**

The Air Transportation Advisory Committee (ATAC) convened at 1 p.m. on September 3, 2020, in a Virtual Microsoft Teams Meeting.

**1. Welcome and Introductions**, Keith Barrett, Chair

Keith welcomed everyone to the meeting and expressed appreciation for everyone's attendance.

**2. Orientation to Agenda**, Natalie Bettger, NCTCOG

Natalie noted that attendance would be recorded via Teams and asked those participants who called in to identify themselves along with their phone number, so they could be accounted for.

**3. Approval of June 4, 2020 ATAC Meeting Summary**, Keith Barrett, Chair

The Committee was asked to approve a summary of the previous ATAC meeting. There were no comments and the summary was approved as submitted. Karen Vanwinkle (M) and Sharlette Wright (S). The motion passed unanimously.

**4. Airports and Urban Air Mobility**, Yolanka Wulff, Community Air Mobility Initiative (CAMI)

Yolanka Wulff presented current CAMI initiatives and demonstrated how local airports could play an important role. The primary objective of CAMI is the "responsible integration of advanced air mobility into communities by providing education, communication, collaboration, and advocacy." The mission is to bridge stakeholders at the local level. Noting that the biggest challenge to implementation is public acceptance, Yolanka emphasized the importance of earning public trust through public education, transparency, and communicating the benefits of safely integrating advanced air mobility into our daily transportation system.

Public benefits include increased emergency or disaster response capabilities, a reduced need for vehicle traffic within the urban core, urgency trip pairing with commuter transit, and the increased utility of general aviation (GA) airports. Integration considerations include existing transit and roadways, grid capacity, and social equity. Infrastructure considerations are at the forefront. Undesirable impacts may include the risk of urban sprawl and noise.

Individual strategies are key to meet the needs of rural communities, suburban cities, and mega regions. GA airports can play a critical role in the successful integration of urban air mobility (UAM). Existing GA airports could provide vital infrastructure for proposed UAM Mobility Hubs which could revitalize underused airports that provide important resources to communities. GA airports can accommodate electric fixed wing and other aircraft, provide extra grid capacity for the community, and offer pilot training as options to generate additional revenue streams as an air and transportation hub.

CAMI is currently engaged in the Urban Air Policy Collaborative. The purpose is to work with local governments to develop policies for the safe integration and operation of these new technologies into the existing transportation network. For more information on CAMI initiatives, please visit the website [www.communityairmobility.org](http://www.communityairmobility.org).

#### **5. Airfield Design Guidelines for Large UAS, Preparing Airports For Large UAS, Thomas Macke, Woolpert**

Thomas Macke discussed Woolpert's current research being conducted for large UAS integration at airports through the Airport Cooperative Research Program (ACRP), funded by the FAA. The ACRP focuses on airport design standards in terms of infrastructure, planning and environmental concerns. Woolpert is an architectural engineering and geospatial firm with offices across the nation, the largest of which is located in Dallas. Woolpert collaborates with regulators and technology partners as well as NASA, AUVSI and other stakeholders.

In collaboration with the ACRP, Woolpert is currently engaged in airfield design standards research for large UAS aircraft. Research guidelines will address integration of large UAS into airfield operational areas, integration of technology (e.g. detect and avoid systems) into airport master planning, and environmental impacts among others.

Phase 1 research began in June 2020 with data collection, technology studies, and stakeholder engagements. By November 2020, Woolpert hopes to deliver an interim report and begin Phase 2. By February 2021, a design standard comparison and gap analysis, along with a large UAS airport impacts analysis, should be completed. Final reports are anticipated in August 2021.

#### **6. Airport Spotlight – Addison Airport, Joel Jenkinson, Airport Director**

Joel Jenkinson briefed the Committee on new developments and initiatives underway at Addison Airport. Black Forest Ventures/Galaxy Fixed Based Operator was recently selected through a Request for Qualifications process to develop three large hangars, a 20,000 sq. ft. terminal, and over 30,000 sf. ft. of ramp. The construction, with an estimated construction value of \$20 million, is located in the southeast quadrant of the airport. Anticipated completion is August 2021.

Another major development is the construction of a new Airport Administration Facility that will house U.S. Customs operations. Expected completion date is January 2021. In addition to new development, construction includes relocation of one vehicle service road, fuel farm landside relocation, and pavement replacements. Other airport funded projects include ramp reconstruction and storm drainage installation.

Addison Airport recently purchased a new \$700,000 aircraft rescue vehicle, funded with no grant assistance. Multiple Airport Improvement Program projects are slated for construction in 2022.

#### **7. Aviation Air Quality Survey Results, Bailey Mueller, NCTCOG**

Bailey presented the results of the North Texas Aviation Sustainability Initiatives Survey. NCTCOG staff surveyed regional airports to gather information on sustainability projects. The participating respondents provided feedback on emissions sources, energy and water efficiency initiatives, waste reduction goals and initiatives, and non-road and on-road vehicle types, among others. Based on responses related to waste reduction, NCTCOG will provide more information

to airports interested in pursuing a waste reduction goal or commitment. For airports who do not currently have an emissions inventory, NCTCOG will provide information on this process at a future ATAC meeting.

**8. DFW Region Planning and Funding Update**, Ernest Huffman, NCTCOG

Ernest Huffman updated the Committee on regional aviation planning, the UAS Task Force activities and current initiatives. NCTCOG staff has been engaged in the development of an update to the Regional Aviation System Plan that will be submitted in the near future.

The UAS Task Force meets the last Tuesday of every month with working group meetings the following Tuesday. Some topics discussed at the most recent Task Force meeting included the Alliance Texas Mobility Innovation Zone, Public Safety Unmanned Response Team (PSURT) the Texas Disaster Emergency Management Update and NASA Grand Design Challenge Update. A “Resolution Supporting the Safe and Efficient Integration of Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) into the DFW Metropolitan Area’s Existing Transportation Ecosystem” has been drafted and will be brought before the Surface Transportation Technical Committee and the Regional Transportation Council for consideration of endorsement and approval. The next Task Force meeting is scheduled for September 29 at 10 am.

In previous Committee meetings, members requested consideration of an amendment to NCTCOG’s Fire Code as it relates to airport hangars. To communicate the need for the proposed amendment, Pat Stewart with Granbury Airport responded to the Call for Nominations to the Fire Advisory Board, which currently has one open position. The Fire Advisory Board provides support and technical advice to the Regional Codes Advisory Board.

As there was no other business, the meeting was adjourned.

## **Meeting Participants**

### **Voting Members in Attendance**

Keith Barrett, Chair, Caddo Mills Airport  
Christian Childs, Vice Chair, Alliance Airport  
Kenneth Carley, McKinney National Airport  
Ty Helton, Greenville Municipal Airport  
Joel Jenkinson, Addison Airport  
Linda Pavlik, Ennis Municipal Airport  
Darrell Phillips, Midway Airport  
Ken Pyatt, SKY Helicopters  
Pat Stewart, Granbury Regional Airport  
Karen VanWinkle, Arlington Municipal Airport  
Sharlette Wright, Cleburne Municipal Airport

### **Nonvoting Members in Attendance**

Joe Hammond, Spinks Airport

### **Others in Attendance**

Zoe R Bolack  
Tom Chandler, Airport Owners and Pilots Association  
Katheryn Cromwell, TxDOT  
Haley Cuevas, Dallas Executive Airport, Texas Airports Council  
Isaac Ellison, City of Dallas  
Jim Halley, TxDOT  
Dan Harmon  
Abhijit Joshi, Michael Baker  
Vivek Khanna, Woolpert  
Sandra Lancaster, DFW Airport  
Bill Macke, TxDOT Aviation Division  
Thomas Mackie, Woolpert  
Sheldon Menezes, Woolpert  
Eric Risner, Woolpert  
Samuel G. Tan, DFW Airport  
John Terrell, DFW Airport  
Mike Weatherford, Transportation Security Administration  
Yolanka Wulff, Community Air Mobility Initiative

One other participant via conference line.

### **NCTCOG Staff in Attendance**

Therese Bergeon  
Natalie Bettger  
Dorothy Gilliam  
Ernest Huffman  
Dan Kessler  
Lisa Key  
Chris Klaus  
Bailey Muller