

COMING UP

- Aug. 9**
NCAA Region 3 Meeting, Charlotte
- Aug. 16**
NCAA Region 2 Meeting, Raleigh
- Aug. 19**
National Aviation Day
- Aug. 23**
NCAA Region 1 Meeting, Rocky Mount
- Sept. 10**
ACRP Webinar: New Resources for Managing Small Airports
- Sept. 25**
Wildlife Hazard Training, Pitt-Greenville Airport
- Sept. 26**
ACRP Webinar: Capture the Data – Quantifying Airport Ground Access Vehicle Activity
- Oct. 9**
Advanced Wildlife Hazard Training, Hickory Regional Airport
- Nov. 6**
Wildlife Hazard Training, Raleigh Executive Jetport
- Dec. 13**
FAA deadline for based aircraft count update for FAA NPIAS Report
- Dec. 30**
Deadline to spend expiring 2015 NPE funds
- May 31**
Deadline to spend expiring 2016 NPE funds

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New Terminals: Front Doors to N.C. Communities



Fayetteville Regional Airport will soon reveal the first phase of a \$40 million terminal building upgrade, the airport’s first major renovation since 1969.

Airport terminal buildings serve as front doors to their communities, the first thing members of the flying public see when visiting an area. They can leave lasting first impressions that make or break decisions to bring more jobs into communities or to return for leisure activities.

A spate of new terminal buildings opening, under construction and planned at airports across North Carolina are putting an impressive new face on the front doors of our state.

Curtis L. Brown Field in Elizabethtown opened its new, state-of-the-art terminal building in March to an overflow crowd. Named for local legend Mac Campbell Sr., the \$1.4 million project is expected to bring an additional \$15 million in economic investment to Bladen County every year.

See Terminals, page 5

Initiatives Aim to Increase Airport Impacts, Grow Aviation Economy



Amanda Conner

North Carolina’s 72 publicly funded airports already contribute \$52 billion to the state’s economy each year. Division of Aviation initiatives aim to help airports increase that impact.

Leading the charge will be Amanda Conner, new aviation business development manager, who joined the team in June. She will work with public airports, economic developers, state agencies, colleges and universities, and businesses to grow the state’s aviation economy and workforce.

The Lenoir County native has served on the leadership team of the North Carolina Global TransPark for the past two years. She helped NCGTP develop and
See Economy, page 2

Sign Up for Free, Easy DocuSign to Speed Grant Processing



The Division's Grants team paid 600 claims totaling \$128 million in FY 2019 while cutting the grant payment turnaround time to an average nine days. Their attention has now turned to expanding the use of DocuSign to airports to streamline all aspects of grant administration.

The electronic signature software can cut grant processing time significantly if airports adopt it. Sign up is easy and costs airports nothing. Eleven airports have already signed up. Email Grants at DOTAviationGrants@ncdot.gov to sign up.

Task Force Examines Airport Drone Impact Mitigation



The Division of Aviation's Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS, or drones) Program Office is monitoring developments of a Blue Ribbon Task Force formed by the Association for Unmanned Vehicle Systems International and Airports Council International-North America. It is developing a policy framework and procedures to mitigate adverse effects of unauthorized drone incursions at airports.

The task force of former government officials, security professionals and aviation executives convened in May, issued an interim report in July that identified key areas of focus and will issue a final report by the end of 2019.

Learn more or submit comments at uasmitigationatairports.org.

Economy, continued from page 1

implement an economic development strategy to expand business investment there. Previously, she worked nearly four years for Lenoir County economic development. She also brings seven years of experience as a public school educator and holds certifications in STEM concentrations that relate to aviation careers.

Airport Economic Development Fund

Besides developing and implementing economic and workforce development plans for the Division, Conner will also manage the N.C. Airport Economic Development Funding Program in collaboration with Division staff. The grant program, funded with state taxes collected on aviation gasoline and jet fuel, funds time-sensitive capital improvement projects on general aviation airports for economic development purposes. These investments will start to bear fruit this fall, as projects like a new facility for BlueLine Aviation at Johnston Regional Airport break ground.

Hangar Impact Research

Looking to the future, DoA has contracted with the Institute for Transportation Research and Education at North Carolina State University (which conducts the annual airport economic impact study) to study the economic impact of hangars and build a tool to evaluate the impact of new hangar projects.

The tool will help airports make the case for funding hangar space to reduce the backlog of requests and enable the business and tax revenues they generate.

Contact

For more information or assistance with aviation-related economic development projects, contact Conner at aconner1@ncdot.gov or (919) 814-0590.

Hurricane Season Approaches: Prepare to Report Your Status



The Division of Aviation has reset its Smartsheet forms and dashboard to enable airports this year to quickly report their condition to support the state's emergency response in the event of a weather emergency.

DoA will send airports a link and instructions to report their operating, fuel and power status as soon as the state activates its emergency operations system. Airports should bookmark the link as soon as it arrives, log into Smartsheet and follow reporting protocols.

Nine eastern North Carolina airports took hits from Hurricane Florence last year, but that did not stop the aviation community from mobilizing to support each other and provide infrastructure to support the state's emergency responders. Airports used the airport sponsors listserv and Smartsheet data systems to share their conditions and offer assistance. Emergency responders used the airport condition reports to determine how to deploy emergency aid. DoA also provided airport status updates requested by the General Assembly.

NC Aeronautical Chart Reprinted to Correct Errors

Errors found in the new NC Aeronautical Chart are forcing a reprint. New charts will be distributed by mid-September. Airports may want to recycle any charts with errors they have on hand. The western half of the chart does not show Class E airspace.



PEOPLE

Welcome New Airport Managers!

- **Brent Cornelison**, Town Manager, Elkin Municipal Airport, Elkin
- **George Crater**, Airport Manager, Mount Airy-Surry County Airport, Mount Airy
- **Bill Hopper**, Executive Director, Pitt-Greenville Airport, Greenville
- **Roy Lynch**, Town Manager, Siler City Municipal Airport, Siler City

Rachel Bingham named Interim Airport Development Manager



Senior airport project manager Rachel Bingham has been named the Division's interim airport development manager, filling the post vacated by Jon Arnold, who left in June to become NCDOT Highways Division 5 Road Maintenance Engineer.

Bingham brings 15 years of aviation experience, including five years at the Division of Aviation and 10 years managing projects at Charlotte Douglas International Airport.

Betsy Beam tapped to head Division of Aviation Finance & Grants



Division of Aviation Grants Manager Betsy Beam was named Manager of Finance and Grants in June. She was selected from a field of 39 highly qualified applicants for her broad leadership and financial management experience and expertise.

Beam succeeds Joe Gilroy, who left DoA to head Temporary Solutions, N.C. state government's temporary staffing agency.

AIRPORT DEVELOPMENT GRANTS

Update Based Aircraft by Dec. 13 to Protect Future Federal Funding

The Federal Aviation Administration will update based aircraft numbers for its National Plan of Integrated Airport Systems (NPIAS) Report this year to determine airport eligibility for federal Airport Improvement Funds for the next two years.

Airports should update their numbers at BasedAircraft.com by Dec. 13 to ensure they maximize their eligibility for federal airport development funds.

STI Aviation Criteria Change, Submittal and STIP Schedule Shift

The NCDOT Division of Planning and Programming has delayed the schedule of STI Prioritization 6.0 by three months. The project submittal window initially scheduled to begin in July will start in October. Final submissions will be due in SPOT On!ine in May. The resulting scores will guide the draft 2023-2032 STIP, which will be released in February 2022.

The new schedule follows the adoption of new STI criteria for airport development grants recommended by an Aviation STI Work Group, which met from October-April to determine how to make the funding program work better for N.C. airports. The work group of airports, planners and NCDOT staff recommended four changes, approved by the Board of Transportation in July:

- Remove the system plan goal requirement and expand eligible projects to include projects that increase the capacity of the airport and/or modernize the airport.
- Replace the Non-State Contribution Index with a new Constructability Index.
- Incorporate a funding leverage component into the Benefit-Cost criteria.
- Revise the scoring percent weights of the FAA ACIP Rating and Constructability Index (formally Non-State Contribution Index) for the Statewide Mobility and Regional Impact tiers.

See SPOT's updated [Prioritization Resources website](#) for the most current P6.0 information.

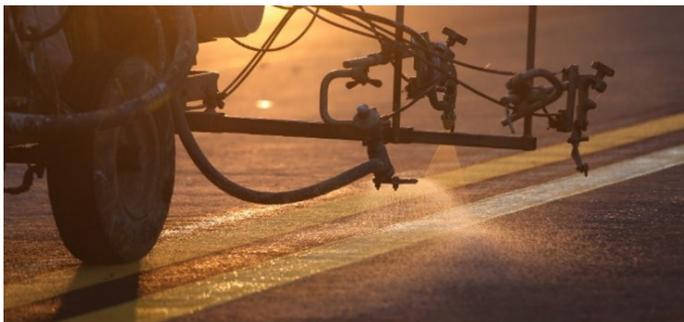
Key Nonprimary Entitlement Funds Spending Deadlines Coming Up

System airports spent all but \$185 in expiring 2014 NPE funds by the deadline thanks to a lot of hard work, much of it last minute, by airports, airport project managers, consultants and grants staff. Attention now turns to two upcoming spending deadlines that will occur in this fiscal year, an oddity created when the NPE spending window changed from five years to four years in 2016.

Airports must find ways to spend their expiring NPE funds by these dates or lose them:

- 2015 NPE funds by Dec. 30.
- 2016 NPE funds before May 31.

Statewide Programs Completes \$1.6 Million in Airport Projects



The Division's Statewide Programs office spent \$1.6 million on airport maintenance programs in FY 2019 and took steps to strengthen and expand its program, designed to perform

preservation and maintenance projects more efficiently and cost-effectively than individual airports could do on their own.

Pavement condition surveys were conducted at all 69 eligible airports this year to establish baseline data. It will be integrated with the development team's processes to help prioritize maintenance and development projects. Pavement Condition Index reports from the surveys will be delivered to airports later this summer.

The Division secured two contracts for AWOS services:

- DBT, who has had the proprietary parts contract, will add maintenance.
- RSINet will provide data collection services.

TRAINING

Free Airport Wildlife Hazard Training Offered



The Division of Aviation, in partnership with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, will host three more wildlife hazard trainings this year. They are free of charge to airport personnel tasked with managing wildlife hazards.

Training dates and locations are:

- Sept. 25– Pitt-Greenville Airport
- Oct. 9 – Hickory Regional Airport (Advanced Training)
- Nov. 6 – Raleigh Executive Jetport

For questions or to pre-register, contact Jimmy Capps, USDA – APHIS Wildlife Services, (919) 210-9428 or james.e.capps@aphis.usda.gov.

Upcoming NC AirTAP Sessions Cover Documentation, Airport Security

Division Grants staff with NCDOT Information Technology staff offered in-person training on grant management software in June to help airport personnel better navigate the grants process – part of ongoing training offered by the Division through its N.C. AirTAP Airport Leadership Management Program.

Planning is under way for the next ALMP course focused on Airport Safety and Protection, to be offered soon.

Meanwhile, a brief AirTAP training session on Airport Documentation will be offered at the August NCAA Region meetings, led by Manager of Statewide Programs Randy Finger. The session will recap best practices for general aviation airports covered at the third NC AirTAP Airport Leadership and Management Program course on Airport Operations and Maintenance and review the Division of Aviation’s required documentation.

ACRP Offers Solutions to Airport Issues in Upcoming Webinars

The Airport Cooperative Research Program offers free webinars featuring senior airport researchers presenting solutions to issues facing airports. Upcoming webinars are:

- Sept. 10 – New Resources for Managing Small Airports

- Sept. 26 – Capture the Data – Quantifying Airport Ground Access Vehicle Activity

Learn more and register at [ACRP Webinars](#).

Terminals, *continued from page 1*



Two new TSA check lanes at RDU’s Terminal 2 will process 360 more passengers every hour.



Raleigh Exec expects to complete its new terminal in September.



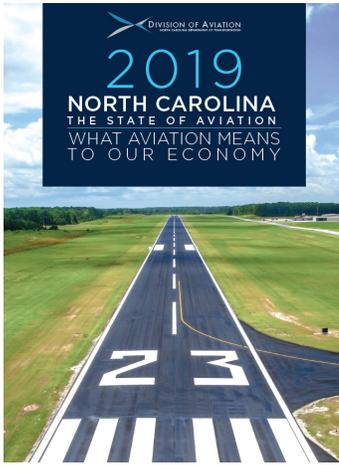
New steel goes up in July for ILM’s terminal building expansion.

Also under way:

- Cape Fear Regional Jetport, Southport, will complete its new terminal building in August.
- Fayetteville Regional Airport is renovating its terminal and upgrading its jet bridge.
- Lumberton Regional Airport broke ground on a terminal building in April to be completed in March 2020.

- Raleigh-Durham International Airport is expanding Terminal 1 and upgrading Terminal 2.
- Raleigh Executive Jetport in Sanford plans to complete its new terminal building in September.
- Wilmington International Airport is expanding its terminal building.

Collaborative Outreach to Thousands Publicizes Aviation Impacts



An extremely successful outreach collaboration of airports and the Division on the release of the 2019 *North Carolina: The State of Aviation* reports has reached thousands of stakeholders since January with information on aviation's impacts in the state.

Division and airport staff have presented to more than 40 groups of legislators, economic developers, planning organizations, local officials, civic groups and others, deepening their understanding of the vital role airports play in building the state's economy.

"It's been very exciting to see the powerful impact we can have by working together as an aviation community," said NCDOT Aviation Director Bobby Walston. "We'll be building on this collaboration as we move forward to build even more support for our system."

The report showed that North Carolina's 72 publicly owned airports contribute more than \$52 billion to the state's economy each year, with more than 307,000 jobs, \$12.6 billion in personal income from airport-related workers and \$2.2 billion in state and local tax revenues.

Forsyth Tech breaks ground on aviation lab at Smith Reynolds Airport



Construction is under way on a \$16 million aviation facility at INT in Winson-Salem, scheduled for completion by October 2020.

Forsyth Technical Community College's Mazie S. Woodruff Aviation Technology Lab will be 53,000 square feet with a 12,000-square-foot airframe lab that can house up to eight aircraft with classrooms and components labs.

It will offer two associate degrees: Aviation Systems Technology program for aviation maintenance technicians and Aviation Electronics (Avionics) Technology for operations, repair and overhaul of general avionics, electrical and electronic systems, practical wiring, navigation, flight management and communications equipment.

Statesville Regional Airport Purchases Fixed-Base Operator



SVH, already one of the strongest and fastest-growing general aviation airports in the state, bought its FBO in January for \$5.4 million.

The move will give the airport more control over its FBO operations and provide revenue from fuel sales and hangar rentals.

Albert J. Ellis Airport Wins Mobi Honorable Mention



OAJ's \$49 million airport redevelopment project won an honorable mention in the tourism category of the N.C. Department of Transportation's inaugural Mobi Awards. The Jacksonville airport's massive modernization project added new passenger terminals, aircraft hangar and quick-turn area for rental cars and replaced nearly every facility at the airport. OAJ also realigned portions of its entrance road and created staging areas to connect travelers with mass transit.

The Mobi Awards honors towns, cities and counties for completing game-changing projects that use different modes of transportation to make travel easier and more efficient. Look for the call for 2020 Mobi Award nominations this fall.

Piedmont-Triad Breaks Ground on Air Traffic Control Tower



GSO, the state's largest cargo hub airport, broke ground June 6 on a 180-foot air traffic control tower and terminal radar approach control.

The new tower modernizes one in operation since 1974. The approach control will manage airspace within a 60-mile radius of the airport.

Wright Flight Motivates Students to Achieve



More than 200 Martin County fifth-graders got the chance to take to the skies April 27 as a reward for a good year, part of the Wright Flight program.

The students, all of whom successfully completed certain behavioral and academic benchmarks during the school year while remaining drug, alcohol and tobacco free, earned a 20-minute ride in a small, propeller airplane from MCZ over their home county.

The Martin County program is funded entirely through donations. Eighty percent of the students who entered the program met their goals and got the chance to take flight, a record for the county's program.

Halifax-Northampton Regional Airport Turns 10



One of the newest airports in the North Carolina system, IXA celebrated its 10th anniversary in May with festivities that included speeches from local dignitaries and a demonstration by the legendary Bandit Flight Team.

Davidson County Airport Hosts Aviator Rendezvous



The May event attracted hundreds of flight enthusiasts for air shows, displays, vendors, food trucks and live music.

Guests had the chance to take a ride in one of two still-flying World War II aircraft: the Greenland Gopher, a C-47 that flew over Normandy on D-Day and delivered paratroopers as part of Operation Market Garden, and the Memphis Belle, a B-17 bomber that starred in the 1990 movie of the same name.

Airport Milestones and Events to Share?

Contact NCDOT Aviation Communications Specialist James Pearce at jpearce2@ncdot.gov for help publicizing them.

Connect with Your Peers through the Airport Managers Listserv

The Division of Aviation's listserv for airport managers offers a closed space for asking questions and sharing information on all types of airport operations, from hangar lease rates and policies to tie-down and hangar space available during weather emergencies.

Don't miss another discussion. Email Eileen Cusyck, emcusyck@ncdot.gov, to subscribe.

Consultant Corner

Reminders:

- Commercial service airports now receive state funds and must comply with state regulations outlined on the [State Airport Aid & FAA State Block Grant Program website](#).
- Prequalifications must be renewed each year. Remind your subs too! Don't let this lapse, it will delay grant executions.
- Remind your airports of master contract expirations. No new projects can be executed with an expired master contract.

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Find airport development guidance, resources and forms on the Connect NCDOT State Airport Air & FAA State Block Grant Programs webpage, <https://connect.ncdot.gov/municipalities/State-Airport-Aid>

Sponsor Brief

Sponsor Brief is published quarterly by the NCDOT Division of Aviation. Send story ideas and feedback to jpearce2@ncdot.gov

The North Carolina Department of Transportation Division of Aviation promotes the economic well-being of North Carolina by developing a safe and robust air transportation system.

Bobby Walston, Aviation Director • www.ncdot.gov/aviation

