

COMING UP

FY 23 Airports Community Quarterly Meetings

July 26, 2022

Oct. 25, 2022

Jan. 24, 2023

April 25, 2023

North Carolina: The State of Aviation Release

Jan. 6

Airport community pre-release briefing

Jan. 9

Report release

May 4-5

Board of Transportation meetings

May 13

N.C. Airports Association Region Meeting,
Johnston County Regional Airport

May 17

Airport Leadership and Management
course, *Airport Operations and
Maintenance*, Raleigh

May 18

Regional Wildlife Hazard Mitigation
Training, Rocky Mount-Wilson Regional
Airport

May 30

Deadline for submitting claims for expiring
2018 federal non-primary entitlement and
apportionment funds

June 1

Deadline to submit claims for CRSSA
funds

June 1

Deadline for SCIF grant recipients to
submit claim for final FY 22 payment

June 8-9

Board of Transportation meetings

Coming Up continued on p.2

IN THIS ISSUE

People	2
Program News.....	3
Airport Community News	5

Stepping Up Our Cash Flow Game, Meeting New Requirements



Requirements are changing for publicly funded airport infrastructure projects, such as this one at Triangle North Executive Airport.

North Carolina's airport system is now the beneficiary of an unprecedented amount of support and funding from the state and federal government. At the same time, two new requirements are affecting how Division of Aviation-administered airport grant programs operate.

The first requirement is related to state mandates placed on NCDOT for spending and accountability that are prompting tighter monitoring of cash flow. The second is a new federal requirement that airports identify a project for non-primary entitlement (NPE) and Airport Improvement Grant (AIG) funds and stick to it.

On the cash flow front, all NCDOT units must now produce and operate under annual spend plans that project how much will be spent every month of the year. If spend exceeds plus or minus 10% of projections in any month, justification must be provided.

Projecting monthly spending is challenging for airport grant programs, which are based on reimbursements to airports for development project expenditures. The pace of reimbursements can vary widely due to the timing of local approval cycles, bidding processes, weather-related delays and, in recent years, pandemic and supply chain delays in securing and resuming contracted work. These factors make it difficult for both airports and the Division to predict when projects will be expensed over a two-year period.

The Division's Spend Plan projections rely heavily on quarterly project cash flow data provided by airports and consultants, along with knowledge of airport projects, historical data and prevailing conditions.

For that reason, airports and consultants are asked to help the Division meet its spending targets by providing cash flow for both state- and federally funded projects based on realistic project schedules, advancing projects based on those schedules and keeping cash flow current in the grant administration system. If projects are out of alignment with projections, cash flow should be updated in EBS via a grant modification request immediately. Cash flow should be continuously monitored and updated any time it is not on target.

Continued on page 3

Stacy Ambrose Named Dare County Regional Airport Director



Stacy Ambrose

Long-time Dare County Regional Airport staffer Stacy Ambrose has been named director. Ambrose succeeds David Daniels, who retired. Ambrose, a Dare County native, has worked for the airport for 32 years. In his new role, he oversees airport administration, operations, safety, planning and development, public relations and construction.

Raj Kondapalli Joins Division of Aviation as Statewide Program Manager



Raj Kondapalli

Raj Kondapalli, P.E., has been named manager of statewide programs for the Division of Aviation. That program includes statewide pavement management, wildlife hazard mitigation, AWOS program and others. He brings 13 years of experience in every aspect of airfield design and development, including pavement management and project management, with extensive experience at commercial service airports. He holds a bachelor's degree in civil engineering from Osmania University in Hyderabad, India, and master's degree in civil engineering from Texas A&M.

Emily Ferreira Named Airport Project Manager for Division of Aviation



Emily Ferreira

Emily Ferreira has joined the Division of Aviation as an airport project manager and will support airports in the southwest region once Division vacancies are filled. Ferreira brings four years of experience in engineering and intern roles, most recently working two years as a geotechnical engineer for Stewart. She previously held engineer and intern roles at Arcadia, S&ME Inc., Michael Baker and NCDOT. She holds a bachelor's degree in civil engineering from North Carolina State University and EIT certification.

Riley Beaman Named UAS Program Manager



Riley Beaman

Riley Beaman has joined the Division of Aviation as manager of its award-winning Unmanned Aircraft Systems Program. He is responsible for developing and leading North Carolina's advances in commercial and government use of drones. He brings to this work 18 years of experience building and managing programs and partnerships that serve the needs of the community, industry and the state. Most recently, he was director of health and public safety

at Montgomery Community College. Beaman holds a bachelor's degree in sports management/health care administration, with a minor in business administration, from Methodist University and a master's in educational administration from Western Carolina University.

Marcus Thompson Named NCDOT Communications Specialist for Aviation



Marcus Thompson

NCDOT Communications has assigned Marcus Thompson to serve as the communications specialist for the Division of Aviation. Thompson has served as a communications officer with NCDOT since July 2019, supporting business units with news and media, social media, website development and special campaigns and projects. He graduated summa cum laude from North Carolina A&T State University with a degree in journalism and mass communications.

COMING UP *(continued from page 1)*

June 10

N.C. Airports Association Region Meeting, Wilmington International Airport

July 1-8

NCDOT grants system closes for fiscal year-end reconciliation

July 1

Quarterly Status Report due for every grant

July 7

Board of Transportation meetings

July 13

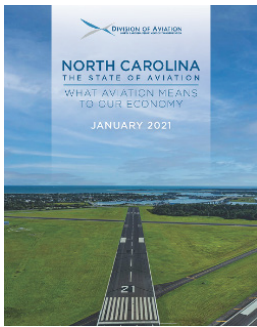
Regional Wildlife Hazard Mitigation Training, Hickory Regional Airport

July 26

Airport Community Quarterly Meeting (Virtual)

PROGRAM NEWS

Biennial N.C. Airports Economic Impact Survey Launches



The Division of Aviation launched its biennial economic impact study of North Carolina's 72 public airports in March. Data from that survey will be combined with information on the state's extensive aviation assets to create the 2023 *North Carolina: The State of Aviation* report.

The 2021 version of that report revealed that the state's public airports generate \$61 billion of economic impact each year – 10% of our state's gross domestic product – and support more than 373,000 jobs. Those jobs each year contribute \$15 billion in personal income and return more than \$2.5 billion in tax revenues to state and local governments.

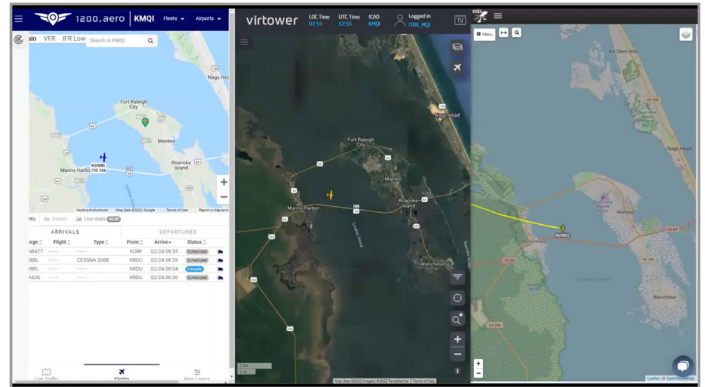
The 2023 report will be released on Monday, Jan. 9. A pre-release briefing will be held for airports the Friday before, on Jan. 6. Look for details in the fall.

The 2023 report will be based on 2021 data from airports and their users and tenants. Data collection runs from April-July, as follows:

- April 25, 2022 – Commercial service airport managers survey due
- May 16, 2022 – General aviation airport managers survey due
- April-July 2022 – GA tenant/user outreach and surveys submitted
- July 31, 2022 – Final deadline for all airport data

User/tenant surveys may be completed online at www.go.ncsu.edu/Airport. Contact researcher Dr. Daniel Findley at Daniel_Findley@ncsu.edu for information and assistance

Study Shows Airport Operations Counting Products Offer Transformative Solution



Three airport operations counting tools display the path of an incoming aircraft at a N.C. airport.

A recently completed Division of Aviation study of new electronic airport operations counting products demonstrate their transformational potential for the state's airport system. Airports that participated in the study said they benefited greatly from this technology.

These products make real-time aircraft operations and aircraft data available 24x7 – in contrast to the rudimentary counting methods the airport community now uses. They provide granular details such as how many days a based aircraft is on an airport, which can help verify aircraft for property tax billing. They capture aircraft traffic patterns to help planners and engineers evaluate runway approaches and impacts on land uses around the airport, detect aircraft operating over sensitive or prohibited areas, and offer extensive reporting capabilities.

Based on the study results, the Division will begin reimbursing airports 50% of the cost of securing one of these products, up to \$3,000 a year, if chosen from a list of NCDOT-approved products. Look for details coming soon.

Stepping Up Our Cash Flow Game, Meeting New Requirements, *continued from page 1*

In addition, airports must now provide cash flow for all new state-funded projects approved by the Board of Transportation before a Request for Aid can be issued. The intent is for projects to be ready to move when funds are awarded.

The second change affecting the way grant projects operate is a new federal requirement that airports identify which projects will be funded with NPE and AIG grants and stick with that choice. The Federal Aviation Administration has provided a one-year grace period. That will provide time for airports to prepare so they can intentionally select projects to fund with federal grants next year. We are asking the FAA Airport District Office for information on what is required if the declared project must change due to circumstances beyond your control.

As airports select projects, they should keep in mind that new NPE and AIG funds have Special Conditions that may require input from the sponsor before the grant can be fully executed (see the Division email sent Dec. 13, 2021, with subject "FYI: NPE Award Letters and EBS Upgrades" for details). Division staff are available to assist airports in choosing appropriate projects to optimize the funding sources available to them.

Five airports receive inaugural ACE Academy grants for summer 2022



Summer aviation academies expose students to aviation career opportunities

Five airports have been awarded \$3,000 grants to support aviation academies for elementary, middle and high school student during summer 2022.

Grants were awarded to:

- **Fayetteville Regional Airport**
- **Kinston Regional Jetport**
- **Smith Reynolds Airport**
- **Washington Warren Airport**, which will offer two camps: one focused on traditional aviation and another on drones
- **Wilmington International Airport**

Aviation Career Education (ACE) Academies help build the state's aviation talent pipeline by exposing students to aviation and related careers. They focus on aviation history, career discovery and planning, and unmanned aircraft systems (UAS, or drones), and feature activities such as hands-on drone and airplane flight simulations and trips to aerospace facilities.

ALMP course, Airport Operations and Maintenance, set for May 17



The North Carolina Technical Assistance Program launched the second 12-course Airport Leadership and Management Program (ALMP) in March. ALMP is the Division's professional development program for airport staff.

More than 225 people have participated in this program and more than 25 people have earned the North Carolina Airport Professional credential through that program.

The next course, Airport Operations and Maintenance, has been scheduled for May 17 in Raleigh. Registration details will be emailed to airport staff soon.

In addition to ALMP, the Division plans to expand its NC AirTAP offerings to launch courses for both new airport authority board members and airport consultants. Look for details on both of those programs coming later this year.

Unique Entity Identifier Required for Federal Funding



The federal government has transitioned from using the DUNS number to a Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) to identify

airports in its System for Award Management (SAM.gov).

Thanks to airports who emailed their UEI to DOTAviationGrants@ncdot by the early April deadline so the team could comply with this federal mandate for federal grant recipients.

Those who have not must email their UEI to the Grants team to receive federal grant payments.

Financial Risk Assessment Program Shifts to Biennial Schedule



Airport financial risk scores have improved significantly over the three years of the Division's annual Financial Risk Assessment Program.

For that reason, the Division will shift to

conduct these assessments every other year.

That means there will be no financial risk assessment in 2022.

Surveys for the next assessment will be distributed to airports in May 2023.

Grants System Closes in Early July for Year-end Reconciliation

NCDOT's fiscal year end closeout begins July 1 and runs until July 7 or 8. No claims will be processed during that period.

The Grants team asks that all claims and funding requests be submitted by June 20 at the latest to allow time to process and return claims that have issues so they may be processed in state fiscal year 2022.

Remittance Address on Claim Form Must Match Invoice Address

A reminder that the remittance address on claim forms must match the address on supporting invoices/pay applications in order to be approved for payment.

If not, an updated W-9 must be submitted to update the remittance address on file with NCDOT.

COMMUNITY NEWS

New Tower Commissioned at Charlotte Douglas International Airport



Charlotte Douglas' tower is the second tallest in the country and fifth busiest in the world.

The Federal Aviation Administration commissioned Charlotte Douglas International Airport's new 370-foot air traffic control tower April 5.

It is the second-highest tower in the country, behind the 398-foot-tall tower at Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport, and the fifth-busiest tower in the world.

This tower supports the airport's growth with expanded terminal radar approach control and state-of-the art NextGen technology.

Wilmington International Airport Cuts the Ribbon on Terminal Building Expansion



Wilmington International's terminal building features more gates, seating and amenities.

Wilmington International Airport celebrated its terminal building expansion in February.

The addition expanded the terminal building's size by more than 75% to meet current needs and future growth. It features new gates, seating and restaurant/retail space.

The expansion is part of a multi-year project that added a new outbound bag room with screening equipment and expanded the ticket lobby, counter and offices. A final phase will upgrade gates at the old concourse.

Avwatch Opens Aircraft Maintenance Facility at Michael J. Smith Field



The new company plans to create 19 new jobs in Beaufort.

Avwatch, part of Technology Service Corporation (TSC), has opened its new base of operations and commercial aircraft maintenance facility at Michael J. Smith Field in Beaufort.

The Division of Aviation provided a \$400,000 grant from its North Carolina GA Airport Economic Development Fund to renovate the hangar to attract this new company. Avwatch is investing \$2.6 million to locate in Beaufort and expects to create 19 new jobs. The company established a full-time base of operations supporting contract flights in November. It opened a commercial aircraft maintenance facility in February. A third phase of development will establish a permanent facility in North Carolina to serve the aviation and maintenance needs of the region.

Washington-Warren Airport launches \$20 million airport modernization project



Airport and community officials and legislators ceremoniously break ground on April 26.

Local and state officials and community members broke ground on a \$20 million airport modernization program for Washington-Warren Airport on April 26. The airport will use funds provided by the N.C. General Assembly to complete a wide range of projects to transform the airport, originally built in the 1940s to train pilots.

“The aviation industry is one of the fastest-growing areas of the economy,” said N.C. Speaker of the House Tim Moore, who attended along with Beaufort County Representative Keith Kidwell. “An enhanced airport supports economic growth,” Moore said.

The airport plans to renovate runway, taxiways and aircraft parking aprons, install LED lighting, purchase land for lighting and facilities, build corporate hangars and offices, and renovate its medivac hangar.

“The infusion of this amount of funds to a small rural airport’s infrastructure will provide historic opportunity for economic development and job creation in our community,” said Airport Director Earl Malpass. The airport already contributes more than \$28 million to the local economy each year, supports more than 200 jobs and returns \$925 million a year in state and local taxes.

“In coming years, we hope to be the model for how investment in the network of airports across North Carolina can impact rural communities,” Malpass said.

Division of Aviation Continues Process Changes While Filling Vacancies

The Division’s Development team continues operating under the following process for general airport contacts. Thank you for your patience and flexibility as we work to hire new talent and train them on best practices to grow and advance aviation into the future.

New Inquiries

All new inquiries should be submitted to: DOTAviationDevelopment@ncdot.gov. The emails will be directed to the entire Development team. The first available team member will respond to you as soon as possible.

New Documentation Reviews

If you need documentation reviewed, please submit the request through this [Development Request Form](#). Requests to be submitted through this form are: Work Authorizations, Plan Reviews, CSPP Reviews, Land Release, Sponsorship Documentation, IFE/IFA requests and ALP/Master Plans.

Existing Documentation Reviews

If you previously submitted something to former Senior Airport Project Manager Ashley Clowes for review, you need take no further action. It will be reviewed and returned to you.

Airport/Project Status Meetings Not Required

Please do not reach out to request a meeting to get our staff up to date on your airport or project. Former Senior Airport Project Manager Ashley Clowes relayed the status of all Eastern Region airports and projects to Development staff before she left.



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