

APPENDIX E

Public Involvement Plan

AASP

ALASKA AVIATION SYSTEM PLAN

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PLAN

DOT&PF Project No. 51156

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LIST OF ACRONYMS

AASP	Alaska Aviation System Plan
DOT&PF.....	State of Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities
DOWL.....	DOWL Engineers
FAA.....	Federal Aviation Administration

1.0 INTRODUCTION

The State of Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT&PF) has hired DOWL Engineers (DOWL) to help update the Alaska Aviation System Plan (AASP). The AASP will address aviation infrastructure and policy needs for Alaska's statewide aviation system. Public participation is a key element in the development of the AASP. This Public Involvement Plan will serve as a guide to ensure a successful public outreach program throughout the course of the AASP project.

2.0 PROJECT OVERVIEW

The AASP will be accomplished under several phases from 2008 through 2010; the number of phases and exact schedule has not yet been determined.

- Phase I, which is nearly completed, collects initial documents and data; establishes methods for the inventory, forecasts, and economic impact study; defines the decision-making process and public involvement program; conducts initial outreach to the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), airport owners, and the aviation industry; and prepares an overview of the FAA air navigation technologies and programs. It will set the foundation for later phases.
- Phase II will complete the project web site and public survey and further organize the public involvement program.
- Later phases will prepare inventory, performance measures, forecasts, alternatives, and recommendations. Public involvement will occur throughout these phases.

3.0 PUBLIC OUTREACH GOALS AND METHODS

Public outreach efforts throughout the AASP project are focused on the following broad efforts:

- Educating the public about Alaska's aviation system and its issues.
- Identifying aviation issues, project goals, and objectives.
- Providing avenues for input on technical analysis, alternatives, and recommendations.

- Documenting the public comments and communicating them to project decision-makers.

Public outreach efforts in Phase I are targeted at the DOT&PF, FAA, and key stakeholder groups. Key stakeholders include municipal airports, the DOT&PF, the FAA, airlines, aviation organizations, and other organizations with specific interest in the aviation system. The purpose of this targeted outreach is to identify major issues that the AASP should address and to create awareness of the plan. The public outreach methods for Phase I (currently underway) include:

- Survey of DOT&PF, FAA, municipal airport managers, and key aviation industry officials.
- Meetings with stakeholder groups.

Public outreach in Phase II will be broad-based. The public at large will be notified and invited to participate in the planning process through a public survey, public meetings, an interactive web site, and a mailing list. This broad outreach is intended to provide a forum for the aviation organization members, air carriers and air taxis, Alaska Native organizations and corporations, Alaska economic development groups, and Alaskan cities and boroughs to participate in the planning process. Public outreach methods for Phase II will include:

- Creating an interactive web site for project news and information.
- Make a survey available on the web site for public input and comments.
- Use of the media (e.g., newspaper articles, editorials, newsletters, radio station interviews, press events, articles in organizations' publications).
- Presentations or booths at conferences and air shows.
- Enlisting DOT&PF planning staff to assist in project-specific public outreach during their regular visits to Alaskan communities and villages.
- Legislator briefings.

An overview of these project methods, stakeholders and purpose can be found in the following table.

Table 1: Public Involvement Summary

Involvement Mechanisms	Stakeholders	Purpose and Role
<p><u>Targeted Outreach</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Initial Survey (tailored to aviation industry leaders, FAA, DOT&PF, and municipal airports) ○ Meetings with stakeholder groups ○ System Plan Advisory Committee ○ Policy Advisory Committee ○ Work Groups 	<p>DOT&PF FAA Municipal Airports Aviation Organization Leaders Aviation Advisory Board Military</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Education about Alaska’s aviation system and its issues
<p><u>Broad Outreach</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Interactive web site ○ Web-based Survey (tailored to general public) ○ Newspaper articles / editorial pieces ○ Newsletters ○ Radio station interviews ○ Press events ○ Public Meetings ○ Articles in organizations’ newsletters and publications ○ Presentations or booths at aviation and non-aviation conferences and air shows ○ Piggy-back on existing community outreach by DOT&PF Planners ○ Legislator briefings 	<p>Public at large Aviation Organization Members Air Carriers / Air Taxis Alaska Native Organizations Alaska Municipal League Economic Development Groups Communities and Boroughs Legislators</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Identify aviation issues, goals, and objectives ○ Input on technical analysis ○ Input on alternatives and recommendations

Guidelines for a successful public participation process include the following:

- DOT&PF and DOWL will keep key organizations and individuals as well as members of the public informed, listen to and acknowledge concerns, and provide feedback on how public input has influenced project decisions.
- Because the potentially affected groups are so diverse, close attention will be paid to the best ways to reach and listen to all groups.
- When people are invited to participate, their roles, anticipated time commitment, and desired outcomes will be clearly outlined by the project team.

- Information will be shared openly and directly to help people become familiar with the issues and the process.
- Schedules, promises, and commitments will be kept. The process will be accountable.
- Meetings and other events will be organized to produce results. Next steps will be clearly outlined. People will know what has been accomplished and what needs to be completed.

4.0 POTENTIALLY AFFECTED INTERESTS

Nearly every resident and business in the state of Alaska is a potentially affected interest. Aviation is a critical connection between Alaskan communities, between Alaska and the Lower 48, and between Alaska and the rest of the world. The public involvement program aims to use a wide array of involvement mechanisms to reach all types of interest groups across the state.

In Phase I, target groups from the DOT&PF, FAA, the aviation industry, and other key stakeholders will be contacted and invited to participate in the planning process. In later phases, the general public and stakeholder groups will be provided forums for involvement. The proposed involvement mechanisms, stakeholders, and purposes are outlined in Table 1.

An initial project mailing list and email list has been developed. It will be used to send out project information and notifications of meetings. The web site will continue to be updated throughout the project.

5.0 PROJECT PERSONNEL

The project team consists of individuals and organizations with a wide range of expertise. Table 2 lists key personnel from the project team who will be active in the public participation program and their respective roles.

Table 2: Key Personnel in the Public Involvement Program

Name	Title	Public Involvement Role
<u>DOT&PF</u>		
Christine Klein Rebecca Cronkhite Regional Planning, Design, and Maintenance and Operations Personnel Statewide Aviation staff	Deputy Commissioner, Aviation Project Manager and Planner	Attendance at public meetings, participation in Technical Committee and Work Groups, project information dissemination on regularly scheduled trips to communities and villages.
<u>DOWL</u>		
Tom Middendorf Jennifer Payne Brian Hanson, P.E. John Jones Nan Llewellyn Jessica Semmler	Project Manager Public Involvement Airport Engineer Airport Planner Airport Planner Airport Planner	Participate in various parts of the public involvement program.
<u>WH Pacific</u>		
Nicole McCullough Sara Funk	Airport Planner Airport Planner	Participate in various parts of the public involvement program.
<u>Planning Technology, Inc.</u>		
Bob Ori	Principal	Web Site/Geographic Information System Design and Work Group
<u>Northern Economics</u>		
Patrick Burden	Principal	Participate in Work Groups as needed.
<u>Northern Horizons</u>		
Steve Pavish	Principal	Participate in various parts of the public involvement program.
<u>HNTB</u>		
Greg Albjerg Pat Kennon Jeff Mishler	Airspace and NAVAIDS Specialist Aviation Forecaster Airport Planner	Participate in Work Groups as needed.

6.0 PROJECT SCHEDULE

Phase I of the AASP will extend through May 2008. Phase II began in late April 2008 and will continue for approximately 18 months. The initial web site and online survey will be operational by June 2008. Phase III will likely begin in June 2008. Later phases will be scheduled later. Detailed public involvement plans for each phase will be prepared as the scopes of work for these phases are defined.