



#### **NORTH CAROLINA** Department of Transportation



## The State of Aviation in North Carolina

North Carolina Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations

Bobby Walston, P.E., NCDOT Aviation Director April 26, 2019

#### **Three Related Topics for Today**



- Airports, aviation and economic impact
- NDCOT Division of Aviation role
- STI funding for airports and collaboration with MPOs and RPOs

#### NORTH CAROLINA PUBLIC AIRPORTS



**72 Airports** | 10 Commercial Service | 62 General Aviation 94% of North Carolina's population live within a 30-minute drive of a public airport

# North Carolina: The State of Aviation What Aviation Means to Our Economy



Based on 2017 airport data

#### N.C. Airports Move People & Products, Boosting Tax Revenues and the Economy



A single \$1.5 million aircraft based at Asheboro Regional Airport pays local property taxes equivalent to 10 \$150,000 homes.

- Operations
  - 4 million annual airport operations (take-offs and landings)
- Passenger Service & Airlines
  - 62 million annual passenger boardings
  - 14 commercial airlines fly to 187 destinations
  - 14,000 airline jobs 8th highest state for airline employment
  - 12% airline job growth 2014-2017
- Support Industries
  - 3,300 based aircraft
  - 13 rental car companies
  - 60 retail shops
  - 70 food service businesses
- Cargo Service
  - 850,000 tons, \$23 billion, 2,500 jobs

# Emerging, Transformational Area of Aviation for Metro Areas Urban Air Mobility



# Routine medical package delivery for pay began in Wake County in March



#### **NCDOT - Division of Aviation Mission**

Promotes the economic well being of North Carolina through air transportation system development and aviation safety and education.



#### **Division of Aviation Core Functions**



- Administer state and FAA airport grants and programs
- Provide air transportation for all state agencies
- Manage the state's Unmanned Aircraft System (UAS) Program
- Conduct aviation safety and education programs

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#### **DoA Airport Project Managers (APMs)** A resource for airports and planners

- 5 APMs/regions
- Each serves 10-18 airports
- Role:
  - Primary contact for airports
  - Annual planning meetings
  - Airport Layout Plans (master plans)
  - Regular project meetings
  - Safety & compliance issues
  - Education and Training
  - Act as "mini FAA ADO"

#### **Three Sources of Funding for Airport Development Improvements & Maintenance**



#### **Two State Funding Streams for Aviation**



#### **N.C. Airports by STI Category**



## **Statewide Mobility Airports**



- Five largest commercial service airports
  - Asheville Regional Airport
  - Charlotte Douglas International Airport
  - Piedmont Triad International Airport (Greensboro)
  - Raleigh-Durham International Airport
  - Wilmington International Airport
- \$500,000 funding cap per project per year

#### **Regional Impact Airports**



- Five commercial service airports not in Statewide Mobility:
  - Albert J. Ellis Airport (Jacksonville)
  - Coastal Carolina Airport (New Bern)
  - Concord Regional Airport
  - Fayetteville Regional Airport
  - Pitt-Greenville Airport



#### **Division Needs Airports**



- 62 general aviation airports
- Statewide total funding not to exceed \$18,500,000 annually

#### **P 5.0 Aviation Criteria**

Aviation	Bicycle & Pedestrian	Ferry	Public Transportation	Rail
NCDOA Project Rating	Safety	Asset Condition	Impact	Benefit-Cost
FAA ACIP Rating	Access	Benefits	Demand/Density	System Opportunities
Non-State Contribution Index	Demand/Density	Accessibility/ Connectivity	Efficiency	Safety
Benefit/Cost	Connectivity	Asset Efficiency	Cost Effectiveness	Capacity and Diversion
	Cost Effectiveness	Capacity/ Congestion		Economic Competitiveness

# Prepping for P 6.0

- Aviation P 6.0 Workgroup
  - Division, MPO, RPO, STI, general aviation, commercial service aviation and local government representatives
- Focus
  - Recommendations for changes to use in P6.0, particularly to support general aviation airports
  - Recommended strategies for airports to engage with staff at MPOs, RPOs, and Division Engineers

#### **Recommendations to P6.0 Workgroup**

ISSUE	RECOMMENDATION	
Some STI projects cannot get FAA approval	Division of Aviation prescreening/vetting of STI project submissions	
Vetting may not leave enough projects for STI	Expand eligibility to include projects that increase capacity and modernize airport	
Aviation Non-state Contribution Index Criterion skew scores because GA airports to not provide	Remove this criterion with a funding leverage component in the Benefit-Cost criteria, similar to Highways and Rail	
Need new criterion to replace non-state contribution index	Develop new Constructability Index	

#### Promoting Airport Communication and Collaboration with MPOs & RPOs

- Encouraging airports to:
  - Attend and get involved in MPO and RPO meetings
  - Meet with Division Engineers about project requests
  - Coordinate closely with their Airport Project Manager in our office on project requests
- Educating airports on:
  - STI Funding
- Reaching out to collaborate and educate:
  - MPOs, RPOs, Division Engineers
  - Planning, Legal, Economic Development and Management Staff of Cities and Counties
- We welcome feedback and ideas....

#### **Questions? Comments?**





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