

Steamboat Springs Public Information Introduction Meeting Summary September 14, 2006 7:00 PM Community Center

A Public Information Meeting was held at the Community Center in Steamboat Springs to give an overview of the Airport Master Plan process. Attendance at the meeting comprised of 14 individuals, including the Steering Committee, the Director of Transportation for Steamboat Springs, and interested citizens and airport users.

The meeting agenda was discussed which includes the purpose of the master plan, the goals and objectives, the process, scope of work, schedule, public involvement program and an opportunity for questions and answers.

The purpose of the airport master plan was presented and why the airport master plan needs to be updated from the previous master plan in 1998. The previous Airport Master Plan was completed when the airport was receiving regular scheduled commercial service aircraft, however since those aircraft no longer operate at the Steamboat Springs Airport the Airport Layout Plan need to be updated to reflect the current users. The current conditions were covered including the number of existing based aircraft and the future trends in general aviation.

The goals of the airport master plan were defined, which are to provide the framework needed to guide future airport development that will cost effectively satisfy aviation demand, while considering potential environmental and socioeconomic impacts.

A brief description of airport reference codes and the types of the aircraft that fall into each category were discussed. The existing B-II airport reference code was also shown.

A background of the trends in general aviation was covered. This also included the discussion on the potential use of the airport by aircraft such as the very light jet which is projected to make a significant impact on the general aviation industry. These aircraft are equipped with state of the art avionics and generally fall within the B-I airport reference code.

The Airport Master planning process and flow chart was also displayed to illustrate the process of the master plan including: the gathering of data in the inventory, the forecasting of future operations, the facility requirements for the future and the proposed alternatives to meet the demand and the financial and environmental chapters to show how the plan can be implemented.

The existing airport layout was presented to show what the existing design standards are, specifically the B-II design standards. The graphic also shows where the existing airport property line is located in relation to the existing facilities.

The scope of work table allowed the audience to see what the deliverables will be and how many meetings, both steering committee and public information will be held during the planning process. A schedule showing the approximate number of months to complete the master plan was also presented to the group.

The importance of having two way communication with the public was recognized as a very important step in the completion of a successful master plan study. Several of the

tools to communicate to the public where discussed such as the steering committee, public information meetings, open houses, brochure/newsletter and information distribution such as mailing list and website.

The meeting was then turned over to the public for comments and questions. A question was asked if the financial information such as revenue and expenditures of the airport would be included in the master plan. It was stated that the financial information would be included in the plan. Determining what the future rates and charges of the airport was recommended to be included in the study. A representative from Routt County Search and Rescue indicated that the Steamboat Springs Airport is used regularly by search and rescue operations.

The safety of the airport was also a concern. The length of the runway and the location in proximity to terrain and the City is a concern. Armstrong Consultants stated that the existing airport meets the design standards from the FAA for the existing users. It is the sole discretion of the operator of the aircraft whether or not they feel comfortable operating at the Steamboat Springs Airport. Efforts will be made in the study to ensure continued compatible land uses in the vicinity of the airport.