



Environmental Impact Statement

Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport

PUBLIC SCOPING WORKSHOP

February 24, 2005

THE EIS PROCESS

On January 19, 2005, the FAA issued a Notice of Intent to announce publicly that an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) will be prepared and considered for the proposed extension of Runway 9R/27L, including associated improvements, at the Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport (FLL). This proposed runway extension is depicted on the Airport Layout Plan prepared by the Broward County Aviation Department.

The EIS is a Federal process that seeks to disclose any environmental effects of proposed Federal actions, such as approval and funding of airport improvements. This process is also used to obtain all necessary environmental permits required by federal and state agencies for projects. The environmental issues to be studied during the EIS process include, but are not limited to, noise, air quality, and water quality, among others.

Throughout this process the public has a number of opportunities for involvement and input. Tonight is the first of three public information workshops. The purpose of today's workshop is for the public to provide input on the scope of the EIS. The second public information workshop will be held upon the completion of the Purpose and Need and Alternatives analysis. The third public information workshop will be held when the Draft EIS document has been published.

The public is encouraged to attend and review the status of the EIS analysis and submit their comments/questions throughout this process. A formal public hearing on the Draft EIS will be held in conjunction with the third public information workshop.

SPONSOR'S PROPOSED PROJECT

Broward County, as the airport Sponsor, has defined the Proposed Project that will be environmentally assessed as an extension to Runway 9R/27L. The Proposed Project would allow commercial jet aircraft to utilize the extended runway and accommodate the forecast traffic at FLL through the year 2017. (The runway at its existing length currently accommodates general aviation and commuter aircraft.)

Elements of the Proposed Project include: lengthen and widen Runway 9R/27L to a full length of 8,600 feet by 150 feet wide (the existing dimension of this runway is 5,276 feet by 100 feet), lengthen the parallel taxiway and connecting taxiways, site preparation, drainage, paving, marking, lighting, fencing, NAVAIDS, obstruction clearing, environmental mitigation, and other associated work as required for the construction of the Proposed Project.

Construction activity for the Proposed Project would occur on airport property and in the rights-of-way of the Florida Department of Transportation and Florida East-Coast Railway.

PROJECT NEED AND ALTERNATIVES

Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport has experienced growth in aircraft activity in recent years that has led to delays in aircraft operations. The *Airport Master Plan*, accepted by the FAA on April 19, 1995, and more recently the Leigh Fisher Associates Report of November 2003¹, indicated that significant future airfield congestion and aircraft delay could be anticipated without some modification to the existing airfield facilities.

The FAA's *Airport Capacity Benchmark Report of 2004* identified FLL as one of the 35 busiest airports in the U.S. and the FAA report, *Capacity Needs in the National Airspace System*², identified FLL as one of 15 airports that will require additional capacity by 2013.

The increased use of the proposed extended runway by air carrier aircraft will result in changes in runway use. The EIS will determine any noise impacts associated with changes in runway use and provide that information to the Broward County Aviation Department for use in their FAR Part 150 Noise Compatibility Study Update, which the County will conduct in tandem with this EIS. The Part 150 Study will identify and evaluate aircraft noise abatement procedures and land use management techniques that may be implemented to minimize the impact of airport and aircraft noise on communities surrounding the airport.

¹ This report was prepared by Leigh Fisher Associates at the direction of the Broward County Board of County Commissioners.

² *Capacity Needs in the National Airspace System: An Analysis of Airport and Metropolitan Area Demand and Operational Capacity in the Future*, U.S. Department of Transportation, FAA, The MITRE Corporation, Center for Advanced Aviation System Development, June 2004.

The EIS documentation will include the evaluation of a no-build alternative and other reasonable alternatives that may be identified during the agency scoping meeting and public scoping workshop.

PURPOSE OF YOUR ATTENDANCE AT THIS PUBLIC WORKSHOP

Your attendance and participation at today's workshop is to ensure that the EIS will address the full range of significant issues related to the Proposed Project. Please submit your comments and suggestions in writing to the FAA. Comment Forms are available at the workshop for you to complete and submit at the workshop or you may mail them to the FAA (comment forms are pre-addressed). Email comments will also be accepted at:

FLL-EIScomments@Landrum-Brown.com

NEXT STEPS

- Develop the Project Purpose and Need Statement(s)
- Prepare Alternatives Analysis
- Present Purpose and Need and Alternatives Analysis to the Public and Environmental Regulatory Agencies [PLANNED: *Fall 2005*]
- Prepare the Analysis of Environmental Consequences
- Identify Mitigation Strategies and Coordinate with Associated Environmental Regulatory Agencies
- Prepare the Draft Environmental Impact Statement and make available to the public for review [PLANNED: *Summer 2006*]
- Conduct Public Hearing and Public Information Workshop [PLANNED: *Summer 2006*]
- Preparation of Final EIS
- FAA Record of Decision