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Airport Economic Impact Study shows 120.8M benefit to the the Greeley and Weld County area \$\$\$

The release of the latest Colorado Airport's Economic Impact Study identifies that the Greeley-Weld County Airport has an annual impact on the Greeley and Weld County communities in excess of 120.8 million dollars. The study, performed by the Colorado Department of Transportation Aeronautics Division, marks the latest endeavor by the State of Colorado to measure the economic impacts of aviation throughout Colorado, and the amount of employment aviation generates.

Throughout 2007, thousands of businesses and pilots at all of Colorado's 74 public use airports were surveyed about their employment, expenditures, and other habits which generate economic activity. At the Greeley-Weld County Airport, Wilbur Smith Associates, the consultant performing the study, sent surveys to each business and flight department located on the airport. Additionally, surveys were mailed to dozens of local businesses inquiring about their use and reliance on the Greeley-Weld County Airport for the normal conduct of their business activities. Special surveys for transient aircraft operators were also handed out over the course of the survey period. With the exception of the Airport Authority providing its own expense data, all of the survey information went directly to the consultant, and the Airport Authority staff never handled or viewed the submitted data.

The results of the survey are substantial in terms of the results. Overall, within the Greeley and Weld County area, the airport is responsible for or contributes to the existence of 1,766 jobs, which generate over 65 million dollars in annual payroll. Additionally, the total output of the airport is over 120.8 million dollars annually.

The figures include 39.3 million dollars in "direct output", which includes payroll and the annual operating expenses of each tenant, business and flight department which is based on the airport. Additionally, 51.4 million dollars is considered "induced output", which is the recirculation or multiplication of those dollars spent by the airport and its tenants within the community. For example, for each dollar spent by the airport or a tenant in the community, that dollar is used to pay a portion of another employees salary, who then uses that portion to buy groceries, pay rent or mortgage payments, etc. Finally, the economic impact of visitors who enter the community through the airport each year generates an additional 30.1 million dollars of output, which is a combination of both direct and induced impacts.

Overall, the statewide study identified that Colorado's 74 public use airports generate a total of 340,800 jobs in Colorado, with a total of 11.2 billion dollars in payroll, and 32.2 billion dollars of total economic output. In addition to the dollar figures themselves, numerous non-tangible benefits exist within Colorado as a result of its airport system, such as medevac, power line patrol, and many other non-monetary benefits which simply would not exist or function as they do without Colorado's system of airports.

GXY – 2008 Annual Economic Impacts

Jobs	1,766
Annual Payroll	\$65,142,900
Economic Output	\$120,814,200

Entryway Landscape Continues To Take Shape

The next phase of improvements to the Greeley-Weld County Airport's entryway landscape program was recently undertaken and completed with the assistance of several organizations. The first phase of the entryway landscape program was completed late in 2007 with the planting of 34 trees along the east side of Airport Road from SH 263 to the outfall culvert on Skyhawk Drive. These trees were all planted at no cost to the airport. The required removal of several large diseased trees on the airport which were interfering with the flow of storm water made the replacement of those trees with the newly planted ones eligible for funding under the 2007 federal grant project.

The additional phase recently completed included the modification of the airport entrance sign at the intersection of Airport Road and SH 263. Also included were numerous plantings around the sign and the office building which is home to the Civil Air Patrol Greeley Composite Squadron. The new xeriscaping provides a greatly improved appearance to the airport's main entrance.

The modifications to the entrance sign, as well as all of the landscape plantings and materials, were donated to the airport by Greeley based TCC Corporation, a general contractor. The actual labor to plant and install all of the materials was a joint effort which included the assistance of the Civil Air Patrol Greeley Composite Squadron, the Aims College Flight Team, and Airport Authority staff. A total of 14 people from the three organizations labored for two full days to plant shrubs and flowers, and shovel and spread rock. Additionally, airport staff repaired the existing sprinkler system at the Civil Air Patrol building, and extended it to reach all of the newly landscaped areas.

Additional plans are in place to see the planting of more trees this summer to further advance the entryway landscape project.



Members of the Aims College Flight Team, the Civil Air Patrol Greeley Composite Squadron, and airport staff work together on the entryway landscape project.



Right: The end result.

Runway 9/27 Fog Seal Project

As previously reported, the Airport Authority will undertake a seal coating project on Runway 9/27 and Taxiway A this summer. The project was recently awarded to a contractor, and the estimated start time is now mid July. The entire project should only take approximately three weeks, and Runway 9/27 will be closed during this entire period, as will portions of Taxiway A and its connector taxiways.

The project will be completed in several phases, which will alter the taxiing route to Runway 16/34 several times throughout the project. Only one of the crossover taxiways (C or D) to Runway 16/34 will be open at any given time during the project, so pilots will need to routinely hold and give way to others when opposite direction traffic is trying to use the single crossing point simultaneously. Additionally, both the east and west hangar areas will both have 24 hour periods (at different times) when absolutely no aircraft or vehicle access will be possible due to seal coating operations and the required curing time. As the project draws nearer, tenants will be notified through email and postings on T-hangars of the dates that their hangar areas will be completely closed off.

There is unfortunately no practical manner in which to accomplish this important pavement maintenance project without these temporary inconveniences. A copy of the phasing plan with taxiing detour routes is included as an attachment to this newsletter, and will be transmitted again to tenants via email as the project gets closer.

Please Review the attached map if you plan to fly during the second part of July. As always, we appreciate your understanding and patience as we continue to work towards preserving our airports pavement surfaces for the future.

NIFA Returns to GXY

The National Intercollegiate Flying Association (NIFA) will once again hold its annual precision flight competition at the Greeley-Weld County Airport, October 15th through 18th, 2008, after a long absence. The competition, hosted by Aims Flight Training Center, will bring flight teams from several different collegiate programs to Greeley to participate in precision landing, navigation, and other flying competitions. About 27 aircraft are expected to descend upon GXY to participate in the event, along with their pilots, support teams, and other equipment with which to try and capture the regional championship for 2008.

Game Fencing Project Update

Phase III of the airport fencing project has also been awarded by the Airport Authority for start in early August. This project will pick up where the fencing left off in 2004. High tensile woven wire game fence will be installed around the north end of Runway 16/34 along the airfield perimeter to further the completion of this project. An additional phase however will be necessary in 2009 to fully complete the project in the southeast portion of the airport.

This project will not have any impact on the airfield, and no runway or taxiway closures will result from it. The work is estimated to take approximately 30 days to complete.

Hangar 13 Door Repairs

Western Skies Construction was contracted with by the Airport Authority to undertake the retrofit and repairs to T-Hangar building No. 13 doors. This work is now complete. The project involved the removal of all the hangar doors, and the demolition of the existing lower door track system. A new concrete track was poured, and each door was modified to fit the new lower track system. The overhead track system was repaired and tuned up, as were each of the doors hangers, rollers and other hardware. Exterior rubber sweeps were installed on the door edges to keep wind, moisture and birds out, and along the bottom of the doors as well.

The total cost of this project was a little over \$21,000.00. The repairs and alterations to this building will be closely monitored by airport staff as to how well they hold up to the weather and normal operations. If after this evaluation period they are deemed to be acceptable, the modifications will become the basis for the same type of repairs to other buildings in the future.

Civil Air Patrol Seeks Cadets... The Civil Air Patrol (CAP) Greeley Composite Squadron offers young adults challenging opportunities in an awards-based, multi-level program. The program consists of training in the areas of aerospace education, teamwork, leadership skills, physical fitness, safety, flight line training, search and rescue, and more. Slots for new cadets are available now! Cadets must be 12-18 years to join.

For more information: Kathi413@yahoo.com or (970) 587-0163

Inspection Results

On May 5th, 2008, the Greeley-Weld County Airport was the subject of a land use compliance inspection performed by the Federal Aviation Administration. The purpose of the inspection was to ensure that the Airport Authority's use of its property, which includes those portions which are leased to tenants, is being used in a manner which is compliant with all of the applicable FAA regulations and requirements which the Authority is subject to. For the most part, the airport passed with flying colors. Only a few minor issues were brought up by the FAA inspection team, which are easily corrected. Probably the main issue however is the storage, by tenants, of trailers, boats, and other like items on their leaseholds.

Regardless of the terms and conditions of any ground lease for airport property, ownership of the land remains with the Authority. Each tenant's ground lease for space on the airport contains a variety of provisions designed to ensure that the use of the property by the tenant is compliant not only with the lease, but with any existing or future rules, regulations and requirements of the FAA, or other agencies with jurisdiction. Although certain tenants utilize trailers in the conduct of their business here at the airport, the regular and long term storage of these trailers mainly in aeronautical use areas is a situation which the FAA has identified as needing correction.

Airport staff will be in contact with any tenant who is presently storing a trailer on the property in the near future. We will work as best as possible to attempt a suitable resolution if no other location is available off the airport property. We ask however that if you have a trailer on the property, you understand that our hands are tied, and that compliance with the FAA's direction is required by the airport, and subsequently the tenant.

Additional Aircraft Firefighter Certified

Jeff Brown, Airport Maintenance Technician for the Greeley-Weld County Airport, recently obtained his FAA certification as an Aircraft Rescue Firefighter. Jeff attended the 40 hour FAA course taught at Denver International Airport over a full week. With Jeff's certification, the Greeley-Weld County Airport now has five fully FAA certified Aircraft Rescue Firefighters on staff, who can perform these functions in addition to their regular duties. Additionally, with Jeff's certification, the airport now routinely has at least one certified firefighter on duty seven days a week.

In addition to this training, airport employees are also trained and certified in basic life saving skills, and an emergency trauma kit and Automatic External Defibrillator (AED) are maintained on the airport as well. Two firefighters from the Union Colony Fire Rescue Authority are also fully FAA certified aircraft rescue firefighters, and train with airport personnel regularly. The Authority's radio system also has the necessary fire channels programmed so that airport staff can communicate with the Fire Department during emergencies at the airport.



Who's new at the airport:

Amber Inman

Amber Inman joined the staff at the airport in June as a Customer Service Representative. You will be able to find her at the front counter in the terminal, handling the customer services needs of both Peak Flight Support and the Airport Authority. Amber is currently a student at Aims Community College, and is enrolled in the professional pilot program.

To remove your name from our mailing list, [click here](#)

We want this newsletter to be of value and interest to our tenants and users. If you have an issue or idea you would like us to report on, email it to us at moliva@gxy.net. Also, if you would like to share your news with others, email that to us and we'll put it in the next issue of The GXY FLYER.