SESSION 10:
Aviation Industry Updates

Moderator: Terra Winslett, C.M., Director of Airport Property and Marketing, Glynn County Airport Commission (BQK and SSI)

Speaker: Colette Edmisten Williams, A.A.E., Aviation Program Manager Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT)

Gregory Pecoraro, President & CEO, National Association of State Aviation Officials (NASAO)

Georgia Airports Association

2025 GAA Annual Conference & Expo | Macon, Ga | October 15 – 17

Georgia Airports Association 2025 Annual Conference

Georgia Aviation Update

October 17, 2025

Presented By

Colette W. Edmisten, AAE, Manager

Aviation Programs

GDOT
Georgia Department of Transportation

Macon Downtown (MAC)

Aviation Program Flight Plan

- Federal & State Funding
- Reminders
- Safety & Compliance
- Highlights
- Final Approach

Federal & State Funding

West Georgia Regional Airport (CTJ)
Carrollton, GA

FY25 & FY26 Airport Funding

Fund Source	FY25 Requests	FY25 Program	FY26 Requests	FY26 Program
Federal	$269*	$41.2	$273.4*	$149*
State	$92	$24.5	$62.5	$30
Local	$50	$17.2	$44.3	$12
Total	$411*	$82.9	$380.2*	$192*
Total Apps	385	N/A	401	N/A

All numbers represent millions of Dollars
*Includes Commercial Service and General Aviation Airports

FY25 State Aviation Program Recap

- Thank you for your patience and understanding!

- Total Aviation Contracts – **48**
  - **46** airport development, design, or planning contracts
  - **2** statewide planning or program contracts

- Public **Airports Receiving Funding** Assistance – **39 of 103**
  - 5 Commercial Service & 34 General Aviation Airports Received Federal and/or State Funding

- Percent of Georgia Airports Receiving Funds – **38%**

- **Largest Funded Project: DeKalb Peachtree Airport, Rehabilitate Runway 3R-21L, Keel Replacement; Reconstruct Taxiway A; Total=$12,616,946**; Federal: $9,438,586; State=$2,110,099; Local=$1,068,261

FY26 Proposed Aviation Program

- **401 applications** submitted
- **203 proposed** development, equipment, and/or planning **projects** anticipated
- **State/Local Projects receiving funding-34 airport projects** at 75% state participation and a 25% local match.

All projects in FY26 must have bids or final scope & fee by March 1, 2026.

Only exception is discretionary projects or projects identified by GDOT.

Project Types by FY

Types of Airport Projects	FY23	FY24	FY25	FY26
Runway Construction/Rehab	22	28	7	28
Airfield Electrical	18	29	12	10
Apron Construction/Rehab	10	21	8	15
Obstruction Removal	10	15	4	28
Taxiway Construction/Rehab	9	15	5	27
Crack Seal and Remark	8	4	0	7
Land Acquisition	6	11	1	4
Fencing	5	10	1	5
AWOS (Automatic Weather Observation System)	3	4	2	2
Above projects are all safety related				
Planning (Airport Layout Plans)	7	12	1	13

State Funding Southern Region

State	FY26 Aviation Budgets	# of Airports
Alabama	$17,500,000	78
Florida	$265,358,477	128
Georgia	$30,000,000	105
Kentucky	$23,000,000	58
Mississippi	$11,500,000	80
North Carolina	$152,000,000	62
South Carolina	$103,350,000	58
Tennessee	$176,250,000	76

Aviation Funding Sources

Federal AIP (FY25 $4B; FY26 $4B proposed)

Entitlement Remains at $150,000 per year

State Apportionment-increased from $5.5M to $13M

Discretionary Planning Level is $8-11 million per year

Total AIP Funding per year is Approximately $40M

State Airport Aid

FY24 $124M; FY25 $34M; FY26 $30M

IIJA/AIG Funding (a Five Year Allocation of Funding based on an Airport's Federal Airport Classification)

Historical Annual Federal Funding (-ATL)

FY20-FY21 Includes Economic Recovery-CARES, CRRSAA, ARPA. FY22 IIJA/AIG starts.

Historical Annual State Funding

FY22 – FY25 budgets all had funds added in the mid-year budget

$15B Airport Infrastructure FY22-FY26

- Total allocations to Georgia $485,918,971 (all airports)
- Total commercial service $415,794,971
- Total general aviation $70,124,000 (FY22-25)
  - ~$17M per year
- Awarded to Date $47,126,385 (67% as of Oct 2025)
- Allocations to GDOT (as of Oct 2025)
  - FY22 100%!
  - FY23 80%
  - FY24 50%
  - FY25 40%

IIJA/AIG in Georgia (Non-Primary Airports)

FY22 balance $0
FY23 balance $3.57M

FY24 balance $8.78M
FY25 Balance $10.6M

Reminders

Kaolin Field (OKZ)
Sandersville, GA

FAA State Block Grant Program MOA

- Revised/Signed June 17, 2025; good for 5 years
- Requires States to pass along grant assurances/special conditions
- States must follow FAA national priority rating system when scoring & selecting projects
- FAA will only issue NPE if the airport has a project within the following 12 months, or FAA will carry over
- FAA will be lead agency for environmental oversight on all discretionary funded projects
- Section 743 replaced Section 163; interim guidance

2023
GEORGIA STATEWIDE
HANGAR INVENTORY AND DEMAND ANALYSIS
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

FY27 Applications

- Notification to be sent in August
- BlackCat opened October 1, 2025
- Projects should be “ready” –

AIP eligible, on ALP, environmental determination (CatEx or EA)

- Applications must include:
  - Federal 424 Application or Application for State Assistance
  - Project **Justification**
  - Project **Narrative**
  - Project **Sketch**
  - Updated Detailed Estimate

Incomplete applications requesting funding in FY27 will be passed over

****Due November 5, 2025****

Updating Airport and CIP Information

- **Update airport contact information**
- Projects on CIP should be current (FY27-31)
- All projects should be moved to future year or removed
- If you need a project removed, contact Alan Hood
- Sponsors must submit projects - consultants do not have permission to submit projects

BlackCat®
AVIATION DATA MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

Safety & Compliance

W.H. ‘Bud’ Barron Airport (DBN)
Dublin, GA

State Approach Surface

Use of LiDAR found obstructions in State Approach otherwise not seen

Threshold Siting Surface

Before FY24 – Only inspected with displacements. Use of LiDAR found obstructions otherwise not seen

Exhibit “A” Project

- Under SBGP MOA and per FAA Grant Assurances, sponsors are to update and maintain an Exhibit “A” Airport Property Inventory Map.

- FAA grant assurances: 4-Good Title; 29-Airport Layout Plan; 31-Disposal of Land

What we found

- Missing property records or historical records
- Sponsors did not hold good title
- Surplus property not properly released
- Non-aeronautical use of property
- Non-compatible use of property
- Parcels that need release or change in use

Exhibit “A” Project

Federally obligated land

- Acquired via federal grant or surplus property
- In an area of future or potential development for airport
- In an area of interest (existing/ultimate RPZ)

FAA Approvals

- FAA guidance requires a release of obligations for any property that falls under these categories.
- Federally obligated property requires an approved release or change in use request for non-aeronautical use.

Releases/change in use can only be approved by FAA

Project Highlights

Plantation Airpark (JYL)
Sylvania, GA

Rehabilitate Runway 5-23
$2.8M

May 2025

Atlanta Regional-Falcon Field (FFC)
Peachtree City, GA

Expand Terminal Apron
$3M

October 2024

W.H. Bud Barron Airport (DBN)
Dublin, GA

Replace Airfield Lighting,
Signs, MALSR, Vault
$1.3M

July 2025

Swinton Smith Field at Reidsville Municipal Airport (RVJ)

Reidsville, GA

Terminal Building & Landside/Airside Improvements
$2.3M

March 2025

Covington Municipal Airport (CVC)
Covington, GA

Construct Taxiway B and Compass Calibration Pad
$1.5M

May 2025

Atlanta Speedway Airport (HMP)
Hampton, GA

Rehabilitate Runway 6-24

$2.2M

April 2025

Roosevelt Memorial Airport (5A9)
Warm Springs, GA

Airport Entrance Road
$530,000

January 2025

Final Approach

Dalton Municipal Airport (DNN)
Dalton, GA

Georgia Department of Transportation

Final Approach. . .

***Customer Service survey**. Let us hear from you.*

*Procurement of **aircraft counter systems** to be advertised this month.*

***2026-2027 Georgia Airport Directory** is underway. Please review your information.*

*New modules coming to **BlackCat Aviation** Data Management System.*

FAA Snapshot -** validate your based aircraft no later than **December 1, 2025.

*2025 **Airport licenses** have been mailed.*

***7460'S** MUST be reviewed by GDOT before FAA will open cases.*

*Please remember to coordinate **non-aeronautical events** with our office. GDOT will then coordinate with FAA. Please allow at least a **120-day review** time.*

***DBE Interim Final Rule**. Stay tuned.*

***Hangar loan program** thru GTIB. Application window to open SOON!*

Georgia Department of Transportation

Thank you

GDOT Aviation Program

Visit us
dot.ga.gov/aviation

NASAO
National Association of State Aviation Officials

Legislative Update

GREG PECORARO

NASAO President & CEO

AAM Multistate Collaborative Overview

- A forum for states to discuss state-level policies and infrastructure needed to support AAM operations, supported by private sector experts
- Governed by a steering committee, comprised of state aviation directors and NASAO
- Housed under the NASAO Center for Aviation Research and Education and operates – deliberately – as an informal study group

34+ States Participating

Goals of the Collaborative

1. Create interoperability of policy and infrastructure across states
2. Provide a roadmap to harmonize AAM policy across the participating states
3. Provide a strategy to develop the minimum viable infrastructure and service levels across the participating states
4. Provide discrete feedback to the FAA and other federal partners to inform rules, policies, and standards

Topic Papers

The Multistate Collaborative recently published four papers through the NASAO Center:

1. Scope of AAM and Role of the States
2. Policy Harmonization
3. Physical and Digital Infrastructure
4. Leveraging Current General Aviation Infrastructure

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF STATE AVIATION OFFICIALS

NASAO Airport Partner Program

NASAO

What is the Airport Partner Program?

Started in 2023, the Airport Partner Program is open to all U.S. airports and offers educational and legislative resources to airport staff.

PROGRAM BENEFITS

Advocacy

NASAO is dedicated to representing the interests of the states and the public before policymakers at the federal level

- Access key federal aviation-related bill summaries and analysis
- Receive the latest developments on Capitol Hill
- Collaborate with peers and state government officials to address common challenges through NASAO Committees

PROGRAM BENEFITS

NASAO

Online Aviation Training Program

Check out the dashboard!

COURSES INCLUDE:

1. Airport Setting
2. Partners
3. Planning
4. Environmental Planning
5. Engineering

PROGRAM BENEFITS

State Aviation Databook

Released in 2024!

PROGRAM COST

How much will it cost for my airport to join?

INDIVIDUAL AIRPORTS	ANNUAL DUES	*EMPLOYEES
Primary	$500 per airport	20
Nonprimary Commercial	$200 per airport	10
Nonprimary (no Commercial Service)	$200 per airport	10

*Number of included employee accounts

ABOUT THE AIRPORT PARTNER PROGRAM

NASAO
National Association of State Aviation Officials

Scan the QR code to learn more!

NASAO

National Association of State Aviation Officials

2027

NASAO ANNUAL CONVENTION & TRADE SHOW

September 26 - 29, 2027 | Atlanta Convention Center at AmericasMart