

Yakutat Airport Master Plan Update

Open House No. 1

February 18, 2026



Zoom Webinar Housekeeping

- Microphone and camera are off by default.
- Use the **Q&A box** to submit questions at any time. Questions that can be answered quickly will receive a response in the chat and more complex questions will be responded to after the meeting and documented in the meeting summary.
- Use the **chat** for general comments or technical support.
- Please note that we'll be recording the meeting for summary purposes.

**We'd love to hear your thoughts and ideas.
Your input is an essential part of this process.
A QR code will be shared at the end of the meeting
for written comment submissions.**



Land Acknowledgement

We respectfully acknowledge that we gather today on the ancestral homeland and traditional territory of the Yakutat Tlingit people.

Yakutat has long been a place of connection, trade, and abundance, shaped by the land, sea, rivers, and glaciers that have sustained Indigenous communities for generations. The Yakutat Tlingit people have maintained deep cultural, spiritual, and subsistence ties to this region.

We honor the enduring presence, traditions, and stewardship of the Yakutat Tlingit Tribe and all Native peoples who continue to care for this land, and we invite you to join us in recognizing and respecting their ongoing contributions to this community.



Safety Minute

- **Wildlife near the airport**

- Do not feed birds or otherwise attract wildlife
- Moose and bears are occasionally seen near airport grounds
- Report wildlife sightings to airport staff

- **Aviation activity**

- Be aware of aircraft noise and movement near the terminal and apron areas
- For pilots, call in on CTAF prior to landing

- **Respect for local land and community**

- The airport supports essential travel, medical access, and community needs
- Project planning aims to respect land, culture, and subsistence uses



Logo Design Contest

- Students from the Yakutat School District helped design our project logo.
- We offer a special thanks to the school staff, student artists, and our contest winner!



Agenda

- **Introductions**
- **Airport Master Planning Overview**
- **Key Issues**
- **Previous Master Plan Recommendations**
- **Active Airport Projects**
- **Next Steps**
- **Questions and Comments**



Team Members and Roles

DOT&PF

- Courtney Kreis, C.M., Project Manager
- Robert Lekanof, YAK Airport Manager
- Jill Melcher, Southcoast Region Planning Chief

- Additional attendees from DOT&PF and FAA have joined online and in-person

DOWL

- Melissa Osborn, A.A.E., ACE, Project Manager
- Emily Creely, Assistant Project Manager
- Jessica Della Croce, C.M., ACE, Aviation Planner
- Tammi Schreier, C.M., ACE, Aviation Planner

Solstice

- Robin Reich, Environmental Lead, PI Support
- Rebecca Marks, Environmental Lead, PI Support

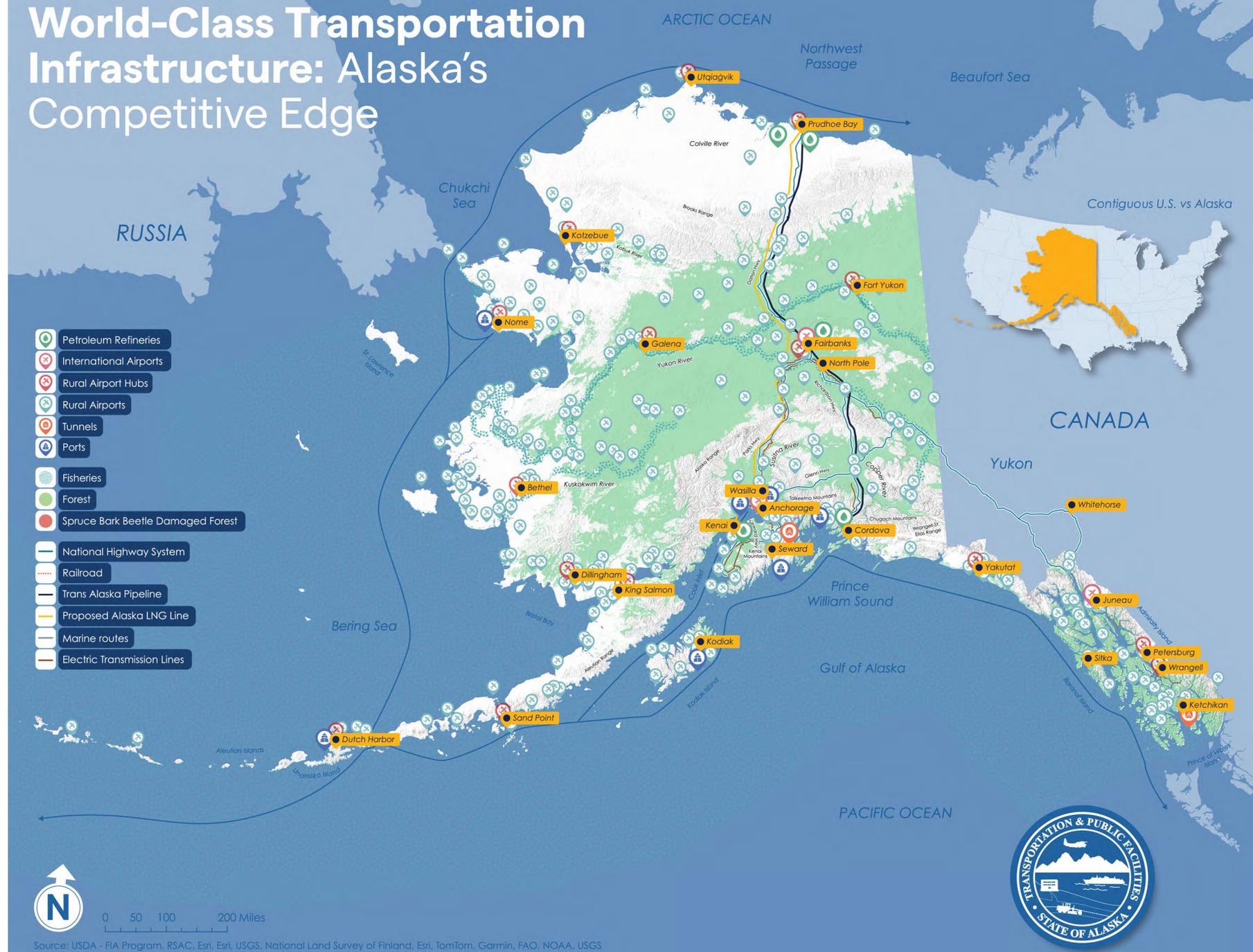
Airport Master Planning Overview



Alaska's Vision

- Strategic reach, resilient returns
- Built-in redundancy
- Efficiency
- Modern
- Resilient
- Agile

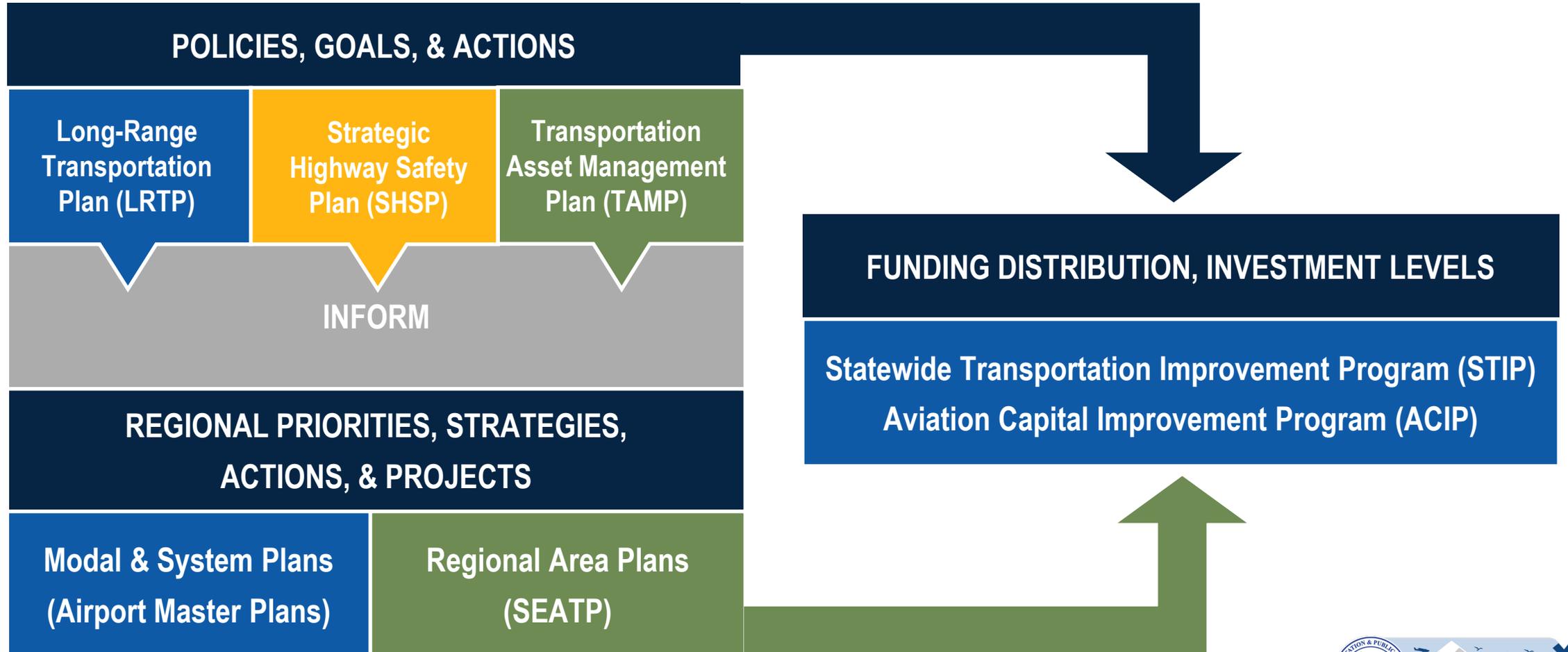
World-Class Transportation Infrastructure: Alaska's Competitive Edge



Source: USDA - FIA Program, RSAC, Esri, Esri, USGS, National Land Survey of Finland, Esri, TomTom, Garmin, FAO, NOAA, USGS

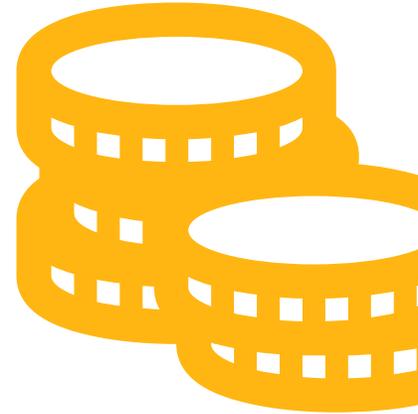


DOT&PF Family of Plans



How Airport Capital Projects Are Funded

- **Airport improvement projects are typically funded through a combination of:**
 - Federal Airport Improvement Program (AIP) grants
 - A required local match
 - **To be eligible for federal funding:**
 - The airport must have a current, FAA-approved Airport Layout Plan (ALP)
 - Project included on ALP
 - **How funding decisions are made:**
 - Alaska DOT&PF acts as a block grant state, managing federal AIP funds on behalf of its 237 airports
 - Projects are evaluated and prioritized statewide through the Aviation Project Evaluation Board (APEB) and once scored, added to the statewide Airport Capital Improvement Program (ACIP)
- **What this means for Yakutat:**
 - The Yakutat Airport CIP reflects anticipated needs
 - Project timing and funding may change based on statewide priorities and available funding



What is an Airport Master Plan?

- 20-year blueprint for airport development
- Answers the questions:
 - What improvements are needed?
 - Why are they needed?
 - How will the improvements be implemented and funded?



The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) defines an airport master plan as...

“A comprehensive study of an airport that describes the short, medium, and long-term development plans to meet future aviation demand.”

Step by Step Planning Process

The plan is updated through a clear sequence with checkpoints at each stage:

- **Public Involvement** begins at project kickoff and continues through completion
- **Establish Existing Conditions** to understand current airport conditions and needs
- **Update Forecasts** to identify current and future airport traffic levels and fleet mix
- **Determine Facility Requirements** based on identified needs and approved forecast
- **Create and Evaluate Development Alternatives** that balance needs, funding, environmental considerations, and community values
- **Update the Airport Layout Plan (ALP)** to map current and ultimate airport layout
- **Update the Capital Improvement Plan** to prioritize project phasing and funding strategies



Why Do a Master Plan?

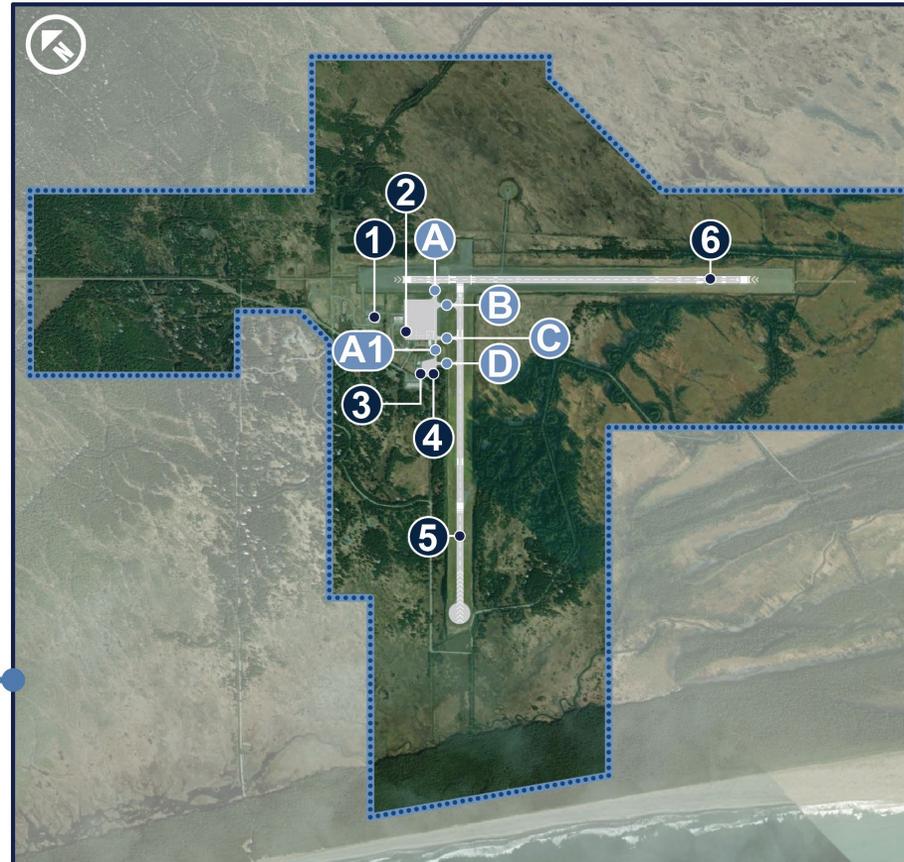
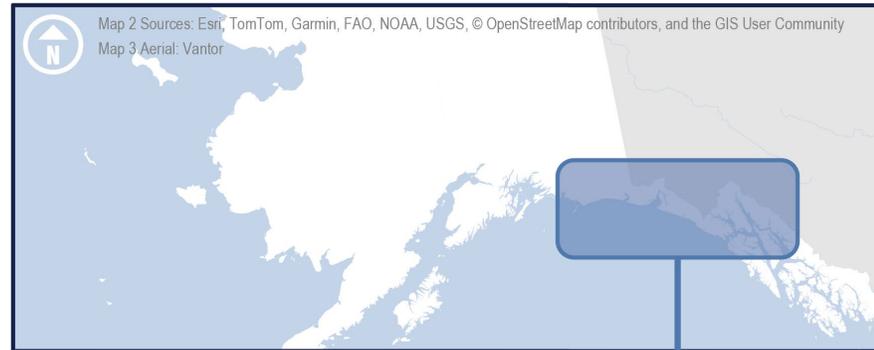
What a Master Plan Does

- Outlines a 20-year vision for airport development
- Guides capital improvement decisions
- Supports funding and approvals
- Coordinates land-use and planning
- Engages airport users, interested parties, and the public

What a Master Plan Does NOT Do

- Guarantee project funding
- Authorize construction
- Replace project-level environmental reviews
- Dictate FAA, air carrier or tenant decisions
- Serve as a fixed blueprint

Planning Area



- Airport Boundary
- 1 ASOS (Weather Reporting Station)
- 2 Commercial Terminal Apron
- 3 Aircraft Rescue and Firefighting Station
- 4 General Aviation Apron
- 5 Runway 2/20
- 6 Runway 11/29
- A Taxiway A
- A1 Taxiway A1
- B Taxiway B
- C Taxiway C
- D Taxiway D

Key Issues

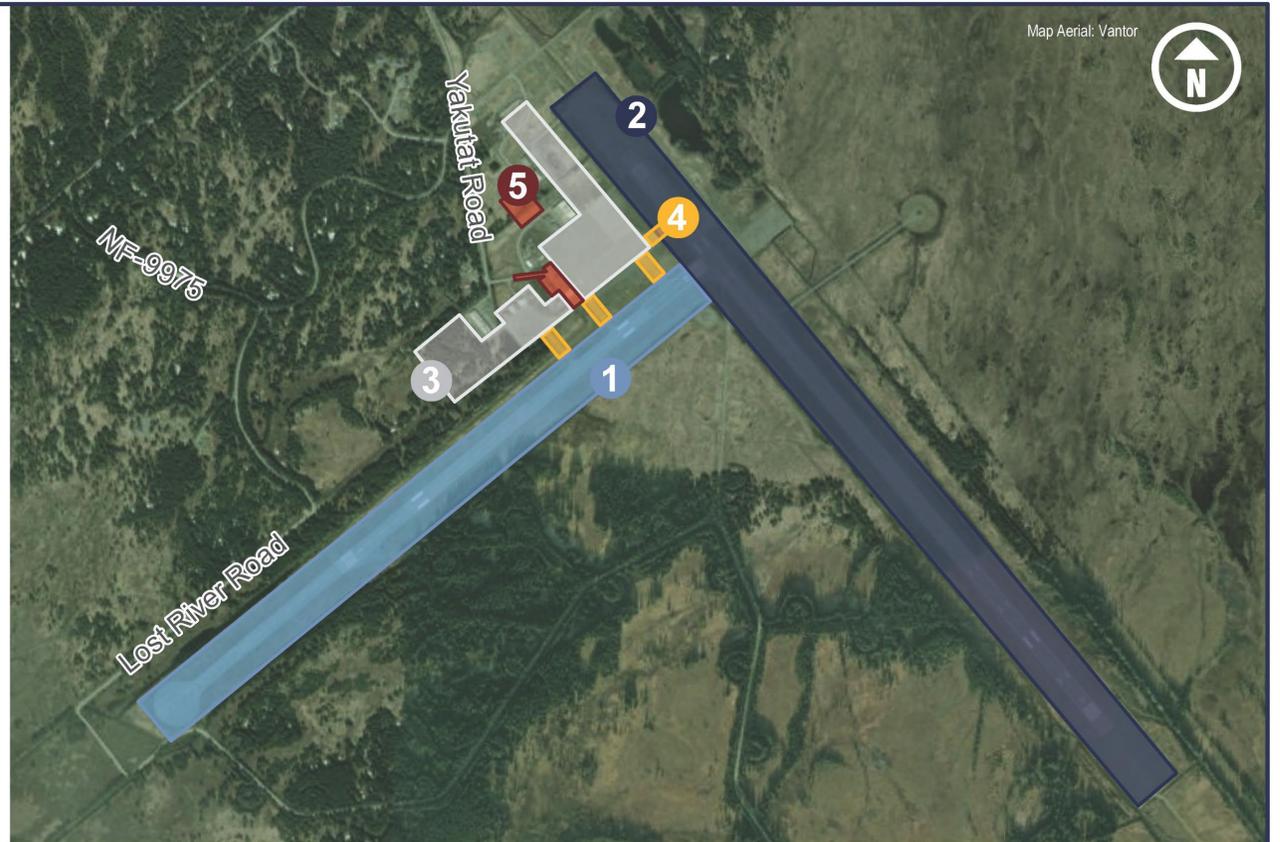


Key Issues

- 1 Future of Runway 2/20
- 2 Runway 11/29 Usability/Size/Needs
- 3 Apron and Lease Lot Development
- 4 Taxiways Size/Configuration/Future Needs
- 5 Vehicle Parking/Access/Circulation

! Issues Related to Entire Airport

- Aging Infrastructure
- ASOS Reliability
- Current and Future Planning and Design Continuity
- Fish-bearing Streams and Wetlands
- Historic Resources
- Obstructions
- PFAS/Water Contamination
- Power Reliability
- Water/Sewer/Utilities



2006 Yakutat Airport Master Plan Recommendations

Implemented

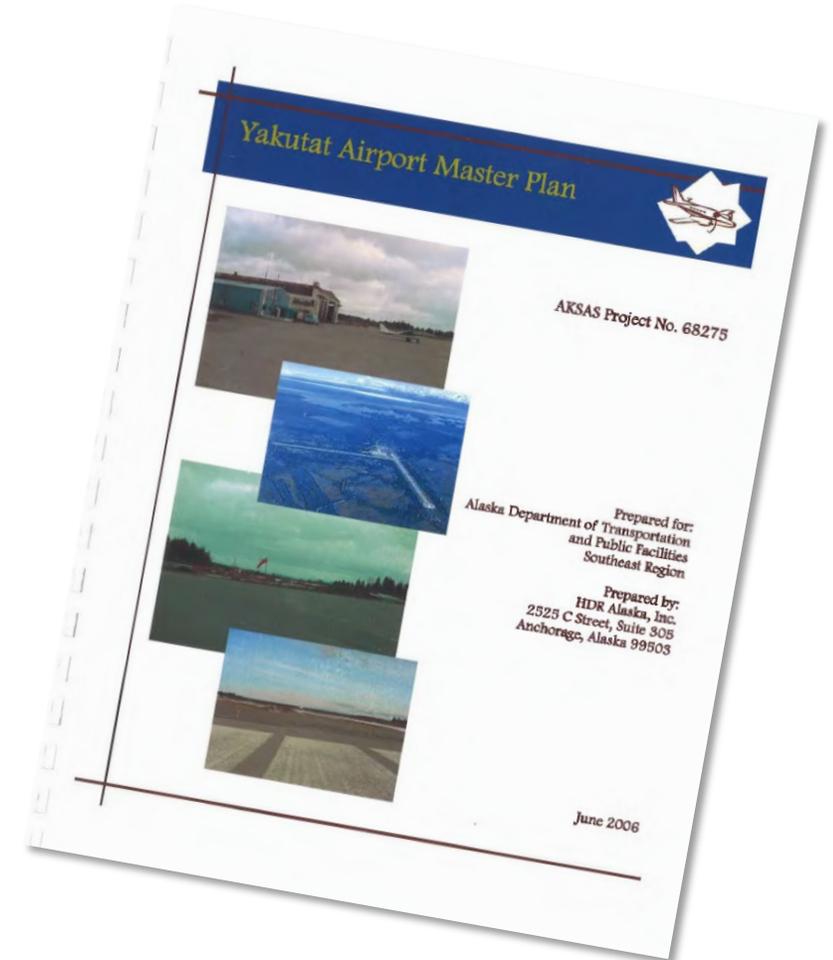
- Implement Wildlife Hazard Management Plan
- Remove vegetation in various locations
- Replace VASI with PAPI

In Progress

- Install full perimeter fence (being designed now)

Not Implemented

- Relocate Runway 2 and Runway 20 thresholds
- Expand the General Aviation (GA) Apron northwest of the City hangar
- Construct an access road to the new GA Apron and non-aviation revenue support area
- Develop a traffic loop and parking lot for the terminal area
- Relocate weather reporting station (formerly an AWOS (Automated Weather Observing System), now an ASOS (Automated Surface Observing System))
- Provide off-apron area for non-aviation lease lot development
- Develop a helicopter operations area
- Resurface Runway 2/20
- Remove trees and Part 77 penetrations



Active Airport Projects

The following airport projects are in early design:

- **Airport Security Fence:** Extend perimeter fence to enclose entire airport
- **Gate Replacement and Locking System:** Replace all existing perimeter fencing and gates
- **Rehabilitate Trench Drains and Apron Pavement:** Repave the terminal apron, resurface concrete pad, and improve drainage systems

The design teams and Master Plan team coordinate closely to share information and ensure current design projects align with long-term airport planning.

Next Steps

- Gather public, community and airport user priorities and input on issues to be considered
- Document existing airport conditions
- Begin activity and demand forecasts
- Summer 2026 – onsite work (Cultural Resource Inventory & Aeronautical Survey)
- Develop airport needs and improvement recommendations
- Use findings to develop initial alternatives and recommendations



Questions and Comments

Courtney Kreis, C.M.
DOT&PF Project Manager

Melissa Osborn, A.A.E., ACE
DOWL Project Manager

Talli Vittetoe
DOWL Public Involvement

YakutatAirportPlan@dowl.com
(907) 562-2000

Scan the QR code to view the
project website:



www.YakutatAirportPlan.com