

# Metropolitan Council Regional Aviation System Plan Policy Review Meeting Series 2 December 10, 2024

## Local Community Meeting Attendance:

- Joe Widing
- Justin Vossen
- Chris Gardner
- Kati Bachmayer
- Courtney Miller
- Daniel Schluender
- Peter Dugan
- Erik Slettedahl
- John Sutter
- Julie Klima
- Glen Markegard
- Anton Jerve
- Loren Olson

## Local Community Meeting Notes:

- Aviation section of METC webpage has been updated with refreshed materials, trend papers, and policy review meeting notes.
- Metropolitan Council Review ability limited by minor classification.
- What is the aviation system and what does it need to be? What is the size and what is needed? What are airports doing today and any projections for the future?
  - If airports are decreasing in operational numbers do we need a re-evaluation of system size and facility count?
  - Need to identify appropriate roles to determine the size and function of the entire system.
  - Revisit Classification.
  - ATADS (OPSNET) charts showing operational decline at MIC, and other relievers from 1990.
- For the air emissions policy – look to add more teeth to the LTCP requirements. Something to put in there – quantify particulate matter and other impacts from aircraft operations.
  - MAC to quantify particulate matter emissions. Minimum requirements from METC review to include particulate matter.

- Potential EPA updates on the impact of aircraft noise on health. Update policy based on EPA health impacts.
- LTCPs need to better calculate and quantify GHG impacts from existing and projected operations. Not sure where the cut-off would be for airplanes using airports, but something needs to be done to meet state GHG targets or better understand the impact of airports in the region.
- New parallel taxiway for example, have concerns about this aspect and potential impacts from noise of aircraft getting engines up for takeoff – have a practice to hold plane before taking the turn to get on runway, this could be important for major noise impacts from takeoffs.
- There should be policy on “operations” in LTCPs to describe operational mitigation techniques on airfields – right now just point to a website. Could make it more explicit or clear on what mitigation techniques could be or need to be used for projected growth of operations.
- P10 – What is the METC role in developing policies for cities. (Cities have ultimate authority in LU planning).
- LU regulations for VTOL could be useful for cities in realizing economic benefits. Existing regulations modelled from Helipad guidance.
- More clearly identify mitigation measures needed from LTCP.
- Open conversation on LTCP timing.
  - Potential 10-year update cycle.
  - Possible triggers for early review.
    - Fleet mix, operational changes, runway length.
  - Potential longer timeline for smaller airports with limited growth seen.
  - Potential tie to classifications.

## Industry and Agency Meeting Attendance:

- Joe Widing
- Justin Vossen
- Chris Gardner
- Gina Mitchell
- Andrew Wall
- Nathan Arnosti
- Eric Gilles
- Joe Block
- Tim Cossalter

## Industry and Agency Meeting Notes:

- Aviation section of METC webpage has been updated with refreshed materials, trend papers, and policy review meeting notes. How will airports support community growth?
- 2030 Recommendations for Classification not adopted.
- Runway length should not solely dictate classifications.
  - Use and jet activity should dictate classifications.

- Classifications can be used to capture the benefits the airport provides.
- Potential classification metrics:
  - CD Aircraft
  - Amenities
  - Ops/Users
  - RY Length
  - Capacity
  - Needed Length
  - Socioeconomic data (broad users)
  - Role airport plays to growth and development
  - Jobs available within XX miles
  - Major LU configurations (TAZ)
- Amazon package deliveries by drone are happening now in AZ.
- Does “Conduct” mean METC will promote?
- Coordinate with MAC stakeholder team.
- Rigid schedule for LTCP updates may be difficult for MAC.
  - Existing 5-year schedule not achievable for MAC.
  - FAA open to minor updates/minor refresh, what are current problems to solve.
- Better define levels of review.
- What elements would trigger ALP update?
- Narrowly scoped grant for focus.
- Applicability of LTCP review for policies. “Conduct” is active not passive.
- February MAC/FAA/MBAA meeting on safety, to include metropolitan council in meeting.
- Policy 4: Monitor Changes not regular review.
  - Noise mitigation efforts different from 139 vs GA.
- Natural systems goal: What are we really trying to accomplish?
  - Concrete objective or just sensitive?
  - Promote not “Implement”.
- Policy 6: Great support for multimodal transportation.
- Policy 8: What does “support” indicate:
  - Coordination or funding participation.
- Policy 10: Good for regional planning agency to connect LU compatibility with future vertiports (may be the most important thing with METC in regard to AAM).
  - Possible guidance or assistance at the local level.
  - Valuable to include private use facilities as well. Vertiports may be privately owned.
- What do these policies require sponsors and consultants to do.
  - How will this be measured.
- How is this information going to be used to change the situation for communities. This will provide more buy-in.