

Memorandum

To: CHAIR AND COMMISSIONERS
CALIFORNIA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

CTC Meeting: September 22-23, 2010

Reference No.: 4.11
Action Item

From: NORMA ORTEGA
Chief Financial Officer

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Chief
Division of Aeronautics

Subject: **ADOPTION OF THE CALIFORNIA AVIATION SYSTEM PLAN: 2010 GENERAL AVIATION SYSTEM NEEDS ASSESSMENT (GASNA)**

RECOMMENDATION:

The California Department of Transportation recommends the California Transportation Commission (Commission) adopt the California Aviation System Plan: 2010 General Aviation System Needs Assessment (GASNA) described below.

SUMMARY:

The GASNA is presented to the Commission for adoption as required by the State Aeronautics Act, Public Utilities Code §21001 et seq. The GASNA was presented to the Commission and discussed at the August 12, 2010 Commission meeting. The Commission's Technical Advisory Committee for Aeronautics (TACA) approved the document at their June 16, 2010 meeting.

The purpose of the GASNA is to identify, recommend, and prioritize needed airport safety and capacity improvement projects that will benefit the California aviation system. The GASNA is a five-year air transportation system improvement plan based on the needs of public use, General Aviation (GA) airports. The recommended projects are unfunded and do not obligate State funds. Although it is not a state programming document, it is broadly used to help local airport sponsors and managers prioritize needed infrastructure projects and estimate improvement costs.

Proposed projects listed in the GASNA include: (1) Projects needed to optimize airport capacity (e.g. both runway extensions and widenings); (2) Safety projects (e.g. runway pavement improvements, 24-hour automated weather systems, precision approaches and visual runway and airfield markings); and (3) Operational enhancements (e.g. capacity options at Reliever airports). Based on the findings of the report, recommended safety and capacity improvements to all GA public-use airports in the State could cost in excess of \$270,000,000 over a ten year period.

Funding for the State's aviation program, including GASNA recommendations, is derived solely from GA Fuel Excise Taxes which was approximately \$7.2 million in Fiscal Year 2008-09.

BACKGROUND:

The GASNA is the element of the California Aviation System Plan (CASP) that includes consideration of statewide air transportation matters. The Division's ongoing aviation system planning efforts are in line with the Department of Transportation's goal of providing mobility and stewardship to preserve our existing transportation infrastructure, as well as implementing policies to promote operational safety. Although the GASNA does not grant project approval or funding, the GASNA does identify projects that can assist airport sponsors in identifying needed improvements that can improve statewide system performance as well as increase airport safety and capacity.

2010 General Aviation System Needs Assessment

Weblink : www.dot.ca.gov/hq/planning/aeronaut/planning/index.html