

Auburn Municipal Airport Planning – September 19, 2006

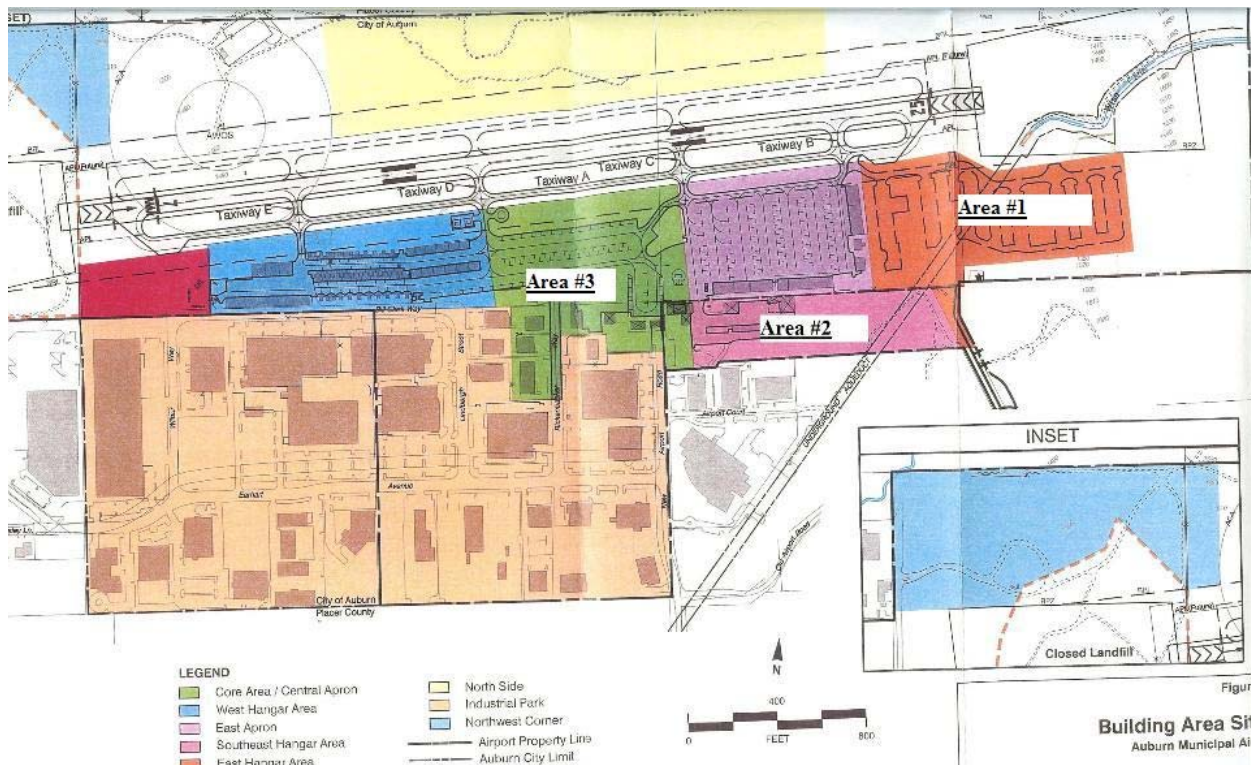
Auburn Aviation Association / City of Auburn Airport Development Plan Meeting September 19, 2006

TO:

Evan Wolfe, president, Auburn Aviation Association
Mike Holmes, Mayor, City of Auburn
Robert Snyder, Auburn City Council
Robert Richardson, Auburn City Manager
Jerry Martin, manager, Auburn Municipal Airport
Members of the Auburn Aviation Association and interested parties

We held our sixth airport development plan meeting this date with Mayor Mike Holmes, city councilman Bob Snyder, facilitator Wayne Manning, and a number of airport users and interested parties present.

The purpose of this meeting was to further define the kinds of businesses and appropriate uses of Area #3 (the area off the end of New Airport Road highlighted in green; see “Area #3 on the drawing below”).



At our May meeting we identified the following possible uses for Area #3:

- Restrooms
- Pilot / passenger lounge

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- Terminal operations building
- Pilot shop
- Rental car vendor
- Restaurant
- Flight school
- Part 135 operation
- Museum (incorporating Bill Clark contribution and history)
- Park



The group sees the “Terminal Building” as the hub of the core area. At minimum this building would include:

- Terminal Building
 - Pilot’s Lounge and Flight planning room
 - Passenger Lounge
 - Airport Manager’s office / administration
 - Fuel office

Additional desired functions could be in the Terminal Building or in additional structures:

- Restaurant with viewing deck
- Part 135 operation
- Flight school
- Conference/activity room with a minimum capacity of 100
- Restrooms
- Rental Car outlet
- Retail space
- Museum

Other important functions not directly associated with a building are:

- Parking, both on and off airport (inside and outside any future security fencing)
- A security plan (fencing, card-lock access, surveillance, etc.)
- A small outdoor park area, just east of the current administration building, where Mead Hunt shows “Oak tree to remain”)

We also discussed the desirability of a fire station and emergency equipment location and concluded that this could be practically anywhere on the airport and not necessary to the core area.

An important theme that ran throughout the discussion was “friendly elements.” The group would very much like to see a major focus on making our airport very accessible, both to landing passengers and pilots, and to the public coming onto the airport from outside. We want an airport where youngsters can watch the airplanes close up and in safety and where anyone can come for a nice meal and enjoy the airport ambiance. Public-oriented businesses such as flight schools should be easily accessible. We want a facility where inbound passengers can find ready access to the community, through rental car availability, hotel pickup service, easy telephone access, and refreshments while they wait. Pilots should have handy access to weather data and other online services and a comfortable place to relax. In a word, an airport that is inviting.

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NEXT STEPS

- Develop an Airport and Industrial Park Marketing Plan (Mike Holmes and Jerry Martin will take the lead)
- Authorize an architectural design based on the findings above and as informed by the Mead Hunt Master Plan study. A review of possible core area layouts in the Master Plan on Figures 4D and 4E show a good deal of similarity to the results of our discussion. (Bob Richardson)
- Perform a core area lease analysis (Jerry Martin)
- Create a visiting pilot's survey for their thoughts on airport elements they would like to see (Jerry Martin)
- Update the airport and industrial park elements of the City's web site, particularly from a marketing perspective, i.e. the space currently available in the industrial park (Bob Richardson)
- Perform a funding survey to determine whether any FAA funds are available for any part of Area #3 proposed projects (Jerry Martin)
- Research possible United States Department of Agriculture grants (from a "new jobs and economic development perspective) (unassigned)

As an immediate result of our discussion on a visiting pilot's survey, Jerry has committed to install a push-button combination lock on the door of the current pilot's lounge in the fuel station trailer to make it available to pilots off hours. The code would be something that a pilot would understand and remember, such as the AWOS frequency or runway headings. Information important to pilots would be posted inside and kept current, and a computer installed with online access. This is an important and immediate step we can take to make the airport a bit more friendly to our flying patrons.

Our next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, October 17, 2006 at 6:30 p.m. in the Barnstormer. We will do status updates on current action items, create any further necessary "sub-steps" to ongoing items, and spend some time discussing and refining our leasing policy.

As always, we encourage as many of you as possible to be involved in these discussions. It's YOUR airport... come and make your contribution to its future.

Respectfully submitted,

Wayne Manning, principal

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