

# Sustainable Planning Makes \$\$ and Sense

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Federal Aviation  
Administration



# What is Sustainability?

*Sustainability is not.....*



[gton.edu/twconf/ha/](http://gton.edu/twconf/ha/)

# What is Sustainability?

## *Sustainable actions...*

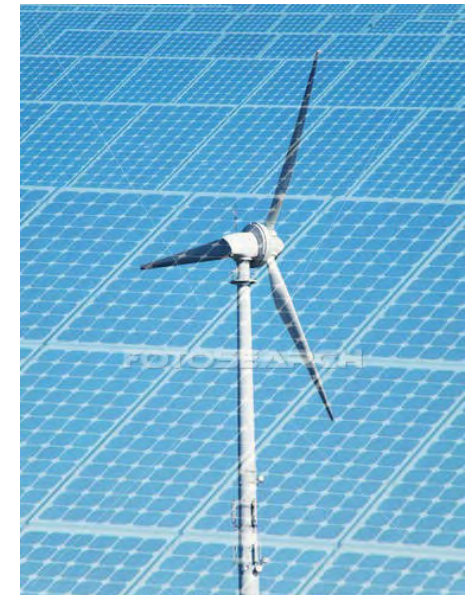
- Reduce environmental impacts
- Help maintain high, stable levels of economic growth
- Help achieve social progress



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# Defining Airport Sustainability

Airport sustainability planning is a holistic approach to managing an airport to ensure:

- Economic viability
- Operational efficiency
- Natural resource conservation
- Social responsibility

*Airports Council International of North America*



# Benefits of Airport Sustainability Planning

- Economic Viability
  - Reduces development and/or operations and maintenance costs
  - Results in greater utilization of assets
  - Encourages integrated design as a way of doing business
- Operational Efficiency
  - Efficient use of existing resources and facilities
  - Minimizes waste
- Natural Resource Conservation
  - Conserves and protects resources
  - Avoids and reduces impacts
  - Facilitates approval/ permitting
- Social Responsibility
  - Improves relationships with community and agencies
  - Enhances quality of life and socio-economic well being of the local community



# What is Driving Airport Sustainability?

- Federal, State and local mandates
- Rising and fluctuating energy costs
- Aging infrastructure
- Growing stewardship philosophy
- Airline industry financial pressures
- Airport image and passenger expectations



# Aviation Sustainability Initiatives

- Industry Initiatives:
  - Global Reporting Initiative's Airport Operators Sector Supplement
  - Sustainable Aviation Guidance Alliance (SAGA) Database
- Airport Initiatives: Sustainable airport manuals, master plans, and projects at multiple airports
- Airport Cooperative Research Program:
  - ACRP Synthesis 10: *Airport Sustainability Practices*
  - ACRP Project 02-28: *Sustainability for Airports: Best Practices, Success Metrics, and Beyond*
  - ACRP Project 02-30: *Enhancing the Airport-Industry Database of Sustainable Practices*
  - ACRP Report 42: *Sustainable Airport Construction Practices*
  - 2012 ACRP Projects
    - 02-40: *Climate Change Adaptation Planning: Risk Assessment for Airports*
    - 09-06: *Sustainable Practices for Airport Maintenance and Operations*

# Airports *ARE* Integrating Sustainability into Planning

- Sustainable Master Plans
  - Portland Airport Futures; Ithaca Sustainable Master Plan
- Environmental Management System
  - Denver International Airport
- Stand Alone Sustainability Plans
  - San Francisco, Philadelphia, Stewart, Manchester,
- Sustainability Management Systems
  - Los Angeles World Airports, Albuquerque Airports
- Facility Design and Construction Guidelines
  - Chicago SDM/SAM, Port Authority, LAWA, Massport
- Capital Improvement Plans

Seattle-Tacoma International Airport  
**A VISION FOR 2014 AND BEYOND**  
Environmental Strategy Plan 2009





# FAA and Sustainability

- National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)
- FAA Existing and New Programs Noise compatibility (Part 150)  
[http://www.faa.gov/airports/environmental/airport\\_noise/](http://www.faa.gov/airports/environmental/airport_noise/)
- Voluntary Airport Low Emissions (VALE)  
<http://www.faa.gov/airports/environmental/vale/>
- Executive Order 13514 (Federal Leadership in Environmental, Energy, and Economic Performance)
- Environmental Management Systems



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- Solar Guidance  
[http://www.faa.gov/airports/environmental/policy\\_guidance/media/airport\\_solar\\_guid\\_e\\_print.pdf](http://www.faa.gov/airports/environmental/policy_guidance/media/airport_solar_guid_e_print.pdf)
- Sustainable Master Plan Pilot Program  
<http://www.faa.gov/airports/environmental/sustainability>

# FAA Sustainable Plan Pilot Program

- Initiated in May 2010
- Goals:
  - ✓ More proactive, holistic approach to sustainable planning
  - ✓ Make sustainability a core airport objective through development of comprehensive plans with measurable goals
  - ✓ Encourage a more holistic approach to sustainability
  - ✓ Help airports achieve the Triple Bottom Line while meeting their operational requirements
  - ✓ Use lessons learned to develop national program guidance
- Program participants have 2 years from the date of grant issuance to complete their plans
- 10 airports are participating in the program

# Participating Airports

## Sustainable Master Plans:

Nashville International Airport

Newport News/Williamsburg International Airport

Newton City-County Airport

## Sustainable Management Plans:

**Denver International Airport**

Fresno Yosemite International Airport

Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport

Newark Liberty International Airport

Outagamie County Regional Airport

**Renton Municipal Airport**

Teterboro Airport



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# Lessons Learned

- Participating airports are seeing this as a value-added process.
- Incorporating sustainability into a traditional master plan is a challenge.
- As for stakeholder involvement, airports need to ensure that stakeholders are identified and involved at every stage of the process. This begins at the mission statement stage.
- Including financing options as part of the sustainability plan is crucial.
- Plans that end without a roadmap for moving forward to implementation have less chance for success.
- A monitoring system helps ensure initiatives move forward to implementation so plan doesn't sit on a shelf.



# What is Next?

- Sustainable Master Plan Pilot Program:
  - Currently reviewing preliminary plan documentation
  - We are collecting information and lessons learned
  - FAA will use lessons learned to develop national program guidance on airport sustainability
  - FAA solicited input from regions and airports to gauge interest in possible future sustainability grants. Currently reviewing the input.
- Reauthorization – sustainability concepts
  - Recycling and environmental management system planning eligible as part of airport master planning
  - Glycol recovery vehicles – eligible
  - Zero emissions vehicle pilot
  - Grants for increasing energy efficiency of airport power sources