



To: Mayor and Town Council  
From: Clint Kinney, Town Manager  
Date: March 5, 2020  
Re: Info Update

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#### AIRPORT UPDATE

The Airport Vision Committee is continuing forward with our mission to serve as the overall project advisory committee focused holistic airport issues. Over the course of a lot of months (15ish so far), the committee has worked to develop values and guiding principles to help develop a recommendation on the future of the airport. This recommendation will eventually go to the BOCC. This wide-ranging group of stakeholders has reviewed different perspectives, community values and a lot of technical information through this very thorough process. Over the course of the last month or so, the Committee has been meeting weekly for 3 hour sessions to continue to work through ideas, concepts and concerns. Although I am just 1 of about 20 people serving on the Committee, it is my perception that a final recommendation is close (famous last words). In my opinion, the proposed package of recommendations we are now working through has successfully thread the needle through a lot of different competing interests. The draft common ground solution is a complete set of recommendations designed to put safety first, reduce greenhouse gas and other pollutant emissions by at least 30%, reduce noise by at least 30%, and limit commercial airline enplanements growth to approximately .8% per year. This proposed .8% growth rate is about a 50% reduction from the current predicted (unconstrained) market growth rate. These (and other) recommendation, designed to help achieve agreed upon community goals, are also designed to help protect commercial airline service by (as much as the law and regulations will allow) prioritizing commercial airline traffic over general aviation (private jet) traffic. Because this group of 20ish citizens is trying its best to balance the competing interests of growth/no-growth, high quality experience, environmental concerns and protection of the broader community character, there is a good chance that not everyone will agree on the final package. Time will tell. But for now, suffice it to say, it appears that the group has come up with a common ground solution that will protect the community character by limiting enplanement growth and improve the environmental impact of the facility. I'm guessing we have a few more weeks of meetings as we continue to discuss the nuances and unintended consequences of the recommendations. Let me know if you want more details, I have a thick binder full of them.

#### THE AIRPORT BY THE NUMBERS

To quote Bill Tomcich, "this may well be the most boring report of YOY monthly operations I've ever had to report with nothing but low single digit variances, but when we are comparing numbers against the best January ever in the history of the Aspen Airport in terms of passenger enplanements, there's nothing wrong with boring."

#### **ASE January Results:**

- Total Scheduled Flights: Up +0.6% over last year (912 this year versus 907 last year).
- Overall Completion %: 91.0% this year versus 91.3% last year

- Actual Flown Seats: Up +0.07% over last year.
- Total passengers flown: 79,805 arriving and departing pax, down -1.2% from last year.
- Overall January Load Factor: 69.9% this year versus 70.8% last year.

#### SUBSTANTIALLY COMPLETE

As part of the Base Village PUD approval, the Town Council set a number of development milestones to ensure the PUD was implemented in a timely manner and in a logical order. The milestones included completion of the Wood and Brush Creek roundabout and completion of the Limelight, the Collective and the ice rink plaza. Another milestone was the substantial completion of Buildings 7 and 8 by March 1, 2020. I am happy to report that this most recent milestone has now been official met; Buildings 7 and 8 are substantially complete.

#### TID BITS

- After bragging about a second place finish for the ladies high school swim team last week, the high school ladies hockey team goes and wins their third state high school championship in a row! Knowing it is all about the parenting, hockey parents are clearly better parents. Congrats to the Martens's family; Lainey, Kane and Anne.
- Fat Tuesday seems like a long time ago..... but nevertheless, it was a success. Cake and beads and bands and fun. The tradition continues.
- I was lucky enough to get a tour of the new wastewater treatment plant this week. At the risk of sounding overly bureaucratically nerdy; it was fascinating. The new systems, designed to remove even more types and pollution than before, are expected to go online around the middle of March. Construction on the outside of the facility, such as the demonstration garden, parking lot paving and sod on the roof will continue as weather permits.
- If you are looking to help a good cause, the DAV is looking for volunteers.
- We are working to develop a new handbook to help orient new board and commission members.
- It's that magical time of year again, the Auditors arrive on Monday!
- Speaking of magic, Town staff did an exceptional job of dealing with the winter squall that came through on Monday. The wind and snow required us to shut down bus service for about 15 minutes, but the team recovered quickly and was able clean up after Mother Nature's little surprise. Kudos to the Town Crew!
- The Coffey Place project is moving forward on two fronts. Construction remains on schedule, and we are making progress toward setting a closing on the construction loan.
- We are continuing forward with the Housing Master Planning effort. Site evaluations are underway to determine where 200 units can be appropriately tucked in.
- Town Clean-Up day will be May 22.

CC: Department Directors