

**North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG)
Air Transportation Advisory Committee
April 7, 2022**

The Air Transportation Advisory Committee (ATAC) convened at 1 pm on April 7, 2022, held as a Microsoft Teams Virtual Meeting.

1. Welcome and Introductions

Natalie Bettger welcomed members to the April 7, 2022, ATAC meeting.

2. Orientation to Agenda, Natalie Bettger, NCTCOG

Natalie noted that attendance would be downloaded via Teams and that the meeting was being recorded for the purpose of drafting the meeting summary.

3. Approval of December 2, 2021, ATAC Meeting Summary

The summary of the December 2 ATAC meeting was accepted as submitted.

4. Pavement Clean Up, Michael Chaisson, Kofi Barkoh & Nic Iverson, WaterJet Technologies

Kofi Barkoh and Michael Chaisson introduced the members to WaterJet Technologies, a distributor of Cyclone high-pressure water-jetting equipment. The equipment blasts water at pressures as low as zero to 5,000 PSI, and ultra-high-pressure cleaning systems between 5,000 PSI and 40,000 PSI. This equipment is deployed on airport runways and taxiways to remove rubber and line striping to increase safety and efficiency. Nic Iverson explained the multi-patented Cyclone cleaning head technology components. The system scours away surface contaminants while simultaneously recovering virtually all the water with the patented cleaning head. Waterjet Technologies product works faster, green, and cleaner.

5. Airport Electric Vehicle Infrastructure, Maranda Thompson, Mead & Hunt

Maranda provided recent developments on the emerging field of electric aircraft. This included an overview of the vehicles and of the infrastructure required to integrate electric aircraft into airports; airport planning, and environmental consideration needed to accommodate the aircraft at an airport; and guidance published by Federal Aviation Administration and Airport Cooperative Research Program. Maranda discussed the different types of aircraft, including Electric Conventional Takeoff and Landing (eCTOL), Electric Vertical Takeoff and Landing (eVTOL), and Uncrewed Aerial Vehicle (UAV). The eVTOL will have an airframe similar to a helicopter, can hold up to nine passengers or cargo, and may or may not have a pilot. eCTOL aircraft can hold up to 19 passengers but do not have cross-country range.

The Cessna 208 Caravan utilizes existing design but has a new engine. This aircraft is flying now. It swaps out the fuel tanks with electric components. Drone can be piloted remotely or autonomously through software. Drones serve many roles, including package delivery, moving medical supplies, and can support law enforcement in search and rescue, disaster relief, and military operations.

Aircraft at the smaller end of the spectrum will be coming online in the next five years.

6. TxDOT Aviation Update, Jim Halley and Eusebio "Chevy" Torres, TxDOT Aviation

Jim Halley updated the committee on two important items that would involve a lot of airport partners throughout the state. One is the update of TxDOT's system plan, which hadn't been updated since 2020. TxDOT will look at identifying opportunities seen in the aviation system across the state in the

next 10–20 years and how they can be capitalized on. This will not involve just TxDOT Aviation, but the entire system and all of the partners.

The second item is the update to TxDOT's internal database. The Texas Airport Data system (TAD) managed the Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) project requests, CIP development itself, airport data, contact information. The updated system will allow airports and even consultants to have various levels of access to a more active role in updating the CIP. Currently a lot of the information has to be entered manually. The unique software will help manage projects and can be accessed across the world. The update will take place in the next seven to eight months.

7. NCTCOG Aviation Update, Ernest Huffman, NCTCOG

Aviation Planning

Ernest updated the committee on the request to Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) for funding on the most recent system plan update; most recent communication from the FAA was that a system plan did not fit in the priorities in the current discretionary funding pool. A new system plan still needs to be done to accommodate the growth regional airports are seeing and ensure we can continue to have the capacity to meet everyone's demand. As part of the Infrastructure Investment Job Act, the FAA will take some apportionment to airports and create a mega-project fund to fund larger projects. When system plans are updated, Ernest can work with airports on how to access the mega-project fund.

Aviation Careers

Ernest had met with the Choctaw Nation, The Cherokee Nation, NASA and the FAA at a conference and NASA and FAA both expressed willingness to work with Ernest to enhance the aviation career initiative. This is in line with the FAA's new mandate to do more career related outreach with aviation careers.

UAS Safety and Integration Task Force Updates

An automated vehicle conference will be held in Orlando. Los Angeles is going to share where they are with drone integration and advanced air mobility planning. LA invested a lot of money to figure out the issue and they published a plan in late 2021.

An agreement was signed with NASA to help outline community planning integration methods for local municipalities. That report is expected to be done this summer. Working group meetings are still happening; one focus is on doing public engagement workshops every month. They will be commenting as a group on FAA rules.

Arlington Entertainment District Advanced Air Mobility Pilot Program Update

Ernest stated that during the Dallas Cowboys game the prior season, low altitude detection determined that there were 48 drone events during home games, and 22 of those were unsafe drone flights. Arlington Police Department and others responded and the data was documented to be shared with FAA for future limiting engagements.

Ernest asked if airport representatives could share their master plans to be posted on NCTCOG's Aviation website.

The meeting was adjourned.

Meeting Participants

Voting Members in Attendance

Keith Barrett, Caddo Mills Airport
Aaron Barth, Meacham Airport
Mark Divita, Grand Prairie Municipal Airport
Ty Helton, Greenville Municipal Airport
Eric Pratt, City of Mesquite
Pat Stewart, Granbury Regional Airport
Sharlette Wright, Cleburne Regional Airport

Non-Voting Members in Attendance

Joe Hammond, Spinks Airport
Marissa Sanchez, City of Dallas

Others in Attendance

Kofi Barkoh, WaterJet Technologies
Michael Chaisson, WaterJet Technologies
Chris Coons, Mead & Hunt
Jim Halley, TxDOT Aviation
Nic Iverson, WaterJet Technologies
Michael Mallonee, KSA Engineering
Maranda Thompson, Mead & Hunt
Eusebio "Chevy" Torres, TxDOT Aviation

NCTCOG Staff in Attendance

Natalie Bettger
Ernest Huffman
Marian Thompson
Barbara Walsh