NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF A DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND NOTICE OF AN OPEN HOUSE & PUBLIC HEARING AT THE WAUKEGAN NATIONAL AIRPORT, WAUKEGAN, ILLINOIS

The Waukegan Port District, owner, and Sponsor of the Waukegan National Airport, intends to submit to the Federal Aviation Administration a request for Federal funds to assist the District in constructing the following development items:

1. **Construct Replacement Runway 5/23**

- Build a new replacement for Runway 5/23 that currently measures 6,000 feet in length and 150 feet in width. The replacement runway would be the same dimensions as the existing runway but relocated 400 feet from centerline-to-centerline northwest of the existing Runway 5/23, with a pavement strength of 120,000 pounds dual wheel load.
- Construct a roadway tunnel allowing for replacement Runway 5/23 to be constructed over Illinois Route 131-Green Bay Road. The tunnel includes the installation of a pump station (with primary and stand-by power), a fire protection standpipe system and traffic, management of lighting and tunnel ventilation. Illinois Route 131/Green Bay Road and ancillary surface transportation improvements (such as a planned shared use path) will be constructed through the tunnel by the Illinois Department of Transportation.
- Install High Intensity Runway Lights on replacement Runway 5/23.
- Install Precision Approach Path Indicators for replacement Runway 5/23 thresholds.
- Paint precision instrument pavement markings on replacement Runway 5/23.
- Install a Localizer Antenna Array* 1,000 feet beyond the replacement Runway 5 threshold.
- Install a Glide Slope Antenna* approximately 1,000 feet from the Replacement Runway 23 landing threshold.
- Co-locate a Runway Visual Range* and Automated Surface Observation System (ASOS)* with the previously discussed Glide Slope Antenna*.
- Install Medium Intensity Approach Light System-Runway Alignment Indicator Lights (MALSR)* beyond the replacement Runway 23 threshold.
- Install Runway End Identifier Lights (REILS) beyond the replacement threshold of Runway 5.
- Establish a Precision Standard Instrument Approach Procedure to the replacement Runway 23 threshold and a Non-Precision Standard Instrument Approach Procedure to the replacement Runway 5 threshold, in coordination with FAA.

2. **Decommission Existing Runway 5/23 and Navigational Aids (NAVAIDS)**

- Decommission Runway 5/23.
- Decommission the existing Glide Slope Antenna* and Automated Surface Observation System*.
- Decommission the Runway 5 Runway End Identifier Lights (REILS).
- Decommission the Runway 23 Medium Intensity Approach Light System-Runway Alignment Indicator Lights (MALSR)*.
- Decommission the Runway 5 and Runway 23 Visual Approach Slope Indicator*.

*Denotes FAA owned facilities. For all of the FAA-owned equipment that would be impacted, the Sponsor would work with the FAA via a reimbursable agreement to relocate or replace these facilities.

3. **Convert Decommissioned Runway 5/23 into Taxiway A**

- Repurpose former runway pavement into replacement Taxiway A. Remove approximately 1,200 feet of the decommissioned Runway 5/23, and decommissioned Taxiway A and remove Taxiways A7 and A8 pavement to the northeast.

- Remove runway pavement to create a 50-foot-wide Taxiway A. Strengthen/reconstruct converted Taxiway A to meet pavement design strengths to serve aircraft using replacement Runway 5/23.
- Extend new Taxiway A to the southwest to the new threshold of replacement Runway 5/23. This taxiway extension includes construction of a grade separation over Illinois Route 131/Green Bay Road.
- Extend Taxiway D northeast from Taxiway C to replacement Runway 23 threshold.
- Extend Taxiway D southwest from Taxiway D2 to the midpoint of the replacement Runway 5/23.
- Construct connecting Taxiway F from Taxiway D to Taxiway A.
- Install Medium Intensity Taxiway Lights to serve the new replacement Taxiway A and Taxiway D pavements.
- Remove existing Runway 5/23 High Intensity Runway Lights and install Medium Intensity Taxiway Lights on new Taxiway A.
- Install Medium Intensity Taxiway Lights adjacent to all proposed taxiways.

4. Connected Actions and Mitigation Measures

- Acquisition of approximately 17.62 acres of land in fee simple title and approximately 56.43 acres in avigation easements; includes the relocation of 16 residences.
- Removal of approximately 27 acres of trees to construct the improvements and obstruction removal within the Runway Protection Zones and Airport Imaginary Surfaces.
- Mitigation for impacts to approximately 9.69 acres of wetlands, and 1,052 linear feet of stream.
- Construct stormwater dry bottom detention basins as well as compensatory stormwater storage for impacts within the floodplain and floodway.
- Modification to existing on-airport storm water detention facilities to reduce hazardous wildlife attractants.
- Release (FAA Grant Assurance Number 31) of approximately 5.9 acres of Airport Property and transfer to the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT), Division of Highways, Region 1, District 1, for the construction of the realigned Illinois Route 131/Green Bay Road.
- Permanent closure and vacation of portions of the following streets: West Townline Road, West Zephyr Street, West Center Street, West Suddard Street, North Adelphi Avenue, and West Dorothy Street.
- Construct a perimeter security and wildlife fence to enclose the entire airside operations at the Airport.

A Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) has been prepared, which reviews anticipated environmental effects of the Proposed Action. Paper copies of the Draft EA are available for public review, only during normal business hours, at the following locations:

Waukegan National Airport 2601 Plane Rest Drive Waukegan, IL 60087	City of Waukegan 100 North Martin Luther King Jr. Avenue Waukegan, IL 60085
Village of Wadsworth 14155 West Wadsworth Road Wadsworth, IL 60083	Village of Beach Park 11270 West Wadsworth Road Beach Park, IL 60099
City of Zion 2828 Sheridan Road Zion, IL 60083	

An electronic copy of the Draft EA is available for review and downloading at the Airport's website: https://waukeganairport.com/replacement-runway-project-information/. An Open House and Public

Hearing will be held at the Waukegan National Airport, 2601 Plane Rest Drive, Waukegan, IL on **December 8, 2026**, from **3PM to 7PM**.

The purpose of this hearing is to consider the "***social, economic, and environmental effects of the proposed developments and their consistency with the goals and objectives of area planning agencies".*** Airport staff and Draft EA preparers will be available to answer questions in the Open House room. No formal project presentation will be made. Written materials, including copies of the Draft EA will be provided at the Open House. The Open House and Public Hearing Rooms are compliant with the Americans With Disabilities Act. If special assistance is needed, please contact Skip Goss, at (847) 244-0055. To take care of any special needs, a request must be made on or before 4PM Central on December 4, 2026.

Potentially affected environmental resources reviewed in this Draft EA, subject to Special Purpose Laws, include Floodplains, Wetlands and Waters of the United States, Historic Properties, Endangered Species, and Publicly Owned Park Properties (Section 4(f)). The proposed action is anticipated to encroach on a floodplain located on the Waukegan National Airport. Impacts are anticipated to be minor. The proposed action conforms to applicable state and/or local floodplain protection standards and all measures to minimize harm will be included in the project.

In the Public Hearing room, a Hearing Officer will moderate the proceedings, and a Court Reporter will create a transcript of testimony provided. Written comments can be proved to the court reporter in the Public Hearing room or placed in a Comment Box in the Open House area. The Public Record will be held open for 30 days after the Public Hearing to receive written public comments. Comments on the Draft EA may be submitted electronically to Craig Pullins at Craig.K.Pullins@faa.gov. Written comments may be submitted via U.S. mail to the address below. Please ensure adequate time for receipt. All comments must be received by 4:00 p.m. Central Time on January 6, 2027.

Federal Aviation Administration
Chicago Airports District Office
2300 East Devon Avenue
Des Plaines, IL 60018