

Looking Toward Our Future

Spring 2005

The Contra Costa County Public Works

Buchanan Field Airport Master Planning Program

Department (Airports Division) has begun a comprehensive master planning program that will guide the development and growth of Buchanan Field Airport over the next 20 years. *This newsletter provides an overview of the various elements of the master planning process.*

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MASTER PLANNING PROGRAM PURPOSE

The Buchanan Field Airport Master Planning Program will provide a long-term development plan for the airport that addresses the existing and future needs of the airport and maximizes compatibility with the surrounding area.

The development plan will include recommendations for airport facilities development, on-airport land use, surrounding area land use, supporting infrastructure development, and financial plans to fund future development. Final master planning program recommendations will be approved by the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors and the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA).

The Master Planning Program will take 24 to 30 months and includes an Airport Master Plan Update, a Strategic Business & Implementation Plan, and a Federal Aviation Regulation (FAR) Part 150 Study.

MASTER PLAN

The focus of the Master Plan is on the physical development of airport property to meet aviation demands, with consideration of environmental and aesthetic issues, as well as community needs and concerns.

The Master Plan will provide a comprehensive planning tool that will be used by the County and FAA to evaluate the airport's capabilities and role, forecast future aviation demand, and provide guidance and better direct resources for the timely development of new or expanded facilities. The Airport Master Plan will be:

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- **Consistent with FAA guidelines;**
- **Organized in accordance with existing and future airport operations and aviation demand;**
- **Compatible with the environment, the land uses near the airport, other transportation modes, and other airports in the region;**
- **Based on the needs and goals of the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors and the public; and,**
- **Within regulatory guidelines and legal parameters.**

MASTER PLAN PROCESS

The Master Plan process will update the existing Buchanan Field Airport Master Plan consistent with FAA requirements. Following a comprehensive analysis of facility needs, alternatives for airport development will be considered. The alternatives will be evaluated and a final preferred plan will be selected. This final preferred plan will take into consideration existing and projected conditions, as well as input from the Steering Committee, airport and Contra Costa County staff, the FAA, and the public.

The Master Plan for Buchanan Field Airport will include:

- **An analysis and inventory of existing conditions and plans;**
- **Development of forecasts of future aviation activity;**
- **Determination of appropriate airside and landside facilities;**
- **Creation of a plan for airport development, including environmental considerations; and,**
- **Development of an implementation plan and schedule, costs, and a financial program to fund future development.**

FAR PART 150 STUDY

A significant and challenging issue to be addressed during the Master Planning Program will be the relationship of aircraft noise to neighboring communities. To assess noise effects, or potential ways to minimize them, an FAR Part 150 Study will be completed. The Study will include:

- **Identification of existing aircraft noise exposure;**
- **Identification of potential future—five to ten years out—aircraft noise exposure;**
- **Evaluation of various alternatives aimed at potentially lessening aircraft noise in neighborhoods surrounding the airport;**
- **Assessment of incompatible, if any, land uses surrounding the airport; and,**
- **Recommendation of a plan of action(s) to address FAA identified noise impacts.**

STRATEGIC BUSINESS & IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

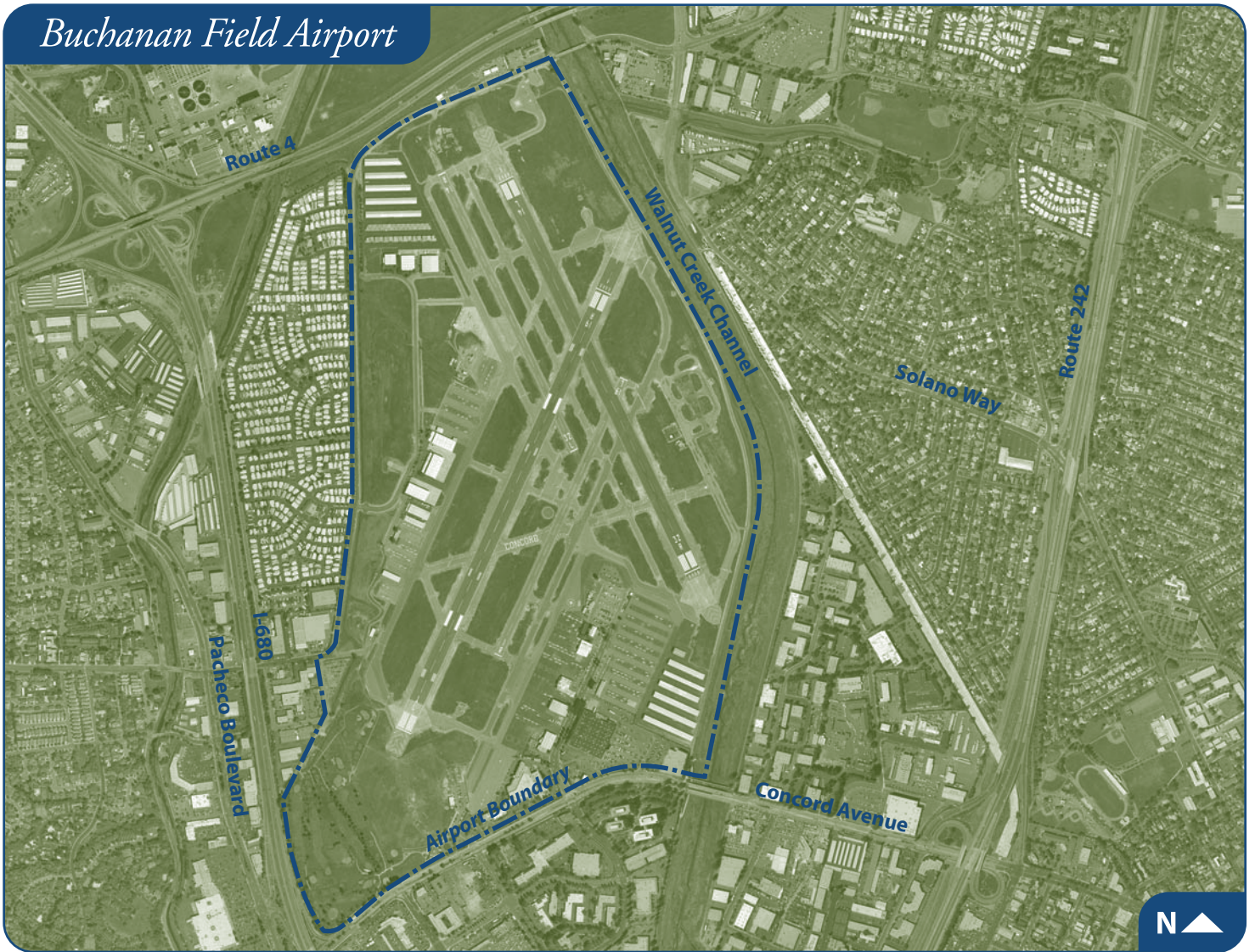
Upon completion of the Master Plan and concurrent with the FAR Part 150 Study, a Strategic Business & Implementation Plan will be prepared. This Plan will prioritize future projects, identify funding sources, and, most importantly, guide future property development potential to increase airport revenue.

PROJECT SCHEDULE

The Master Planning Program began in Spring 2004 and should be completed by Fall 2006.

*{ Buchanan Field
Master Planning Program }*

Buchanan Field Airport



PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

To ensure that the long-term airport development plan considers the interests and concerns of local residents and businesses, the County is actively seeking public involvement and participation in the Buchanan Field Airport Master Planning Process. Nine public meetings are planned during the project to provide the public with study findings and recommendations, grant the opportunity to ask questions, learn more about the Master Planning Program, and provide project input.

STEERING COMMITTEE

A Steering Committee, with some 60 representatives from the general public, various governing agencies, airport businesses, local cities, local business community and others, will meet ten times during the life of the project to review project information and provide input to County staff and the Consultant Team. The Steering Committee will provide substantive input into the Master Planning Program.

CONTACT INFORMATION

For specific information about this project, or to submit comments or ask questions, please contact:

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WEBSITE

Reports, maps, working papers, Steering Committee and community meeting dates and details, and other information will be regularly posted and updated on the Buchanan Field Airport website. Check the website for up-to-date information as the study progresses at www.buchananfield-byronairports.org

**Buchanan Field Airport
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