



Memorandum of Agreement

Atlantic City International Airport

History



- In 1992, the South Jersey Transportation Authority (SJTA) was created to pursue transportation related economic development projects throughout Southern New Jersey.
- SJTA purchased the passenger terminal complex and leased 2,000 acres of land from the William J. Hughes Technical Center at the Atlantic City International Airport.
- Environmental Impacts Statement prepared for SJTA determined that proposed aviation related development would result in a loss of grassland habitat at the Atlantic City International Airport.
- In 2004, SJTA and Pinelands Commission enter into a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) to authorize SJTA to carry out specified development activities that were not fully consistent with the provisions of the Pinelands Comprehensive Management Plan.

Development Projects included in MOA



- Terminal Area Development: To accommodate existing and future passenger and airline needs, the SJTA proposed to develop new or expanded terminal facilities including the following activities:
 - Terminal building and gate construction and improvement
 - Public parking garage
 - Rental car maintenance facility and parking lot
 - Airline freight storage and handling facilities
 - General aviation aircraft storage hangers and additional aircraft parking area
 - Deicing apron

Development Projects included in the MOA

- Auxiliary Area Development: To advance the airline's interest in establishing maintenance and cargo facilities, the SJTA plans to develop an area of the airport for aviation related light industry, including:
 - Aircraft maintenance hangars
 - Air freight warehouses
 - Full length parallel taxiway west of Runway 4-22
 - Aircraft parking apron and taxiways
 - Access roadways and parking

Development Projects included in MOA

- Hotel/Conference Center: To meet demand for on-site lodging and meeting facilities, the SJTA plans to allow a third party developer to construct a hotel/conference center at the airport.
- Runway 13-31 Upgrades: To improve the utility of the primary runway at the airport, the SJTA proposes to install electronic navigational aids for the runway.
- Holding Aprons: To increase taxiway efficiency and operational safety, the SJTA proposes to construct holding aprons at each end of Runway 13-31. The holding aprons would separate military aircraft from runways and taxiways while arming and disarming procedure are being performed.

Purpose of Proposed Airport Improvements



- To improve air service for travelers in Southern New Jersey.
- To foster economic development in the South Jersey region.
- To enhance efficiency and safety at the Atlantic City International Airport.
- To encourage revenue producing land uses that support aviation oriented infrastructure.



Impacts from Development Projects



- Through habitat loss and fragmentation, the development projects would result in the loss of:
 - 95.71 acres of habitat critical to the survival of the local population of Upland sandpiper; and
 - 96.4 acres of habitat critical to the survival of the local population of Grasshopper sparrow.

Mitigation



- To compensate for the impacts to critical habitat for Upland sandpiper and Grasshopper sparrow, the SJTA proposed to create a Grassland Conservation and Management Plan (GCMP) for a 290 acre area located in the northwest corner of the airport.
- The GCMP involved converting unsuitable habitat and enhancement of less suitable habitat within the 290 acre area to optimum habitat for the concerned species.
- The GCMP also establishes a long-term plan to maintain the created/enhanced habitat as well as existing suitable habitat to benefit the concerned species.
- The MOA provides that the 290 acre area will be maintained as critical habitat and will not be developed.

Current Status of the MOA



- SJTA has completed the proposed habitat improvements within the 290 acre grassland conservation and management area.

- SJTA has completed construction of seven near term projects outlined in the MOA, including:
 - Parking garage
 - Holding aprons
 - Terminal expansion
 - Aircraft apron expansion
 - General aviation hanger
 - Taxiway improvements
 - Runway 13-31 upgrades