

Winsted Municipal Airport Notice of Public Comment Period and Public Hearing

The Winsted Municipal Airport has undertaken a Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) for Airport improvements including replacement or reconstruction of a 3,200-foot runway, potential property acquisition, potential Luce Line Trail relocation, and gas pipeline relocation. Notice is hereby given that a public comment period and a public hearing shall take place to review and comment on the Draft EA covering improvements at the Winsted Municipal Airport. This process ensures that citizens, agencies and others have an opportunity to give input regarding the EA and its findings.

EA Background

There currently is one runway at the Winsted Municipal Airport, Runway 9/27. This is a turf facility, which is in poor condition and needs replacement or reconstruction to comply with FAA requirements and limit the duration of airport closures due to weather conditions. The City of Winsted and the FAA have reviewed alternatives to meet this Purpose and Need in the Draft EA consistent with requirements established under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). These alternatives include the following:

- Alternative P1: replace the turf runway with a paved runway on a parallel alignment but shifted 150 feet to the north to meet applicable setback requirements
- Alternative T1: reconstruct Runway 9/27 as a turf runway at its current location

The EA also reviews the No Action alternative.

The Draft EA documents the Purpose and Need for the overall proposed action, and reviews each of the alternatives regarding the potential for social, economic, and environmental impacts.

30-Day Comment Period

Copies of this document are available for public viewing during standard business hours at the following location:

Winsted City Hall
201 1st Street
Winsted, MN 55395

In addition, the Draft EA may be viewed on the City's website at: <http://www.winsted.mn.us/pages/airport.html>

The public comment period is open from May 8 to June 7, 2017. All comments must be in writing and postmarked or emailed by **June 7, 2017**. Received comments will become part of the EA document administrative files. The comments will be considered when selecting the Preferred Alternative in the Final EA. The Final EA will include all comments received on the Draft EA as well as responses to those comments.

Comments should be sent to:

Mr. Dan Tienter
City Administrator
City Winsted City Hall
201 1st Street
Winsted, MN 55395

Or

Josh Fitzpatrick
Environmental Protection Specialist
Federal Aviation Administration
6020 South 28th Avenue, Room 102
Minneapolis, MN 55450

You may also email comments to Mr. Tienter (dan.tienter@winsted.mn.us) or Mr. Fitzpatrick (joshua.fitzpatrick@faa.gov) no later than **June 7, 2017**.

In addition, the FAA has made a determination, in accordance with rules associated with the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, that the proposed action will not affect historic properties. The State Historic Preservation Office has concurred with this finding. This issue is covered in greater detail in the Draft EA document, and the public, thus, has the opportunity to comment on the FAA's determination regarding historic resources using the procedures outlined above.

Public Hearing

A public hearing will be held for the project **Thursday, May 18 at 6:00 at City Hall Council Chambers**. Project representatives will be giving an overview of the project and the EA document and process, and then attendees will be invited to comment on the project. These comments will be entered into the official project record and will be considered when deciding between the two project alternatives referenced above.