

Airport Futures Electronic Update

October 2008

What is Airport Futures?

Airport Futures is a collaborative effort between the City of Portland, Port of Portland, and the Portland-Vancouver metropolitan community to create an integrated long-range development plan for Portland International Airport (PDX). This 3 year process is guided by a diverse 30 member, regional Planning Advisory Group.

Airport Futures will produce 3 major products:

1. The **Airport Master Plan** will outline the **preferred development alternative for PDX**, including future parking, terminal, airfield, runway and roadway facility needs.
2. The **Long-Range Land Use Plan** will incorporate **land use, transportation and natural resource systems** in the area surrounding the airport and address community concerns regarding growth at PDX.
3. An **ongoing public involvement strategy** for the community will provide a mechanism for regular input on significant planning efforts and developments at PDX after Airport Futures has concluded.

Phase 5, Airport Layout and Alternative and City Land Use Plan, is starting now. During this phase, we will develop the preferred PDX development alternative for 2035 in coordination with the City Land Use Plan, **balancing the operational needs of PDX with impacts on the surrounding community**. The draft ongoing public involvement strategy will also be developed in Phase 5.

Project Update:

Planning Advisory Group

The Airport Futures Planning Advisory Group (PAG) held their tenth meeting in October 2008. At this meeting, they heard a detailed presentation from aviation consultant C.F. Booth on near-term facility requirements for PDX to maintain its current level of service through 2035. The consultants reiterated that most existing facilities will serve us well throughout the duration of the 2035 Master Plan time frame, but noted some improvements are needed to capitalize on good planning initiatives and investment so far. Examples of needed infrastructure investments before 2035 include overnight aircraft parking, passenger screening, international facilities, access roadway, and public parking.

The PAG was asked to approve the approach to facility requirements and confirm that the conclusions were appropriate for the Alternatives Analysis phase where master plan alternatives would be developed to address the potential bottleneck areas. The PAG approved the approach and conclusions with the condition that the assumptions will be revisited in the Alternatives Analysis phase using the lens of sustainability. The PAG had an initial discussion about what if growth occurs more quickly (or slowly) than the 50% forecast projection and what the implications will be for the Master Plan and Land Use Plan. This discussion will be continued in the Joint Master Plan Alternatives/Sustainability Subcommittee meeting.

The City Land Use Plan will allow the City to develop a land use plan that examines the increasingly complex issues associated with PDX; provide the community with greater opportunity to influence airport planning and development; and provide the Port with flexibility to respond to changing circumstances in airport development. Like the Master Plan, it will consider the potential impacts of the full range of development scenarios at PDX in order to produce a land use plan that fairly, realistically and optimally balances the economic, environmental and social goals. This will include a look at the livability of neighborhoods, health of natural resources and functionality of the transportation system, and economic development opportunities around the airport.

The eleventh PAG Meeting will be held Tuesday, January 20, 2009, 5:30 – 8:30 pm at the Port of Portland downtown offices, Port Commission Room (first floor), 121 NE Everett, Portland, OR.

Subcommittees

During Phase 5, the 4 active subcommittees will be combined where possible to improve efficiency. The Sustainability Subcommittee will be combined with the Master Plan Alternatives Subcommittee. The Public Involvement and Land Use / Transportation Subcommittees will continue to hold joint meetings as the ongoing public involvement and land use review processes take shape.

1. Sustainability/Master Plan Alternatives Subcommittee

The Sustainability and Master Plan Subcommittees blended into one committee in November 2008 to provide a well-rounded discussion about how the sustainability framework will apply to the selection of alternatives. In upcoming meetings, they will hear a proposed approach for evaluating alternatives, and learn about existing sustainability programs at PDX and how those programs could be considered in the 2010 Master Plan and Land Use Plan.

The first Sustainability/Master Plan Alternatives Subcommittee will be held Tuesday, November 18. Please check the website for meeting location and time.

2. Land Use /Transportation Subcommittee

The Land Use / Transportation Subcommittee held its fourth meeting on October 28, 2008. At this meeting, the group was given an overview of the public involvement subcommittee's work on the ongoing public involvement strategy. They also heard a briefing on the elements of the City Land Use Plan, including Comprehensive Plan amendments, Zoning Code amendments, community agreements, the natural resource inventory and the traffic impact analysis. Future meetings will continue to define the specific elements of the Land Use Plan and the role of the ongoing public involvement strategy in that plan. At their next meeting, they will start to craft the outline of the land use plan and explore its relationship with the PDX Master Plan.

The fifth Land Use / Transportation Subcommittee will be held Wednesday, December 10, 2008, 6 – 8 pm at the Port of Portland downtown offices, Room 1 South (first floor), 121 NE Everett, Portland, OR.

3. Public Involvement Subcommittee

The Public Involvement Subcommittee held its sixth meeting on October 29, 2008 and heard a report from staff on research conducted on eight other airports' ongoing public involvement programs, evaluating their operational principles, committee design and structure.

At their next meeting, they will hear more about City and regional examples of ongoing committees which might help in the design of this future body, its charge and its processes. Based on this information, the subcommittee will then weave together best practices from other ongoing advisory groups and create one or more scenarios to be considered for the ongoing program in early 2009. The future PDX public involvement program may also provide oversight on sustainability and land use planning initiatives that come out of the Airport Futures process.

The seventh Public Involvement Subcommittee meeting will be held Wednesday, December 3, 6:30 – 9 pm. Please check the website for meeting location.

**Airport Futures Subcommittee membership is OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.
Let us know if you are interested in joining a subcommittee!**

The public is also encouraged to attend the general PAG meetings. All meetings include a public comment opportunity. Meeting notices and materials are posted on the project website at www.pdxairportfutures.com.

Technical Advisory Pool

Airport Futures PAG and staff will receive additional support, guidance and expertise from a Technical Advisory Pool (TAP) over the course of the project. Membership is comprised of Port and City staff from multiple divisions and bureaus, agencies such as Tri-met and Metro as well as community stakeholders. For a complete list of interests represented, visit the project website.

The next TAP meeting is scheduled for December 4. Please check the website for meeting time and location.

Stakeholder Outreach

The project team will continue to meet with stakeholders, conducting group discussions and incorporating public input throughout the project. All feedback from the community is passed on to the PAG for consideration. The next Open Houses will be held in 2009.

Check the website for upcoming meetings in your area!

For more information on Airport Futures, or to schedule a briefing with staff, please call Lise Glancy, Port of Portland (503) 460-4018, or Bronwyn Buckle, City of Portland, (503) 823-6947.