Minnesota Airports Conference 2016

Airport Zoning Update

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Today’s Agenda

- Airport Zoning Historical Perspective
- Updating Zoning Laws: Stakeholder Outreach and Coordination
- Summary of Proposal
- Status
President’s Airport Commission

Commissioned by Pres. Truman
Chaired by General Doolittle

Resulting Report:
The Airport and Its Neighbors
The Airport and Its Neighbors

25 Recommendations

Highlights:

• Integrate municipal and airport planning
• Incorporate cleared runway extension areas into airports
• Establish effective zoning laws
# 5 - Establish Effective Zoning Laws

} A fan shaped zone
   ◦ At least 2 miles long
   ◦ 6,000 feet wide at outer limits
} Eliminate establishment of places of public assembly (e.g. schools, hospitals)
} Restrict residences to distant locations in the zone
Approach Zone = 2 miles
Turning Zone = 2 miles
Obstructions limited in both zones
1959

Zone A = 1 mile
Zone B = out to 2 miles
Zone C = \( \frac{1}{2} \) mile
Zone D = 1 mile

Restrictions
A = No residence/assembly
B = 5 acre lots
C = 1 acre lots
1974

Zone A = 2/3’s Runway Length
Zone B = 1/3 Runway Length
Zone C = Arc length depends on approach type

Restrictions
A = No structures, no assembly
B = 3 acre lots
C = general restrictions
Simple Example of Airport Zoning

Zone A

Zone B

Zone C
Accident Distribution

Notes:
445 arrival accidents in database—each dot represents one accident site.
Contours represent relative intensities (highest concentrations) of points in 20% increments.

General Aviation Accident Distribution Contours – All Arrivals
Updating Minnesota’s Airport Zoning Laws: Stakeholder Outreach and Coordination
State Aviation System Plan

} 2012 SASP: received comments that we should take a fresh look at the zoning rules and statutes

} Resulted in a commitment to evaluate the rules and statutes to more appropriately balance public safety and economic development opportunities near and around airports.
Advisory Committee

- Airport managers
- City/county zoning officials
- Consultant Engineers
- Pilot groups
- League of Minnesota Cities
- Minnesota Assn. County Planning and Zoning Administrators
- Minnesota Council of Airports
- Metropolitan Airports Commission
- Regional Development Commissions
- Metropolitan Planning Organizations
- American Planning Association
Advisory Committee Meetings

- Kick-off Meeting – Nov 14, 2013
  - Overview of Airport Zoning
- Meeting #2 – March 20, 2014
  - Court cases and other zoning in MN
- Meeting #3 – May 15, 2014
  - Nationwide Review of State Airspace and Land Use Zoning Statutes
- Meeting #4 – June 12, 2014
  - Airport Zoning Standards for Airspace and Land Use
- Meeting #5 – July 17, 2014
  - Progress Update, Table top exercise
- Meeting #6 – April 30, 2015
  - Progress Update, Public Outreach Launch
2015 Outreach Meetings

Monday, May 11
Thief River Falls 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm

Thursday, May 7
Duluth 9:00 am - 11:00 am
International Falls 1:30 pm - 3:30 pm

Friday, May 15
Detroit Lakes 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm

Thursday, May 28
St. Cloud 9:00 am - 11:00 am
Bemidji 1:30 pm - 3:30 pm

Friday, May 29
Mankato 9:00 am - 11:00 am

Wednesday, June 10
St. Paul 9:00 am - 11:00 am

Tuesday, June 2
Austin 9:00 am - 11:00 am
Marshall 1:30 pm - 3:30 pm
Coordination Meetings

- MCOA Zoning Subcommittee
- MCOA Board Meetings
- Workgroup Meetings (not a comprehensive list)
  - Feb 9 - MCOA/MAC at MAC offices
  - April 9 - MAC meeting at MnDOT to discuss redlines
  - June 18 - Zoning discussion w/ MCOA at the MAC
  - July 2 Small group discussion with MAC/MCOA
  - Aug. 21 Airport Zoning conference call
  - Aug. 29 Small group discussion with MAC
  - Nov. 6 Airport Zoning conference call with airports
- Senior Leadership
Targeted Outreach

- August 20, 2015 – MnAPA Webinar
- September 25, 2015 - MCPZA Annual Conference
- December 2, 2015 – Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association (AOPA)
- February 9, 2016 - League of Minnesota Cities and Minnesota Association of Townships
- February 26, 2016 - Minnesota Association of Realtors/Builders Associations of Mn and TC (cancelled)
- Feb 29, 2016 – MCPZA (cancelled)
3,292 hours

$186,019
What was proposed?
Our Focus

• Better integration of airport safety zoning with municipal and comprehensive planning
• Increased flexibility for communities to customize airport safety zoning to meet individual community needs
• Increased flexibility for MnDOT to consider and approve zoning
• Reduced bureaucracy by elimination of unnecessary or redundant steps in the process
• Responsible protection of public safety
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<tr>
<th>Current Statute</th>
<th>Proposal</th>
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<td>The JAZB adopts airport zoning regulations that conform to the standards prescribed by the commissioner</td>
<td>Expands the authority of JAZB to adopt custom standards</td>
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## Custom Criteria

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<td>} Social and economic costs arguments in lieu of the Commissioner’s Standard Zoning</td>
<td>} Replace S &amp; E costs arguments with new criteria for custom zoning</td>
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Funding Safety Projects

Current Statute

Airport zoning must be in place, or a good-faith showing that zoning is in process, to receive funding for projects (i.e. land acquisition, construction, maintenance, navigation facilities).

Proposal

Commissioner may fund safety projects that maintain existing infrastructure regardless of efforts to provide airport safety zoning.
## Public Hearing

### Current Statute

- Requires a minimum of two public hearings
- Notice of hearing published at least three times during the period between 15 and five days in two official newspapers

### Proposal

- One public hearing required unless changes are made after the initial public hearing
- Notice of hearing published once at least 10 days before the hearing in at least one official newspaper
Current Statute

Currently no reference to airport safety zoning in MN Statutes Chapter 394 or 492

Proposal

Require comprehensive plans to consider the location and dimensions of airport safety zones

Encourage uses in airport safety zones that are compatible with the airport

Require airport safety zones be included on maps depicting official controls as maps are updated
Why isn’t the proposal being considered by the legislature this year and where do we go from here?