



F
J. Allen

State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
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CHRISTINE TODD WHITMAN
Governor

JAMES WEINSTEIN
Commissioner

April 8, 1999

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Honorable Julia Allen
Mayor, Readington Township
509 Route 523
Whitehouse Station, NJ 08889

Dear Mayor Allen:

This letter is to update you on the status of the Solberg-Hunterdon Airport Master Plan Study and to explain the next steps that must occur before any of the proposed projects shown on the master plan can be considered for construction.

The study assessed the condition and adequacy of the existing airport, the current and future operations, and it recommended future facility improvements. The airport was evaluated based on its current role in New Jersey's air transportation system, as well as the activity levels and user characteristics projected over the course of a 20-year planning period. In developing the master plan, the consultant took a balanced approach that attempted to address the social, environmental, and economic concerns of Readington Township, Branchburg Township and the other surrounding communities, as well as evaluating the need to safely provide for existing and future aviation activity at the airport.

The study has been completed and has been reviewed by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and the Division of Aeronautics. The Airport Layout Plan showing the future development of the airport has been conditionally approved pending the completion of an Environmental Assessment (EA) for the projects included in the Master Plan.

The Environmental Assessment will be prepared in accordance with New Jersey Executive Order No. 215 and the National Environmental Policy Act. This study will be a comprehensive review and analysis of all environmental impacts associated with the development identified in the Master Plan. To prevent any perception that the environmental study may be biased if it is overseen by the airports owners, the State Division of Aeronautics will sponsor the EA, select the consultant, and oversee the performance of the work.

You will be notified of every meeting and will have an opportunity to review material prior to the meeting. Please contact Wendy Smith or myself should you have any questions concerning this upcoming environmental study.

Sincerely,

Emmett O'Hare
Deputy Director
Aeronautics

