

**City of Mascoutah,
St. Clair County, Illinois
MidAmerica St. Louis Airport**

Draft Environmental Assessment for Aviation Development

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

**Notice of Impacts to Wetlands and Floodplains in Accordance with
Section 2(a)(4) of Executive Order (E.O.) 11988, Floodplain Management;
Section 2(b) of E.O. 11990, Protection of Wetlands; and
Section 7 DOT Order 5650.2, Floodplain Management and Protection**

Pursuant to Title 49, United States Code, Section (§) 47106(c)(1)(A), notice is hereby given that the St. Clair County Public Building Commission proposes to construct an aircraft manufacturing facility and associated improvements (the Proposed Action) at MidAmerica St. Louis Airport located in the City of Mascoutah, St. Clair County, Illinois. The purpose of the Proposed Action is to develop a manufacturing facility that would produce Aircraft Design Group III aircraft for the U.S. military.

The Proposed Action would include: a range of 5 to 8 structures for aircraft manufacturing, maintenance, and storage; paved employee parking lot; new taxiway and apron pavement; paved Airport service road; dry detention basin; and access to IL Route 4. The proposed aviation development would support the production of aircraft and flight testing/operations. A Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) of the economic, social, and environmental impacts of the Proposed Action and its alternatives (including the No Action Alternative) has been prepared.

The Draft EA evaluates the potential environmental effects of the Proposed Action described above and its alternatives and has been prepared pursuant to the requirements of Section 102(2)(c) of the *National Environmental Policy Act of 1969* (NEPA), and Section 509(b)(5) of the *Airport and Airway Improvement Act of 1982*, as amended. The FAA is the lead federal agency to ensure compliance with NEPA for airport development actions. The Draft EA has also been prepared in accordance with FAA Order 1050.1F, *Environmental Impacts: Policies and Procedures*, and FAA Order 5050.4B, *National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Implementing Instructions for Airport Actions*. Pursuant to the federal Endangered Species Act, Clean Water Act, Clean Air Act, and National Historic Preservation Act, the Draft EA includes an analysis of prudent or feasible alternatives, potential impacts, and mitigation measures, as appropriate. This Notice also serves to notify the public that this EA process will satisfy the public notice and comment requirements of Executive Order 11990, Protection of Wetlands; DOT Order 5660.1A, Preservation of the Nation's Wetlands; Executive Order 11988, Floodplain Management; and DOT Order 5650.2, Floodplain Management and Protection.

The Proposed Action includes the placement of fill in 2 wetlands (0.66 acres) and permanent effects to 3,110 linear feet along 2 stream segments. One stream segment, approximately 1,900 linear feet, is considered a water of the United States under the jurisdiction of the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE). Mitigation for the stream and wetland impacts is proposed in the Draft EA. Consultation would be required with the USACE for a Clean Water Act Section 404 permit for potential discharges to waters of the United States and provision of compensatory mitigation. The Proposed Action would also develop approximately 7.2 acres of floodplain.

Beginning on **April 5, 2021**, the Draft EA will be available for public review at the following links:

<https://flymidamerica.com/business/media-center/>

<https://flymidamerica.com/wp-content/uploads/BLV-Draft-EA-and-Exhibits.pdf>

<https://flymidamerica.com/wp-content/uploads/BLV-Draft-EA-Attachments.pdf>

Written comments on the adequacy of the information disclosed in the Draft EA may be submitted by email (preferred) or via mail to:

Julie Car

Ricondo & Associates, Inc.

20 North Clark Street, Suite 1500

Chicago, Illinois 60602

jcar@ricondo.com

Comments must be received by **5:00 p.m. local time** on **May 5, 2021**. Please ensure adequate time for mailing. Comments can only be accepted with the full name and address of the individual commenting.

Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, be advised that your entire comment – including your personal identifying information – may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask in your comment to withhold from public review your personal identifying information, it cannot be guaranteed that it will be withheld. Comments received on the Draft EA and the responses to those comments will be disclosed in the Final EA.