

Lake Elmo Airport

Environmental Assessment (EA)/ Environmental Assessment (EAW) Worksheet



May 25, 2017 – Community Engagement Panel Meeting #2
Public Event Debrief and Introduction to Purpose & Need/Alternatives



Agenda

- Recap – CEP Participants, Role, & Guidelines
- Debrief – May 11th Public Event
- Recap – Environmental Process
- Purpose & Need
- Range of Alternatives to be Considered
- Discussion

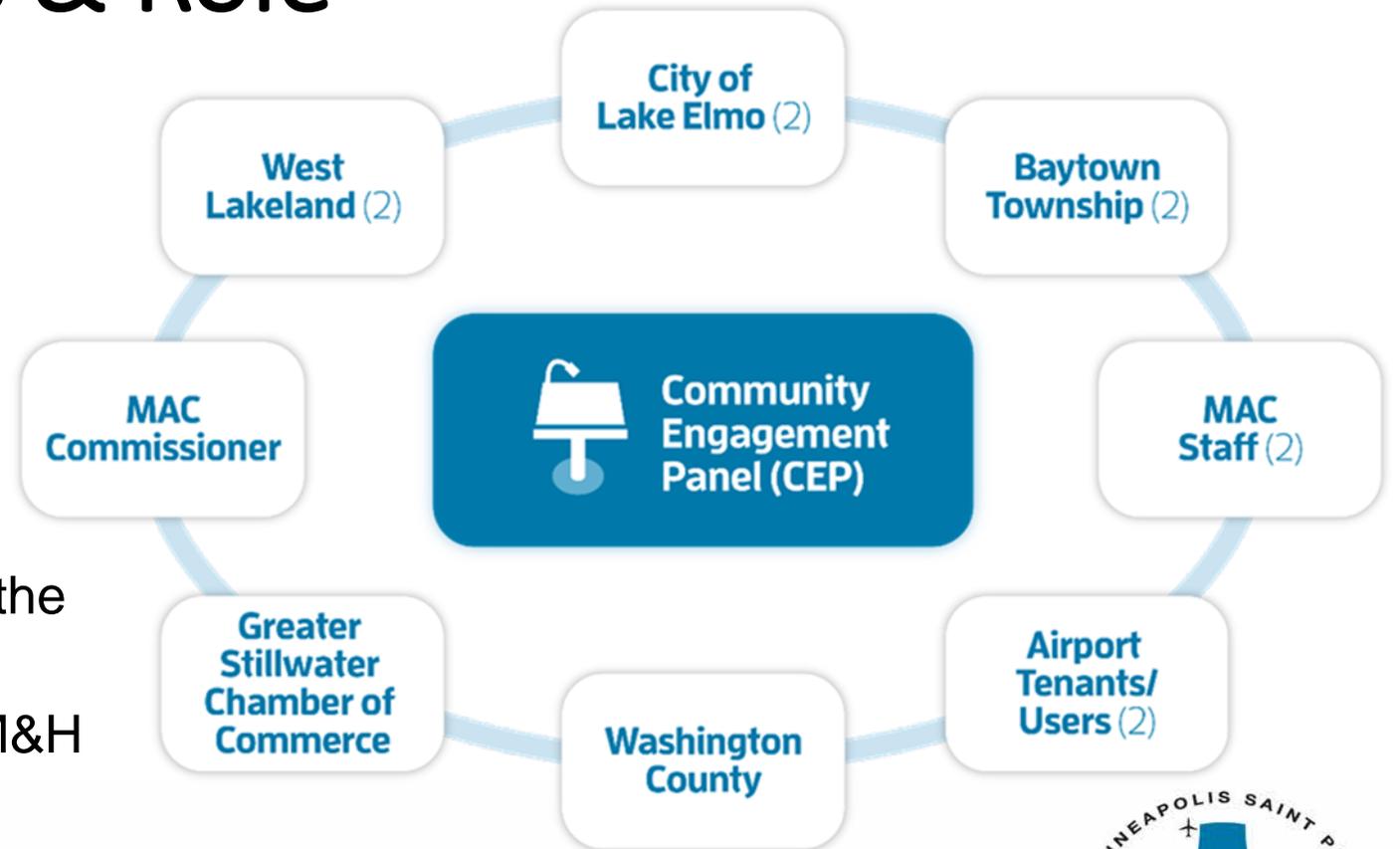


Community Engagement Panel (CEP)

Recap: Participants & Role

Serves several important functions including:

- Representing a broad range of stakeholder groups in the EA;
- Receiving information about the EA/EAW and sharing it with constituencies;
- Providing input to the EA/EAW as the voice of key stakeholders; and
- Providing technical advice to the M&H Team.



Recap: CEP Guidelines

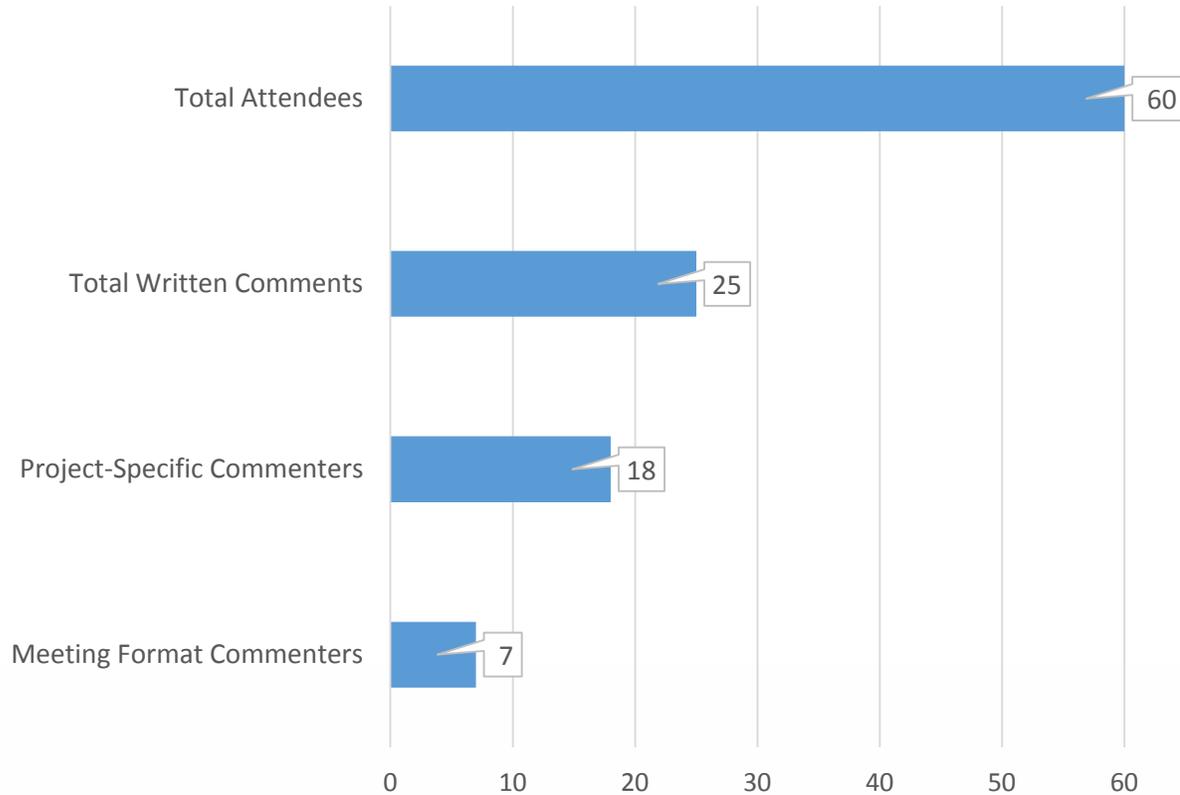


- Acknowledge and respect the opinions and interests of all CEP members at all times
- No formal meeting or voting procedures will be established
- CEP is advisory; MAC retains decision-making authority
- CEP members are encouraged to disseminate project information to their constituent groups and the general public
- CEP members are discouraged from misrepresenting meeting proceedings to their constituent groups, the general public, or the media
- Observers may attend CEP meetings but are asked to refrain from interrupting the proceedings
- Future meetings will be scheduled at least one month in advance and every effort will be made to identify dates and times that work for all CEP members
- MAC's consultant will take meeting notes for the record, which will be made available on the project website

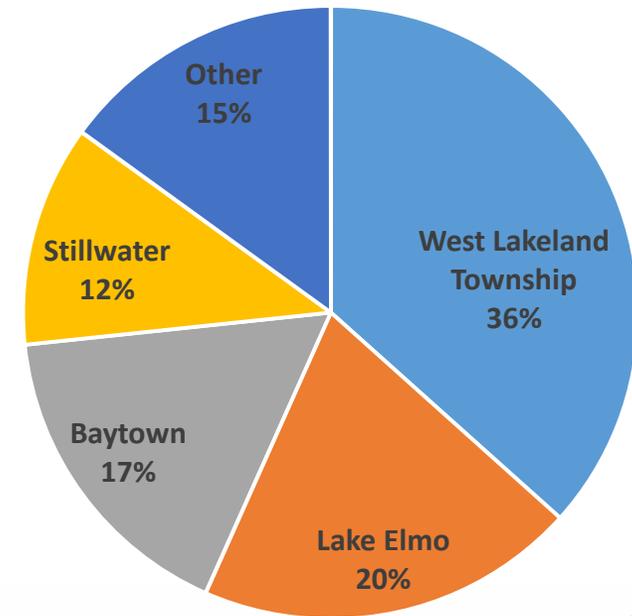


May 11th Public Event #1

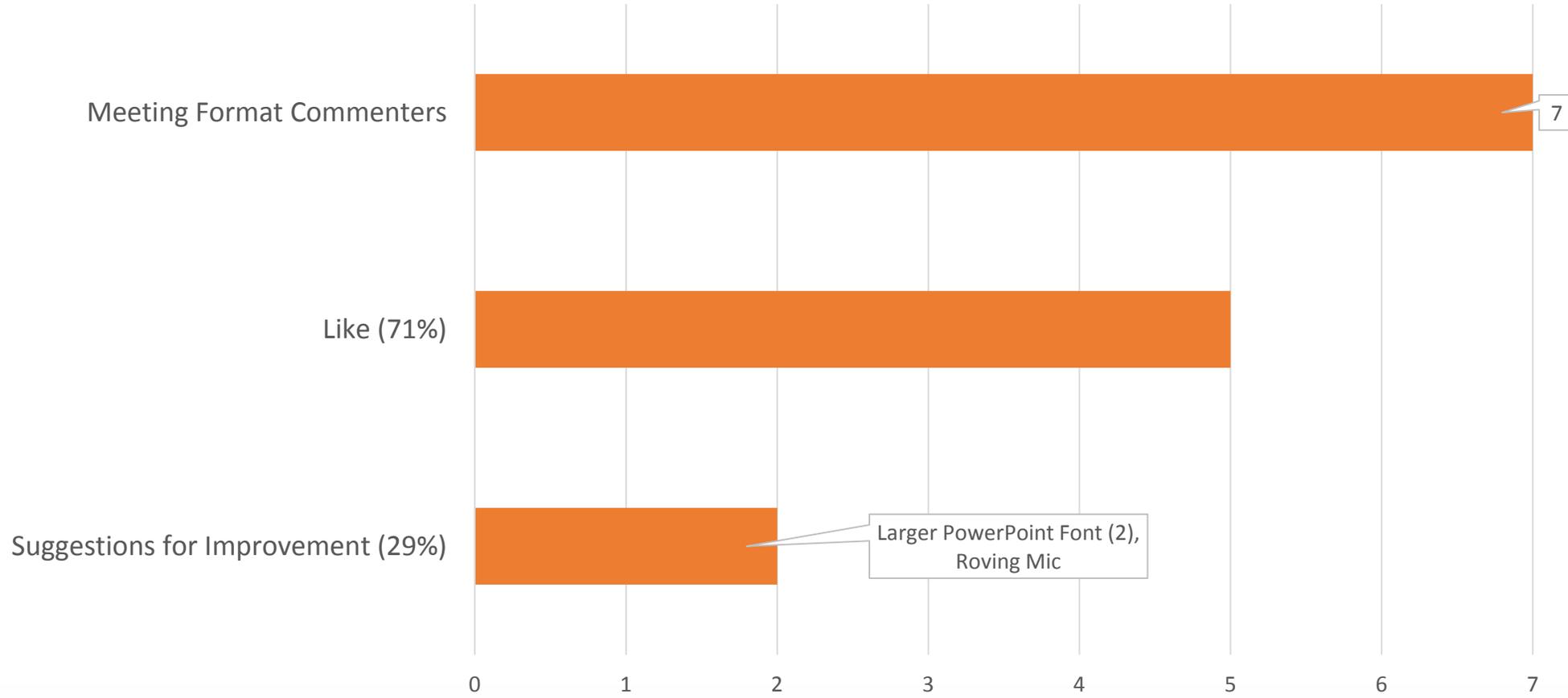
Overall Meeting Summary



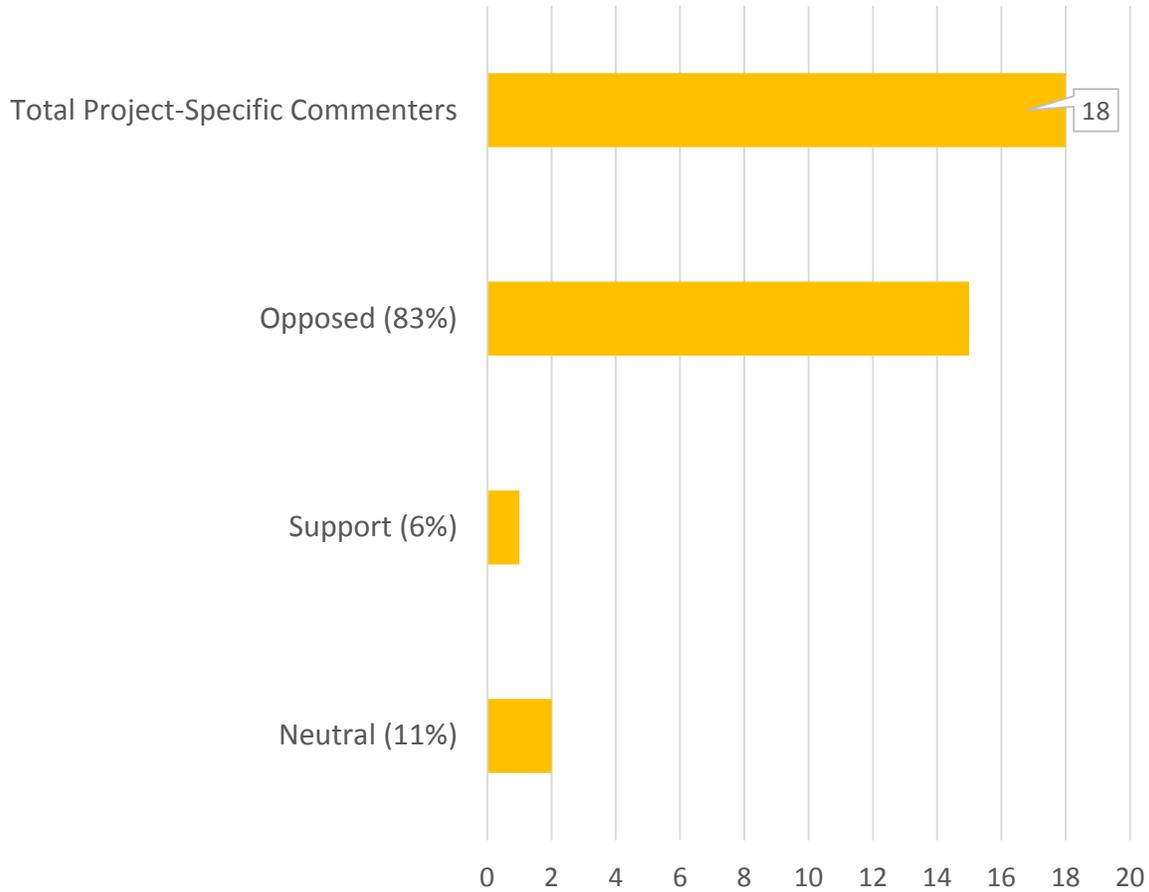
Attendees by City/Township



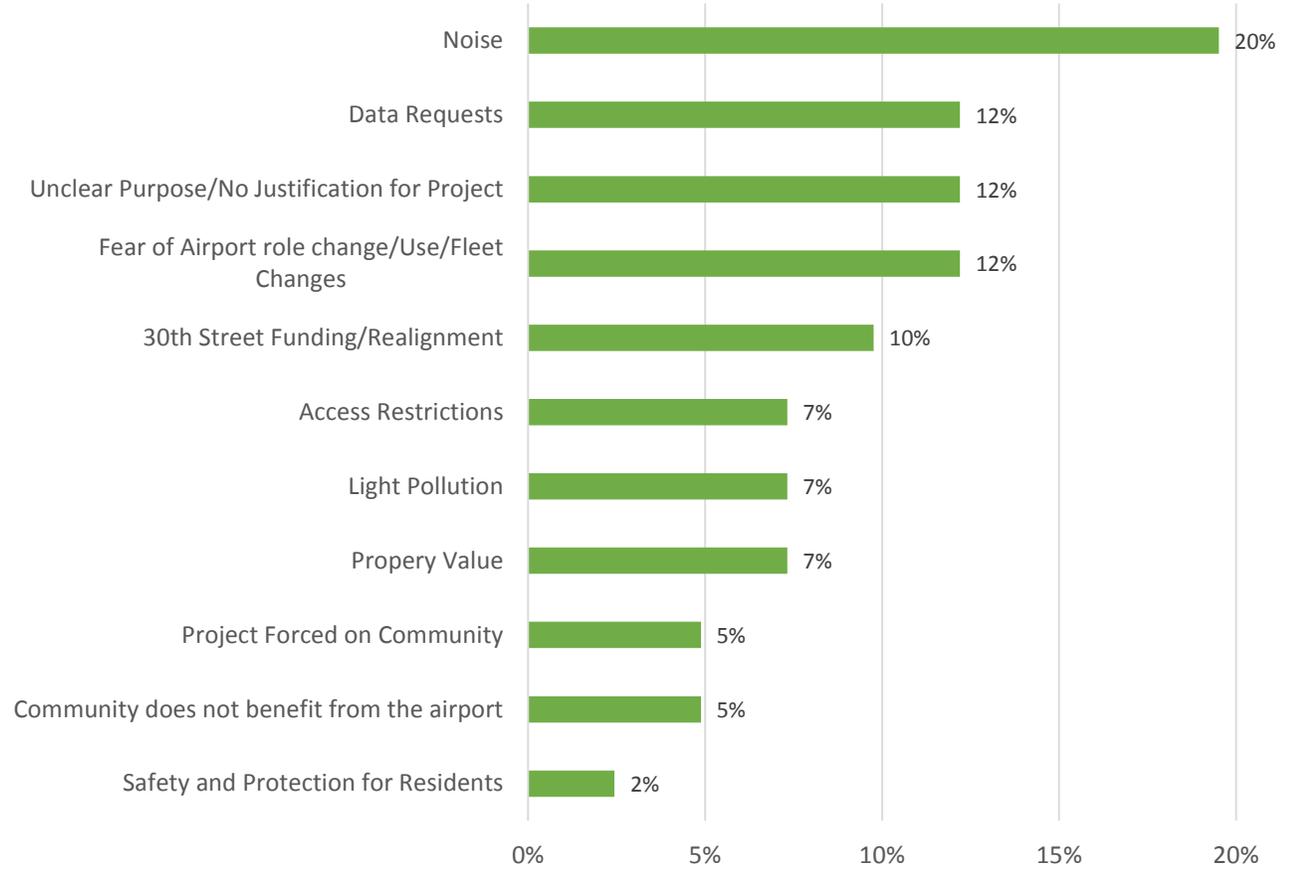
Meeting Format Comments



Project-Specific Comments



Opposition Comment Themes



Questions/Comment Themes

- Jet operations
- Business operations
- Aircraft noise
- Close the airport
- Property values
- Project costs versus benefits
- 30th Street Realignment/who's going to maintain
- Taxes MAC pays to the city/county and use of general tax dollars
- MAC/pilots/users don't care about impacts to the community
- TCE groundwater pollution
- Concern that this project is meant to attract more, bigger aircraft – that this is to grow the airport



Discussion and Feedback

- What are your thoughts on advanced notification for the meeting, venue/room set-up, and information presented at the meeting?
- Are there opportunities for improvement?
- How do we make it easier for each person to get their question/comment heard during the meeting?

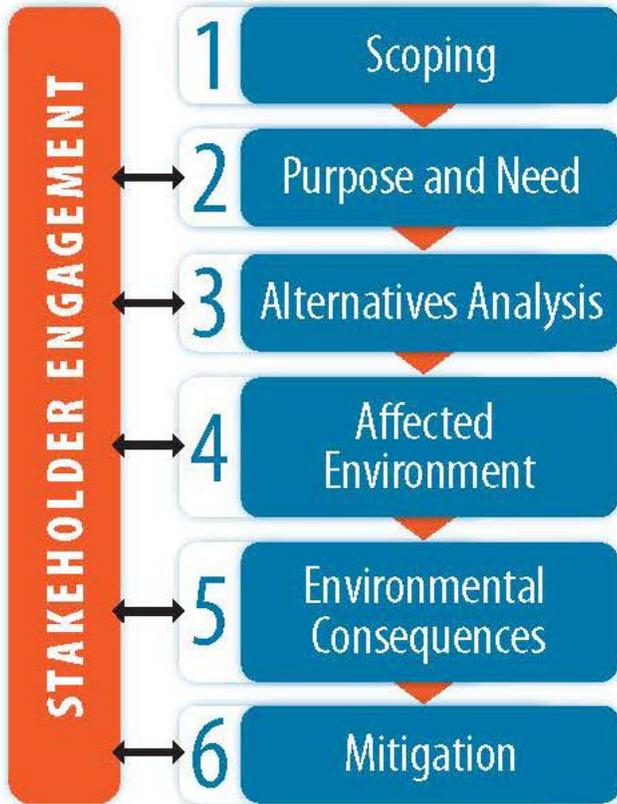


Next Steps

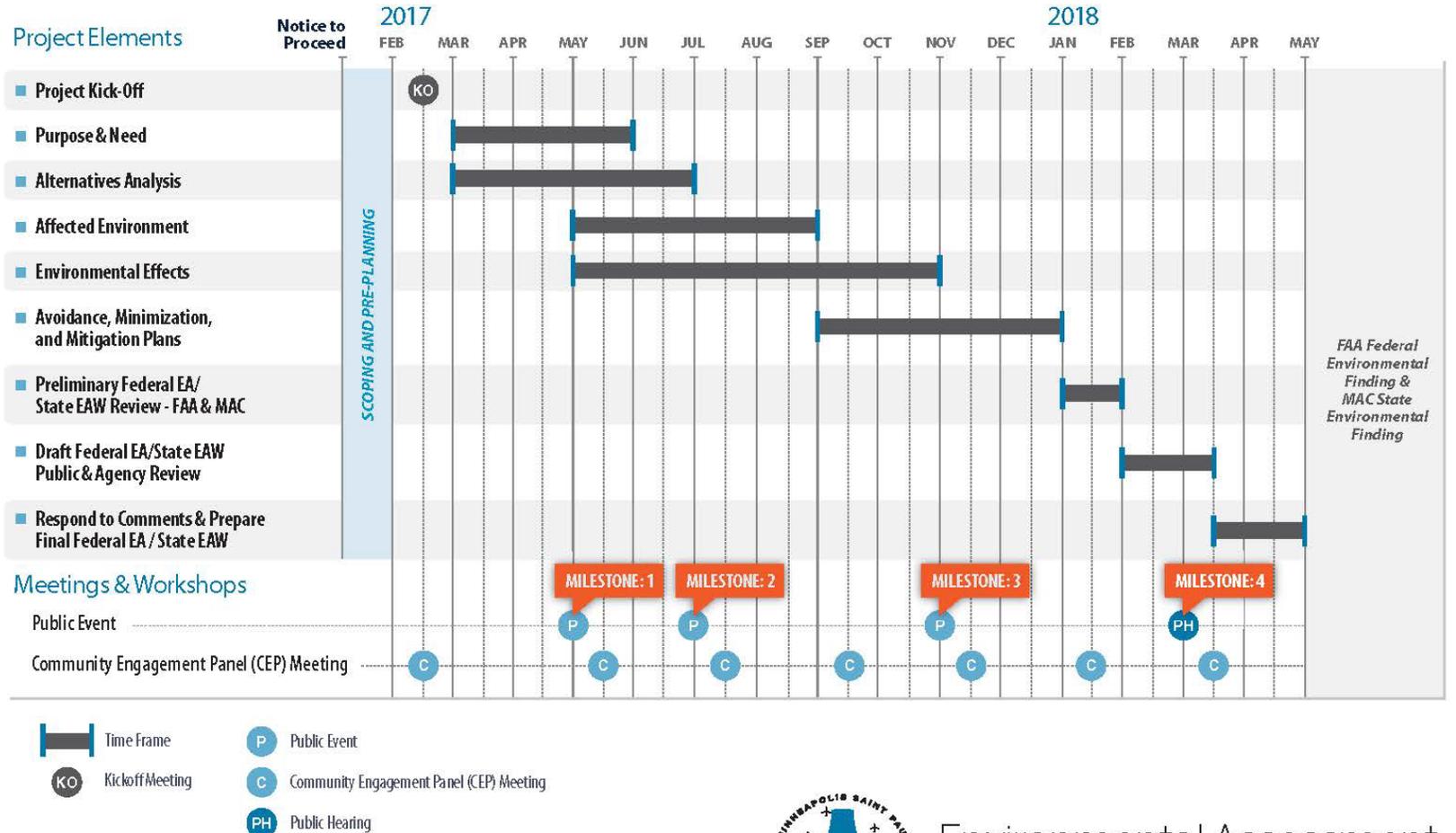
- We will be expanding FAQs on the website to respond to the common questions and comments heard throughout the meeting:
 - How will noise be evaluated in the EA?
 - Why do aircraft need to run their engines up?
 - Why do aircraft repeatedly fly over the same areas?
 - What will be done to mitigate aircraft noise?
 - Is the airport able to restrict certain kinds of aircraft or operations to certain times?
 - What is the current make-up of the aircraft at the Airport today? How is it expected to change?
 - What are the impacts to my property value?
 - What are the project costs and funding sources?
 - How will my property taxes be impacted?
 - Who will pay for the reconstruction of 30th Street?
 - Who will be responsible for maintaining 30th Street?
 - How is the airfield lighting going to change?
 - Why can't the runway be rehabilitated without extending?



Environmental Process Recap



EA Project Timeline



Environmental Assessment
Lake Elmo Airport

Purpose and Need

FAA Guidance

- Explains why a project is being proposed.
- A defensible Purpose and Need statement should be:
 - Clearly written
 - Concise (incorporating any detailed supporting data by reference)
 - Understandable to those unfamiliar with aviation
- The **Purpose** is a general statement of over-arching project goals.
- The **Need** is a more detailed statement describing:
 - Problems to be solved by the project, and
 - Specific objectives for resolving these problems and achieving the project goals.



Purpose and Need

Lake Elmo Airport

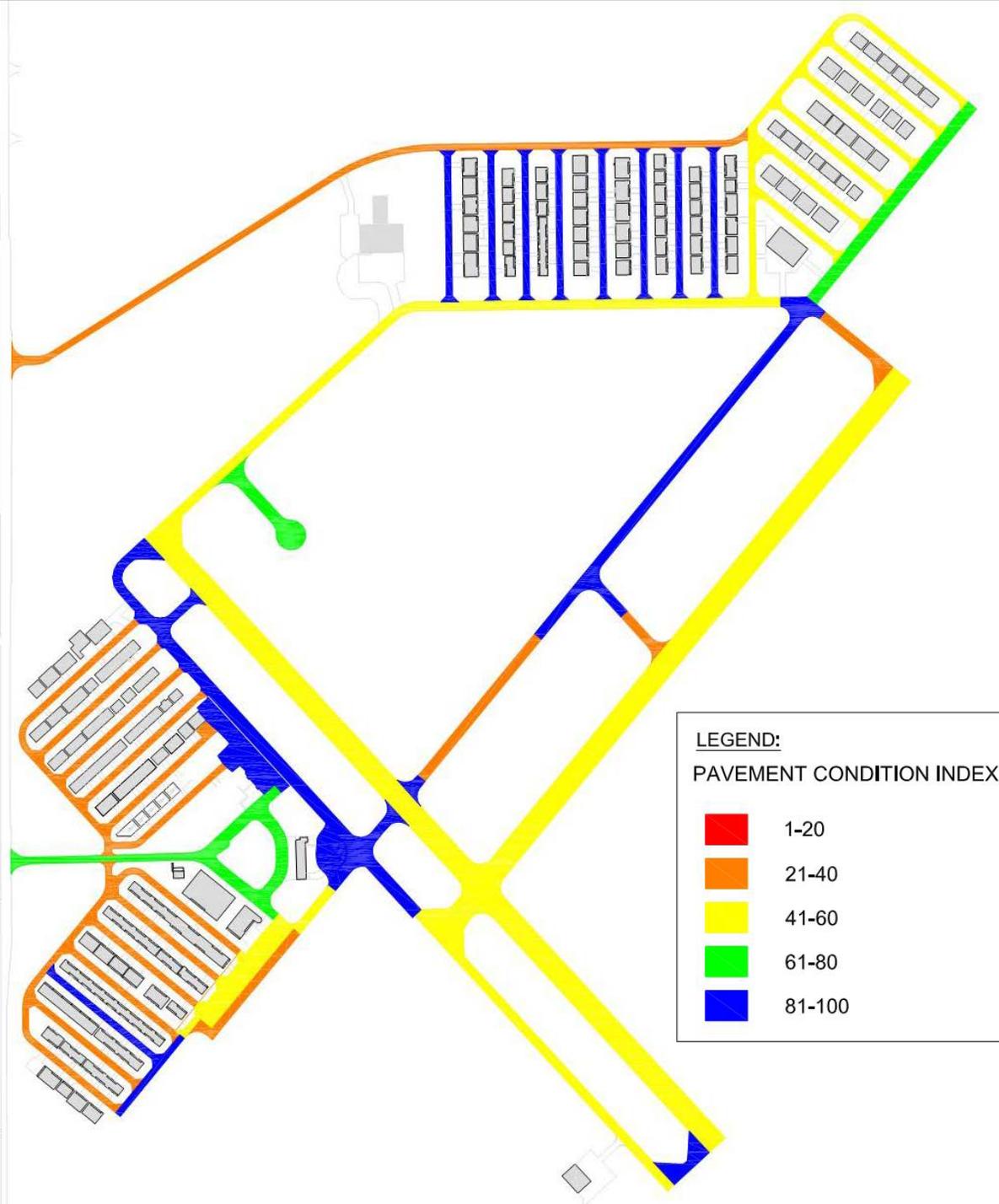
The **Purpose** of the project at Lake Elmo Airport is to pursue the following broader goals:

- 1) Address failing end-of-life infrastructure
- 2) Enhance safety for airport users and the general public
- 3) Improve facilities for the aircraft currently operating at the airport

The **Need** for the project at Lake Elmo Airport is based on the following specific objectives:

- 1) Improve the runway pavement conditions
- 2) Minimize incompatible land uses in the runway protection zones (RPZs)
- 3) Meet runway length needs for existing users
- 4) Upgrade the instrument approach procedures





P&N Objective 1: Improve the Runway Pavement Conditions

- Both runways have pavement condition index (PCI) ratings between 41 and 60.
- Pavements in this PCI range usually require major repairs, from overlays to reconstruction.
- Once the PCI falls below 40, reconstruction is typically the only viable alternative.



P&N Objective 2: Minimize Incompatible Land Uses in the RPZs

- Runway 14/32 has the following incompatible land uses within its RPZs:
 - Manning Avenue N
 - 30th Street N
 - Union Pacific Railroad
 - Private property



Runway 14/32
Design Aircraft
(less than 12,500 pounds)

Runway 04/22
Design Aircraft
(less than 5,000 pounds)

Aircraft Model	Engine Type	Seat Capacity
Beechcraft King Air 200	Multi-Engine Turboprop	7 to 9
Pilatus PC-12	Single-Engine Turboprop	7 to 9
Cessna 421C	Multi-Engine Piston	6 to 8
Socata TBM 700	Single-Engine Turboprop	4 to 6
Piper PA-31 Chieftain	Multi-Engine Turboprop	5 to 7
Cessna 414A	Multi-Engine Piston	6 to 8
Cessna 340	Multi-Engine Piston	4 to 5
Cessna 310R	Multi-Engine Piston	5 to 6
Beechcraft Baron 58	Multi-Engine Piston	4 to 6
Piper PA-30 Twin Comanche	Multi-Engine Piston	4 to 6

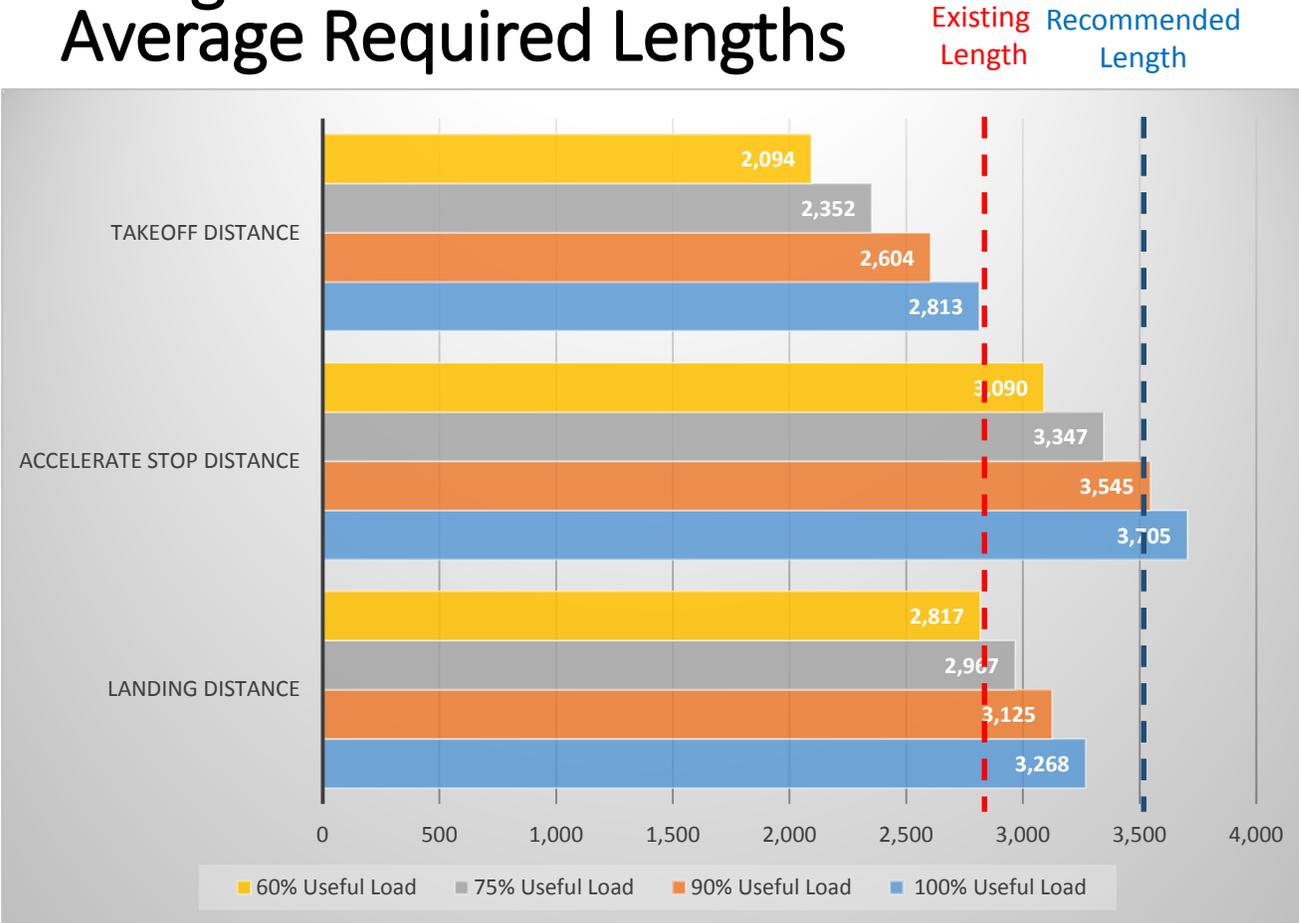
Aircraft Model	Engine Type	Seat Capacity
Piper PA-34 Seneca	Multi-Engine Piston	5 to 6
Piper PA-46 Malibu	Single-Engine Piston	5 to 6
Lancair IV	Single-Engine Piston	4
Piper PA-30 Twin Comanche	Multi-Engine Piston	4 to 6
Cirrus SR22	Single-Engine Piston	4 to 5
Beechcraft Bonanza 33	Single-Engine Piston	6
Mooney M20TN	Single-Engine Piston	4
Piper PA-28 Cherokee	Single-Engine Piston	4
Cessna 172	Single-Engine Piston	4

P&N Objective 3: Meet Runway Length Needs for Existing Users

- Airfield design at Lake Elmo is based on a group of “design aircraft” with the following characteristics:
 - Wingspan less than 79 feet
 - Approach speed less than 121 knots
 - Gross weight less than 12,500 pounds
- Operations by existing airport users are currently limited by the current runway lengths.
 - Runway 14/32 = 2,849 feet
 - Runway 04/22 = 2,496 feet
- Optimum runway lengths are based on the needs of the “design aircraft” for each runway.



Runway 14/32 Design Aircraft Average Required Lengths



P&N Objective 3: Meet Runway Length Needs for Existing Users

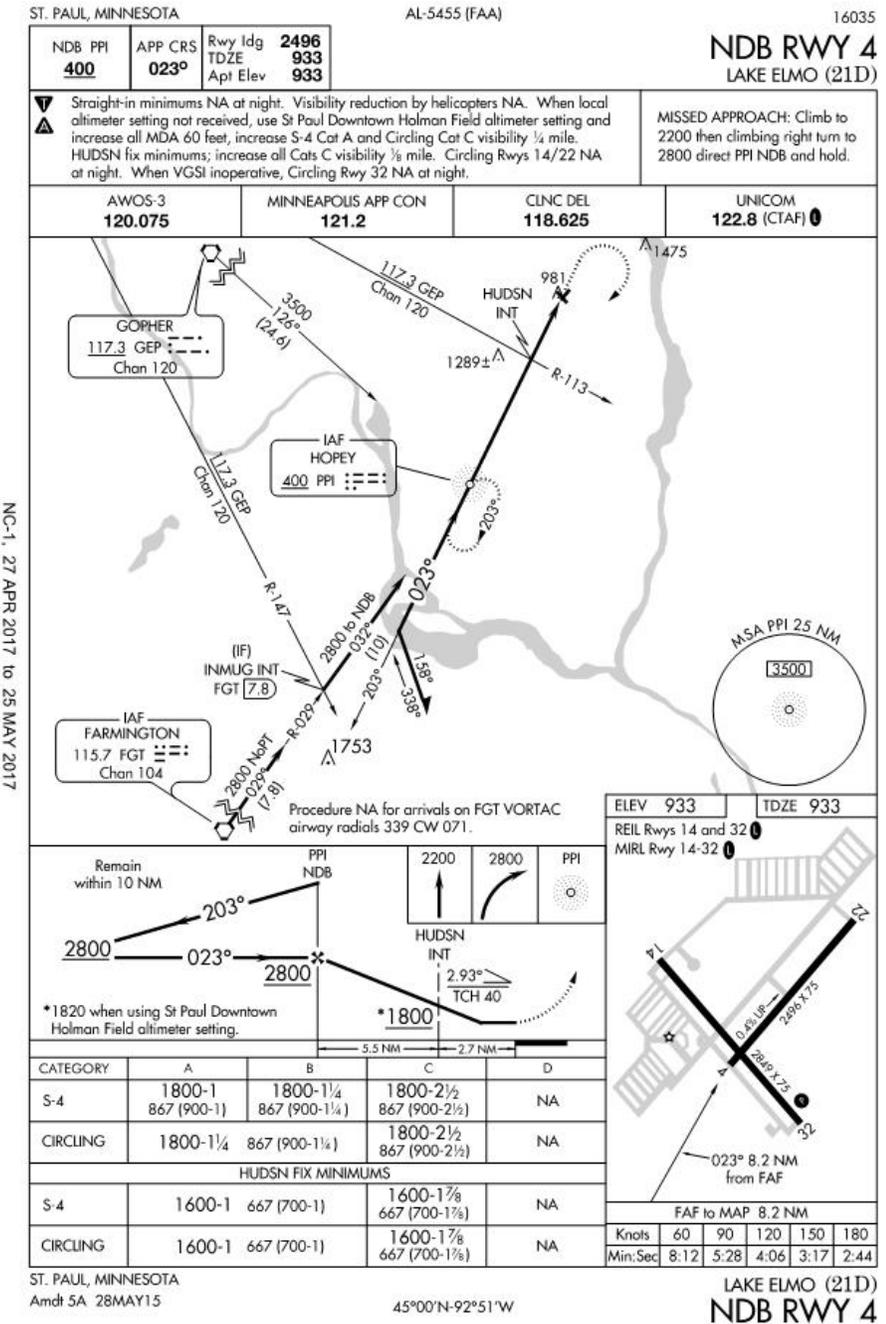
- Recommended Runway 14/32 length (3,500 feet) is based on a blend of takeoff, landing, and accelerate stop distance requirements of design aircraft.
- Recommended Runway 04/22 length (2,750 feet) is based on takeoff distance requirements of design aircraft at maximum takeoff weight.

Note: Landing distances adjusted to account for wet/slippery runway conditions, and to allow landing within 70% of the available runway length.



P&N Objective 4: Upgrade the Instrument Approach Procedures

- Instrument approach procedures allow safer access to the airport, especially during inclement weather.
- Upgrading the runway approaches to modern navigational technology will improve airport safety and accessibility.



Range of Alternatives Considered

FAA Guidance

- Alternatives considered should:
 - Represent the range of reasonable alternatives.
 - Provide a clear basis for choice among options.
- No requirement for specific number or range of alternatives.
- Generally, the greater the degree of environmental effects, the wider the range of alternatives that should be considered.
- An EA may limit alternatives to the proposed action and no action if there are no conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources.
- A preferred alternative should be identified by the EA.
- The EA should briefly explain why certain alternatives were eliminated from further study.



Range of Alternatives Considered Lake Elmo Airport

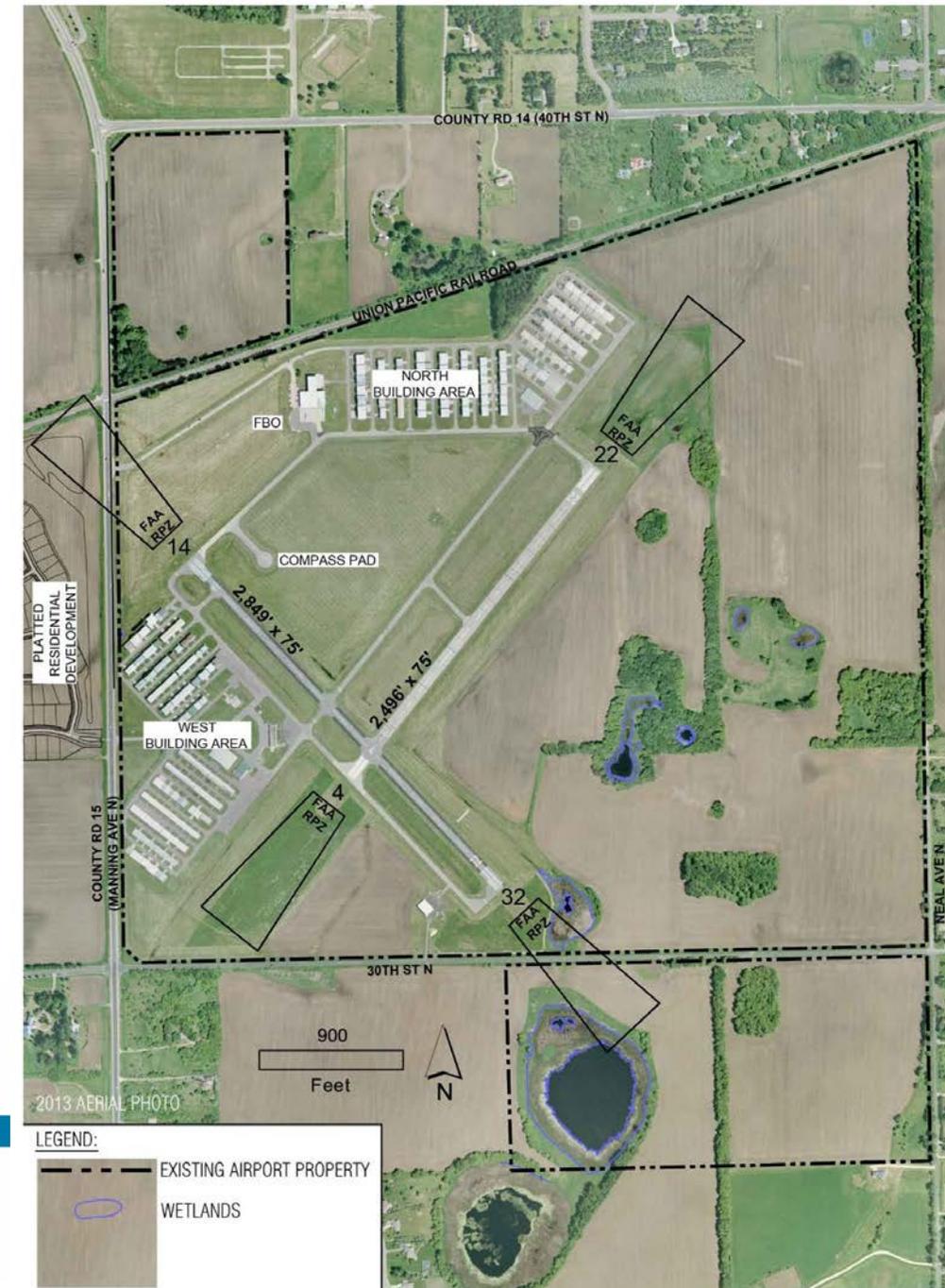
- Criteria used to identify reasonable alternatives at Lake Elmo include:
 - Maintain Runway 14/32 and Runway 04/22 orientations
 - Avoid or minimize land acquisition
 - Avoid or minimize changes to airport use and aircraft flight patterns
- Five categories of alternative concepts will be considered by the EA:
 - No-Action Alternative
 - Primary Runway 14/32 Alternatives
 - 30th Street North Realignment Alternatives
 - Crosswind Runway 04/22 Alternatives
 - Instrument Approach Alternatives



Figure ES-1: Existing Airport Layout

No-Action Alternative

- Must be carried forward throughout the environmental review for comparison with the preferred alternative.
- Under this scenario, no improvements would be made to the airport.
- The airport would become increasingly unusable due to:
 - Failing pavement,
 - Incompatible land uses in the RPZs,
 - Inadequate runway length, and
 - Outdated/inadequate instrument approaches.
- This alternative does not meet the Purpose & Need.



Primary Runway 14/32 Alternatives

- The LTCP considered five concepts.
- Supplemental planning identified three additional concepts.

Figure 5-1: Base Case Alternative Layout



Figure 5-2: Alternative A Layout

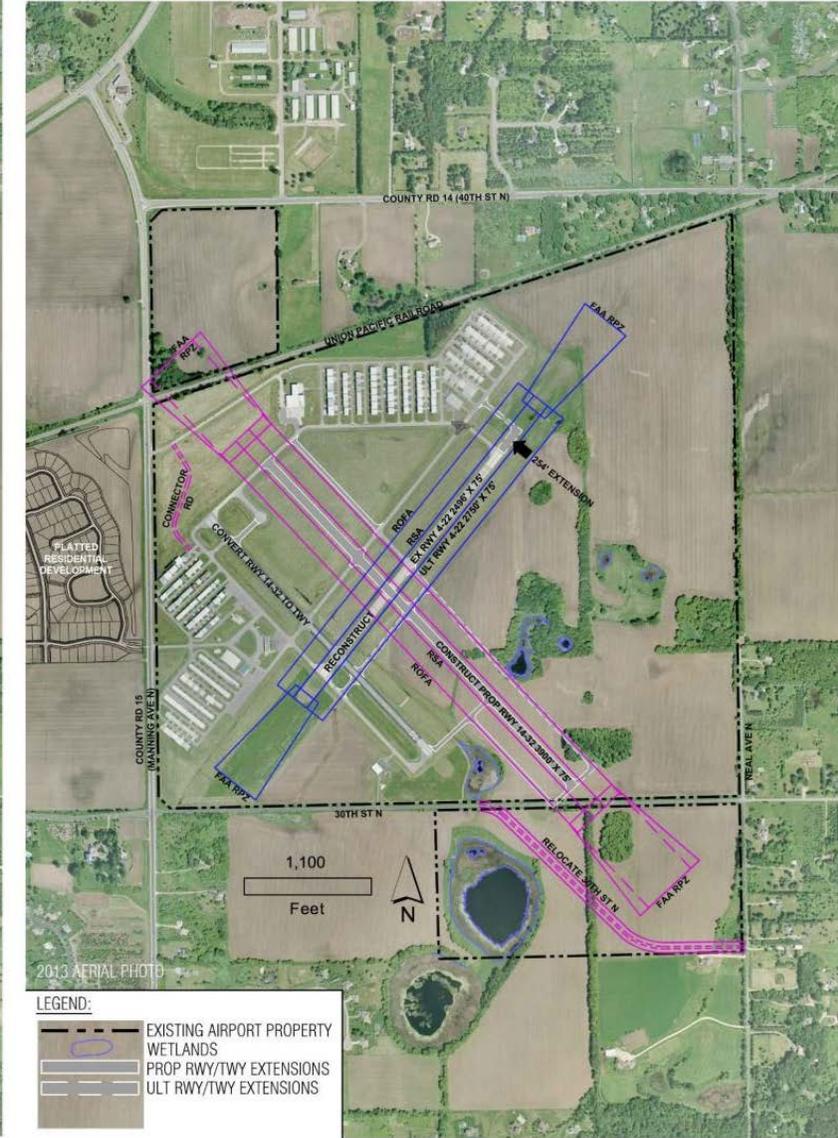
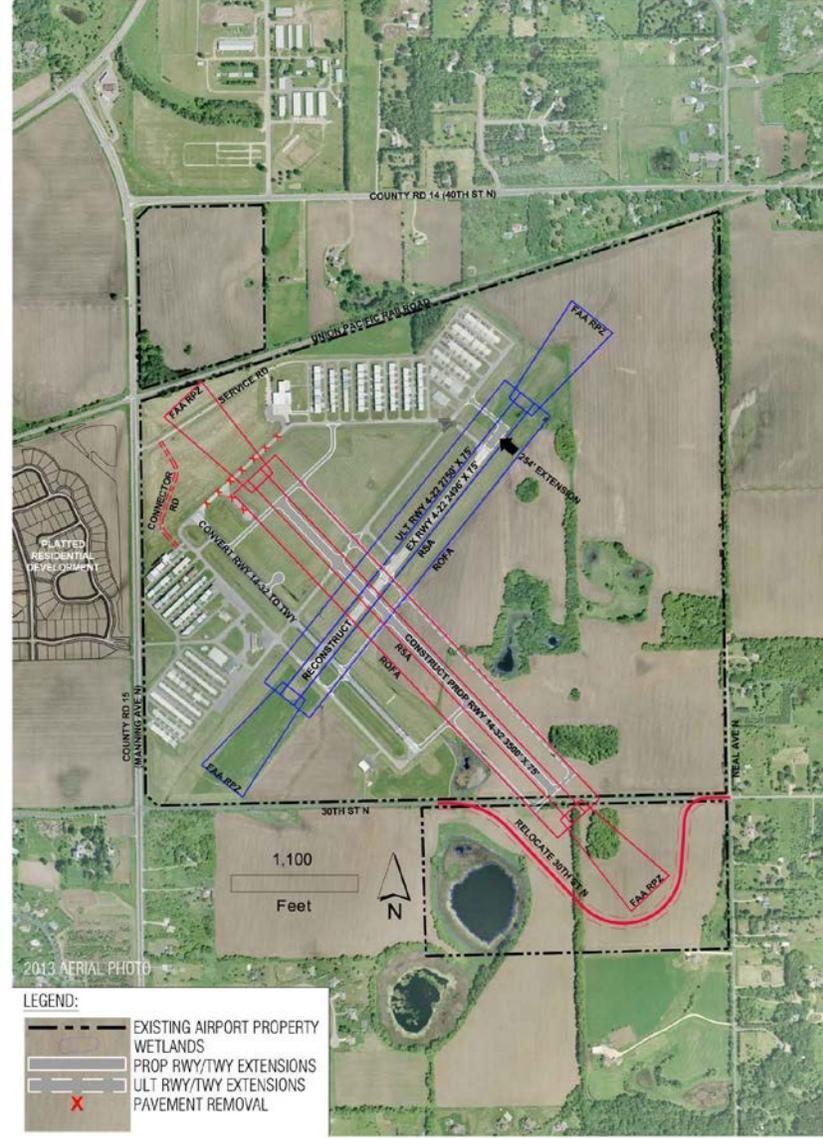
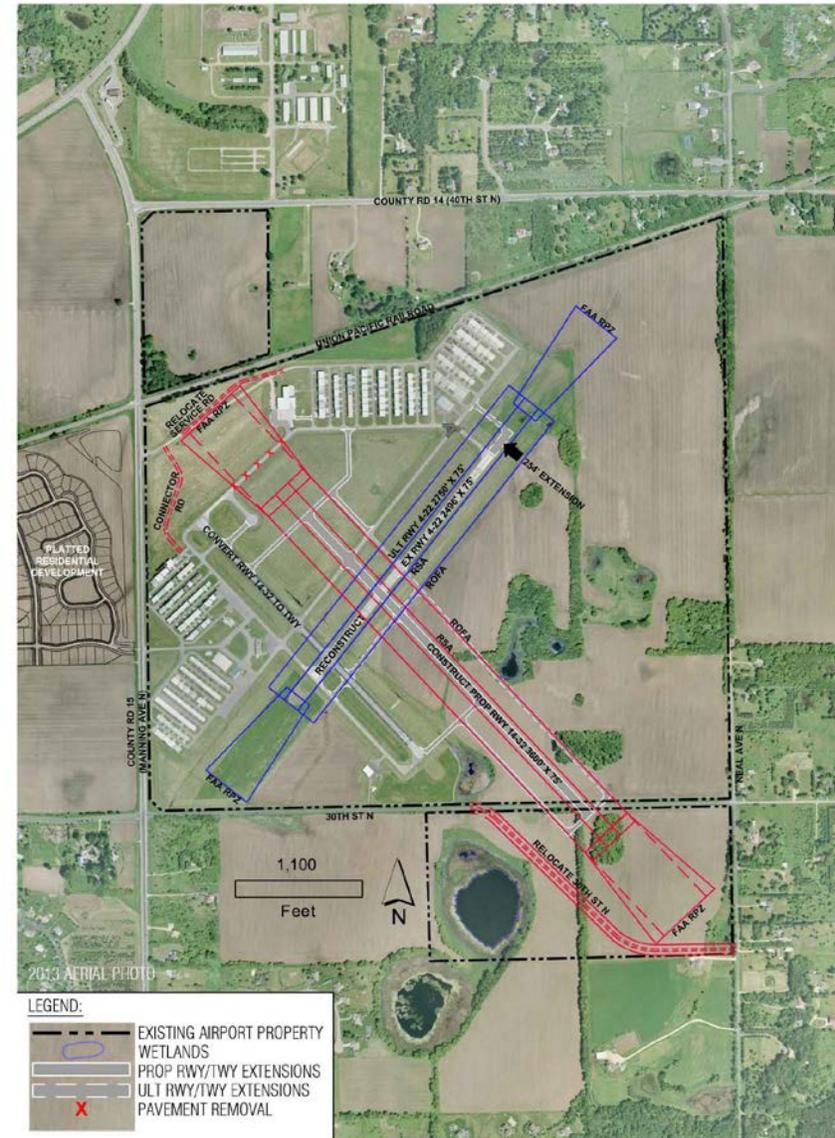


Primary Runway 14/32 Alternatives

Figure 5-3: Alternative B Layout

Figure ES-5: Alternative B1 (Final Preferred Alternative)

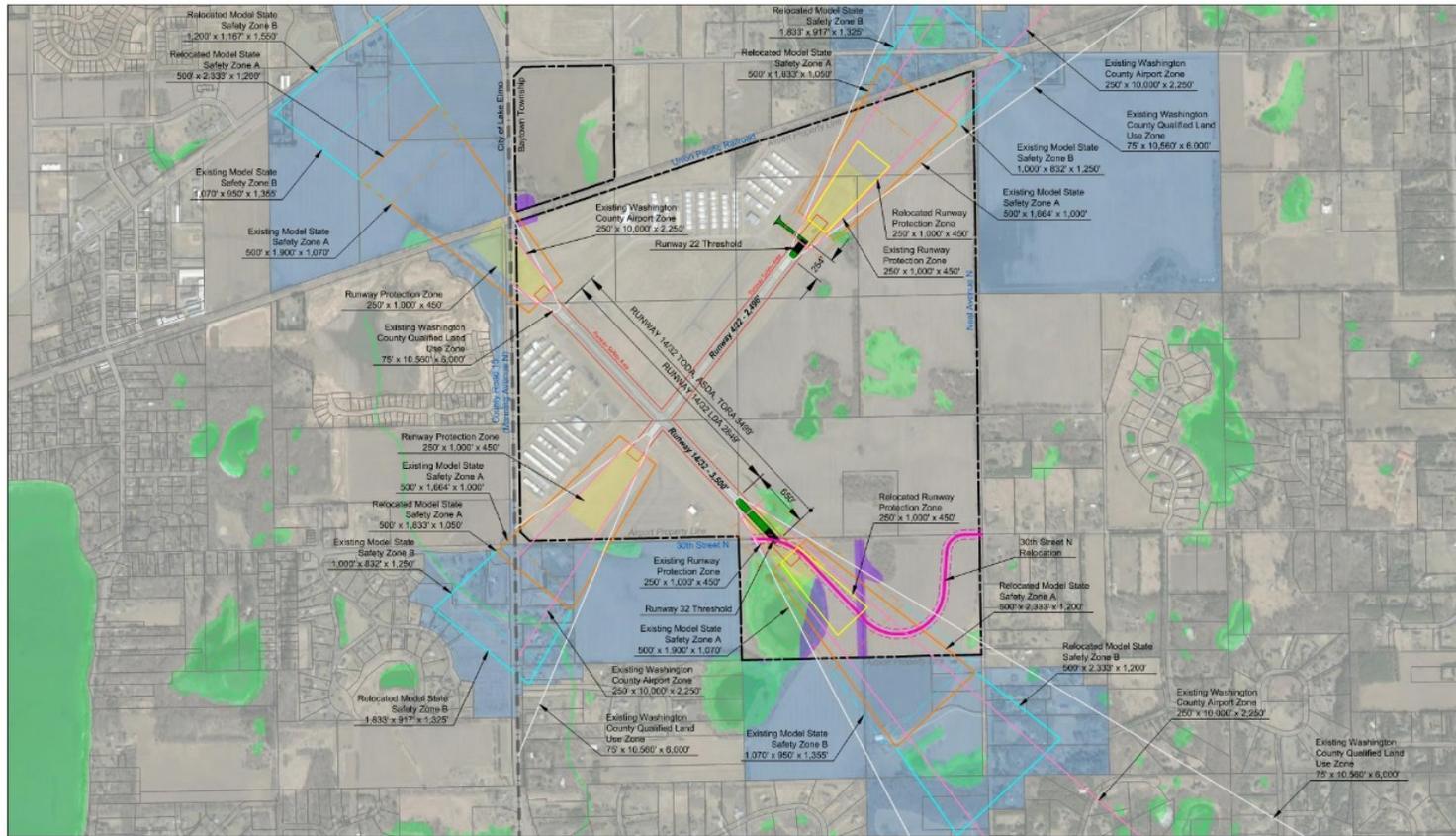
Figure 5-4: Alternative C Layout



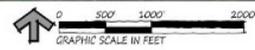
Primary Runway 14/32 Alternatives

Of the eight Runway 14/32 concepts, only four meet the Purpose & Need.

- Alternative B
- Alternative B1
- Alternative B2
- Alternative D



■ Approximate Tree Removal
■ Approximate Wetland Areas
■ Parcels Affected by State Model Zones A & B
State Model Zones shown are based on MnDOT guidance and do not necessarily reflect planned zone locations and dimensions, which will be determined in coordination with a Joint Airport Zoning Board comprised of representatives from affected jurisdictions.



Lake Elmo Airport
Runway 14-32

Alternative E



30th Street North Realignment Alternatives

- The LTCP considered three concepts.
- Supplemental planning identified two additional concepts.



ALTERNATIVE 1

- SPEED LIMIT: 45 mph
- COMPATIBLE WITH AIRFIELD ALTERNATIVE B (3,600')
- COMPATIBLE WITH AIRFIELD ALTERNATIVE C (3,900')
- ADDS 30TH ST N TRAFFIC TO A PORTION OF NEAL AVE N
- REQUIRES CONSTRUCTION OF ADDITIONAL INTERSECTION
- LOWEST COST ALTERNATIVE



ALTERNATIVE 2

- SPEED LIMIT: 45 mph
- COMPATIBLE WITH AIRFIELD ALTERNATIVE B (3,600')
- COMPATIBLE WITH AIRFIELD ALTERNATIVE C (3,900')
- ADDS 30TH ST N TRAFFIC TO A PORTION OF NEAL AVE N
- REQUIRES CONSTRUCTION OF ADDITIONAL INTERSECTION
- HIGHEST COST ALTERNATIVE

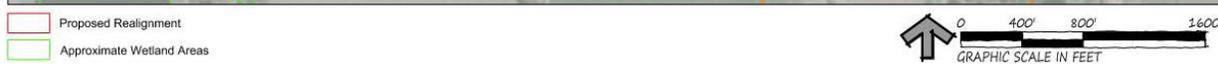
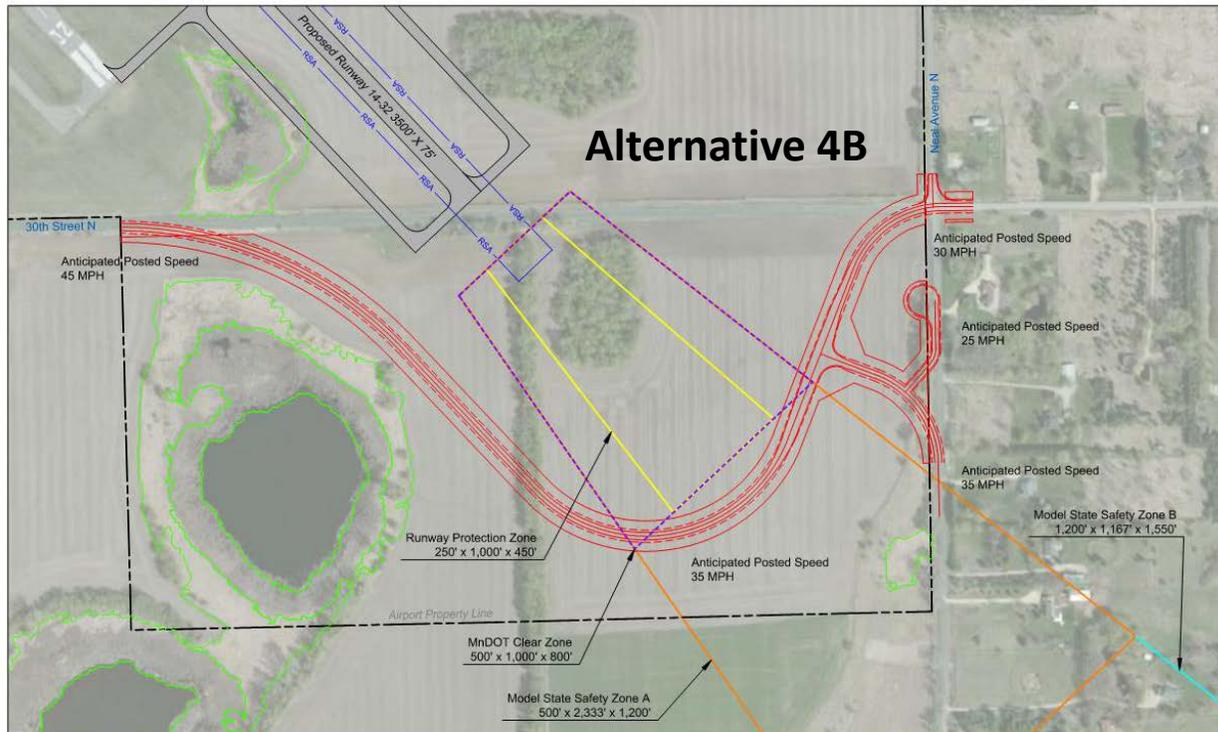
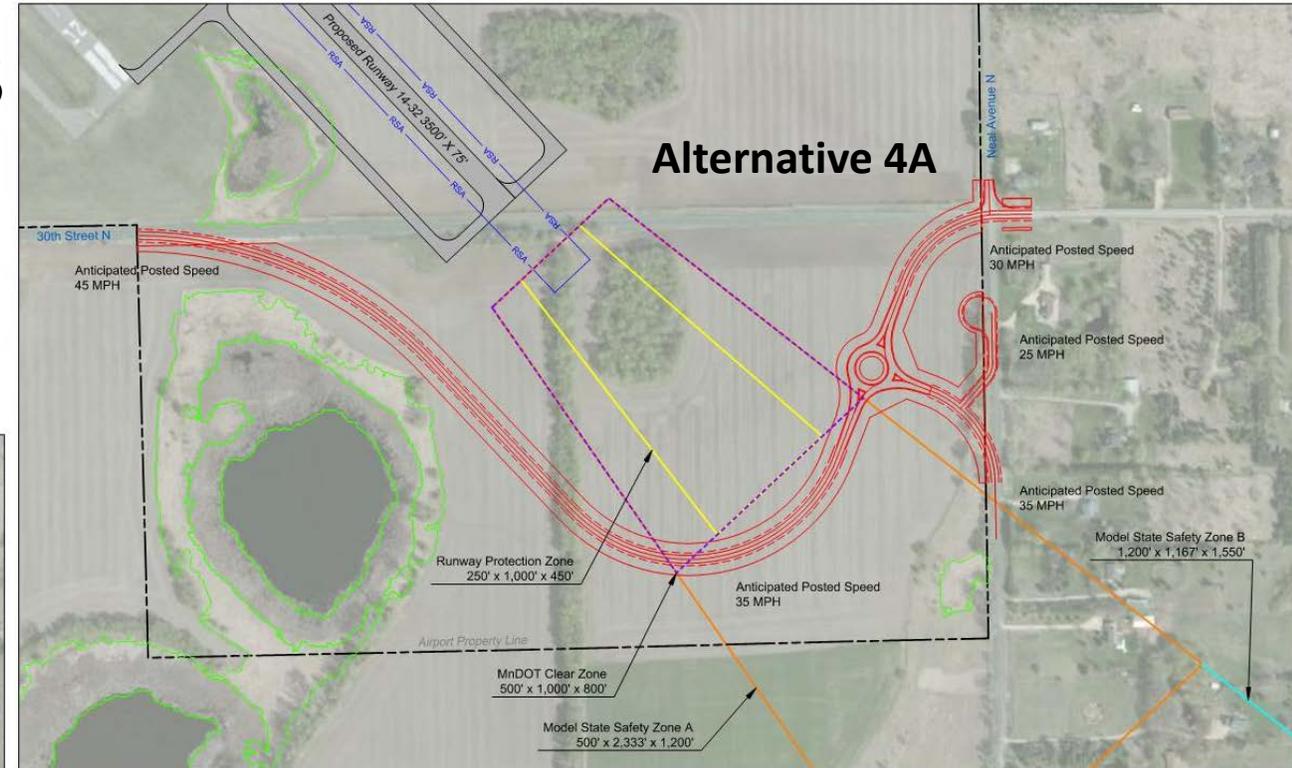


ALTERNATIVE 3

- SPEED LIMIT: 30 mph
- RESTRICTS AIRFIELD ALT. B RUNWAY LENGTH TO 3,150'
- RESTRICTS AIRFIELD ALT. C RUNWAY LENGTH TO 3,760'
- NO ADDITIONAL INTERSECTION REQUIRED
- MIDDLE COST ALTERNATIVE

30th Street North Realignment Alternatives

- Alternatives 4A & 4B are modified hybrid versions of Alternatives 2 & 3.



Crosswind Runway 04/22 & Instrument Approach Alternatives

- Crosswind Runway 04/22 LTCP Alternatives
 - Base Case Alternative (reconstruct only) – does not meet Purpose & Need
 - Preferred Alternative: Extend Runway 04/22 by 254 feet northeast
- Instrument Approach LTCP Alternatives
 - Preferred Alternative: Instrument Approach Upgrades
- Supplemental planning did not identify any additional alternatives for these categories.



Alternatives to be Carried Forward into the EA Lake Elmo Airport

- No-Action Alternative
- Primary Runway 14/32
 - Alternatives B, B1, B2, & D
- 30th Street North Realignment
 - Alternatives 3, 4A, & 4B
- Crosswind Runway 04/22
 - Preferred Alternative from LTCP
- Instrument Approach
 - Preferred Alternative from LTCP



Alternatives Evaluation Criteria

Lake Elmo Airport

Evaluation criteria to be used in determining preferred alternatives for Runway 14/32 and 30th Street North realignment:

- 1) Purpose & Need
- 2) Practicability Factors
 - a) Financial factors
 - b) Operational factors
 - c) Logistical factors
- 3) Environmental Factors
 - a) Wetlands
 - b) Tree Removal
 - c) Wildlife
 - d) Aircraft Noise
 - e) Social Effects
 - f) Private Land Uses
 - g) Other Unique Effects

Note: This is not a comprehensive list of environmental analysis categories required under Federal and State regulations. A more comprehensive analysis of environmental effects will be completed for the no-action and preferred alternatives.



Discussion/Questions

- CEP Meeting #3 planned for two weeks after second public event (tentatively July 2017)
- Topics for the next meeting will include:
 - A recap of the second public event
 - More on alternatives analysis
 - Initial work on Affected Environment and Environmental Consequences

