

# The Important Role of the Airport Master Planning Process in Funding Development at Public-Use Airports

Friday, February 10, 2017

3:00pm to 4:30pm

Please join us in Schwada Building (SCOB) room 101 

## Charlie McDermott, LEED AP<sup>1</sup>, Jenny Watts, M.A.S<sup>2</sup>, Matthew Tomasson<sup>2</sup>

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Airports within the United States comprise one component of the National Airspace System; besides airports, all airspace, navigation facilities, and the associated services, rules, regulations, and equipment make up this network. Each state has its own network of airports, most of which are classified as public-use airports. The aviation consulting industry, and specifically airport planning, provides services to public-use airport sponsors to help guide their planning and funding efforts for their airport. One such service provided by airport planners includes the creation of an airport master plan. The airport master plan is an involved process that ultimately produces a development plan and funding tool over the course of a 20-year period. One of the most important documents produced from the master plan process is the airport layout plan (ALP). The ALP is the final graphical representation of the proposed development which was derived from the master planning process; the ALP must be approved by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), and ultimately becomes the primary tool used by public-use airports to plan and fund future development and improvements at their airports. Mr. McDermott and his team will present an overview of the National Airspace System, the airport consulting discipline, how the airport master planning process works, and why the development of an ALP is so important to public-use airports as a funding and planning mechanism to provide safe and efficient airports for the general public across the United States.



Charlie McDermott is a Senior Airport Planner with Armstrong Consultants, Inc. specializing in airport planning. He has over 33 years of aviation consulting experience in airport planning, sustainability, environmental, engineering, and construction projects at 95 airports in 16 states. He created the vision of a sustainable airport master plan, and was instrumental in securing FAA funding to allow the vision to become a reality at the Ithaca Tompkins Regional Airport in New York – the first airport in the country to develop a master plan that fully incorporated sustainability into the planning process. He also currently serves as the Corporate Director on the Arizona Airport Association (AzAA) Board of Directors.



Jenny Watts is an Airport Planner with Armstrong Consultants, Inc. She has over three years of aviation planning experience, where she has worked on several planning and environmental projects for general aviation airports across the Southwest. She also has over six years of aviation experience in the areas of corporate aviation operations, airport administration, and aviation education. She has earned a Master of Aeronautical Science degree with emphasis in Aviation Management from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University Worldwide, and a Bachelor of Science degree from Arizona State University in Aeronautical Management Technology.

Matt Tomasson is the newest addition to the Armstrong Consultants planning team. He is also an Airport Planner, and a recent graduate of Arizona State University where he earned his Bachelor of Science degree in Aeronautical Management Technology. Since joining the team in 2016, Matt has supported several airport master planning and environmental projects for general aviation airports in Arizona.



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