A New Mexico Aviation Industry Development Opportunity:

The Roswell International Air Center

Dennis Kintigh
Mayor
City of Roswell, NM

John Mulcahy
President, Roswell-Chaves County Economic Development Corporation

David Mantay
General Manager
Dean Baldwin Painting-Roswell
• 1941—Roswell Army Flying School was established.
• 1949—Roswell AAF was re-named Walker Air Force Base.
• June 30, 1967—Walker Air Force Base officially closed as an active Air Force installation and is given to the City of Roswell and renamed the Roswell International Air Center.
• Largest decommissioned Strategic Air Command Base in the United States
Roswell International Air Center – Background

- 5,000+ acre former Strategic Air Command Base
- 13,000 ft concrete main runway-200 ft wide
- 10,000 ft crosswind runway
- Airport Landings: 69,651 (2015)
- Dedicated FAA Tower (6 am to 9 pm)
- 22 buildings including: Maintenance, Fire Department, Hangars (both conventional and T-hangars), Commercial Buildings, and the Terminal
- 720 acres on the west side of the RIAC and 300 acres on the south side - ready for commercial development.
- 200 Acres of PAVED Aircraft Parking
Roswell International Air Center – Background

- **Aviation**—5 Aviation Maintenance Companies, Dean Baldwin Painting, AvFlight FBO, Dedicated FAA tower open 6am-9pm

- **Education**—Eastern New Mexico University-Roswell: only FAA Part 147 certified Aircraft and Power Plant school in the SE NM(also the shortest program in the nation)

- **Air Service**—Other than the Sunport, the only Airport in New Mexico that flies both east (Dallas) and west (Phoenix). Flights are currently booking at 80% capacity.

- **Government Facilities**: NM Dept. of Transportation, NM Dept. of Health, Job Corps, Youth Challenge, International Law Enforcement Academy (ILEA).

- **Pilot Training** (US Navy/ i3 Foreign Pilots)

- **Aircraft Testing** (Boeing/Bombardier)
Roswell International Air Center – Challenges & Opportunities

Legislative Focus —

The Roswell International Air Center is an unique statewide economic engine, that if more economically robust would greatly diversify the State’s economy. However, there has been little investment in the RIAC by the State.

• It is the only asset of its type in the State of NM
• Extensive open air space with a dedicated tower
• Abundant Water for any industrial application
• Business community that has long recognized the Air Center’s potential value
• ENMU-R Aviation Technology curriculum

The RIAC is a “Statewide Asset” which competes in a global market.

Fiscally it is nearly impossible for a rural city like Roswell to fund developments like “wide-body capable” hangars alone. It can only be done with the State and Regional participation.
MRO – Maintenance, Repair and Overhaul for commercial aircraft, a global $67B industry forecast to be $100B by 2025. The major carriers are taking delivery of two new planes every week.

Why?:

- Consolidated Airline Carriers are outsourcing maintenance to third parties in order to focus on their core business, commercial flying.
- US concerns about “out of country” potential MRO terrorist activity and technology security.

U.S. growth is being accommodated by increased new hangar space for “wide body” aircraft (Boeing 747, 777, 787 etc.). There are a growing number of large hangar developments across the U.S.
Maintenance, Repair and Overhaul (MRO) Key Needs:

- Paved Parking Space for Aircraft
- Heavy Capacity Runways
- Hangars (not enough or big enough)
- Storage (completely full)
- Easy Access for Aircraft Owners
- Trained Workforce (housing priority)
- Dry Sunny Climate
- Painting Available
RIAC Aircraft Parking Capability -
How Does the State Benefit from MRO Business Expansion at RIAC?

• High Wage, Benefited Jobs ($50k/yr vs $26k/yr avg)

• High Growth Industry Opportunity Well Fitted to Available Workforce

• Local Education System Growth

• Full Utilization of a $2B asset

• Diversified NM Economic Tax Base
Dean Baldwin Painting

- 175-200 aircraft painted a year here in Roswell.
- $15M-$20M annual gross profit.
- Employs 200 personnel.
- Currently booked 2 years out
- Need to expand business operations
American Lands 20 MD-80’s in One Day-
August 23rd
What can the State of New Mexico do to capitalize on the potential of the RIAC (and further diversify the State’s economy)?

- Provide funding for new larger hangars or hangar modifications that can accommodate “wide-body” aircraft.
- Assist the City in repairing and maintaining the 21 leased hangars, buildings and 144 acres of tarmac.
- Support Eastern NM University-Roswell’s Vocational/Technical programs including new programs like composite repair and pilot training.
What does the State of New Mexico stand to lose / gain by investing in the Roswell International Air Center?
Questions?