

# **Aviation Division**

Presented to the

Transportation Infrastructure Revenue Subcommittee

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# **Aviation Division**

Aviation is an important part of New Mexico's transportation infrastructure providing our citizens and businesses with access to critical services, such as medevac services, firefighting, law enforcement, business travel, air cargo services and tourism. The Aviation Division was created in 1963 to cooperate with all public and private agencies and organizations, state, local and federal, and to encourage and advance general aviation in New Mexico. The Division works with 54 airports, four heliports and one seaplane base.

The Aviation Division coordinates state and federal grants for improving the aviation infrastructure. We provide planning and technical support in developing and maintaining the State's airports and other elements of the aviation system and distribute educational materials for the promotion of aviation, including career days and air shows. We conduct pilot seminars dealing with safety issues, perform regulatory and compliance inspections, are responsible for the registration of all aircraft based in New Mexico and for the licensing of aircraft dealers. The Aviation Division is composed of a Division Director and 5 FTE's.

# **Accomplishments**

# Pavement Condition Index Program Updatei

In 2015, the Division continued to update the Pavement Management Plan for our aviation system. In 2015, 1/3 of federally funded New Mexico Airports were inspected using the Pavement Condition Index System (PCI) approved by the Federal Aviation Administration. The Division contracted with Applied Pavement Technology to collect all data and build and customize our pavement database. The data is used for planning, financing and prioritizing long and short – term pavement replacement at these airports

The aviation system contains approximately 97.4 million square feet of pavement; which is consists of 43.3 million square feet of runway pavement, 23.8 million square feet of taxiway pavement, 24.9 million square feet of apron/helipad pavement and 5.3 million square feet of T-Hangar pavement. During the PCI survey, the types, severities and amounts of distress present on a pavement surface were quantified. This information was used to develop a composite index that represents the overall condition of the pavement in numerical terms, ranging from 0 (failed) to 100 (excellent). The overall area weighted PCI (average PCI adjusted to account for the relative size of the pavement sections) is a 67. Runways, which are the most critical infrastructure at the airport, have a PCI of 74.

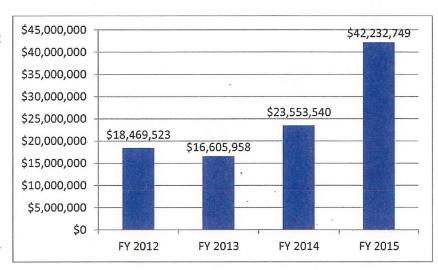
### 2014 New Mexico Airport System Plan Update<sup>u</sup>

In order to maintain and enhance the State's aviation transportation infrastructure, an update of the New Mexico Airport System Plan began in 2014 and is in its final stages. This was last updated in 2009. The plan is being updated to evaluate the needs of the State's airport system, justify funding for needed airport improvements, and provide information for governmental and other entities concerning the value, use and needs of the New Mexico system of airports. This plan will include an economic impact our aviation system and serve as a working blueprint of long range orderly development for airports in New Mexico. The Aviation Division has

contracted with Coffman Associates and Molzen Corbin to complete this update. The plan will be completed this Fall.

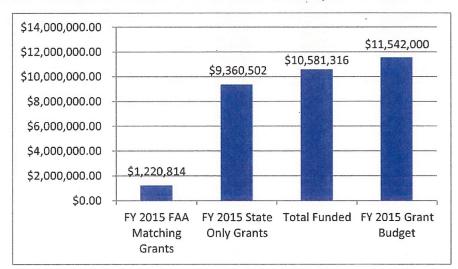
### **Federal Aviation Funding**

In Federal Fiscal year 2015, the FAA, through the Airport Improvement Program (AIP), provided over \$42 million dollars in funding to airports in New Mexico. This number does not include funding for the Albuquerque Sunport. The 2015 funding is an increase of over \$18 million dollars from FY 2014 and the most funding we have received from the FAA in the last four years.



#### **State Only Funding**

In 2015 the Division had a budget for aviation grant project funding of \$11.5 million. The Division obligated 92 percent of its available budget through 94 new grants to 44 different communities in the state. The Division provided matching funds totaling over \$1 million to FAA supported projects and in addition provided over \$9 million in grant funding to local communities. The table below reflects the distribution of state only funds.



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> 2014 New Mexico Pavement Condition Index Program, Applied Pavement Technology, Inc.

<sup>&</sup>quot;2014 New Mexico System Plan Update, Coffman Associates