



U. S. Department
of Transportation

**Federal Aviation
Administration**

March 24, 2021

Mr. Robert Bowen, Executive Director
Norfolk Airport Authority
Norfolk International Airport
2200 Norview Avenue
Norfolk, VA 23518-5807

**Re: Airport Master Plan Update
Norfolk International Airport
Norfolk, Virginia
AIP # 3-51-0036-067-2017**

Dear Mr. Bowen:

The Norfolk International Airport (ORF) Airport Layout Plan (ALP), prepared by CHA, is conditionally approved and the master plan narrative report is accepted.

An aeronautical study 2020-AEA-2096-NRA was conducted on the proposed development depicted on the ALP. This determination does not constitute FAA approval or disapproval of the physical development involved in the proposal. It is a determination with respect to the safe and efficient use of navigable airspace by aircraft and with respect to the safety of persons and property on the ground. This approval includes the following two condition:

1. The future parallel runway is not justified at this time, within the twenty year planning horizon, but is being depicted on the ALP to protect surrounding airspace and land use. It is the FAA's expectation that the Norfolk Airport Authority (NAA) will work with local governments to protect the surrounding land use from incompatible development.
2. The forecast of aviation activity and resulting ALP were prepared either before or at the time of the evolving impacts of the COVID-19 public health emergency. It is warranted to acknowledge the reduced confidence in growth projections used in the study as a result of the pandemic. Accordingly, FAA approval of the ALP does not constitute justification for future projects. Justification for future projects will be made based on activity levels at the time the project is requested for development. Documentation of actual activity levels meeting planning activity levels will be necessary to justify AIP funding for eligible projects.

The FAA has only limited means to prevent the construction of structures near an airport. The airport sponsor has the primary responsibility to protect the airport environs through such means as local zoning ordinances, property acquisition, aviation easements, letters of agreement or other means.

Notwithstanding, all items of development shown on the ALP shall comply with the requirements of the National Environmental Policies Act of 1969 (P.L. 91-190). The appropriate environmental processing for each proposed project has not occurred and will require a formal FAA Section 163 determination as each project or group of projects become ripe for decision making.

When construction of any proposed structure or development indicated on the ALP is undertaken, such construction requires normal 45-day advance notification to FAA for review in accordance with applicable Federal Aviation Regulations (i.e., Parts 77, 157, 152, etc.). More notice is generally beneficial to ensure that all statutory, regulatory, technical and operational issues can be addressed in a timely manner.

Please attach this letter to the Airport Layout Plan Update and retain for your files. If you should have any questions in regards to this letter, please do not hesitate to contact Jeff Breeden at (703) 487-3978.

Sincerely,

Matthew J. Thys, Manager
Washington Airports District Office

cc: Anthony Rondeau, NAA (via email)
Rusty Harrington, DOAV (via email)