2020 IC Colorado Aviation System Plan and Economic Impact Study

COLORADO PLAINS REGIONAL

Colorado Plains Regional Airport (AKO) is a general aviation airport located in Washington County approximately one mile north of Akron. The airport is owned and operated by the Town of Akron. AKO has a single asphalt runway (11/29) that is 7,001 long by 100 feet wide and is equipped with a non-precision instrument approach. The airport is capable of serving corporate jet aircraft and large firefighting aircraft. Frequent activities at the airport include aerial crop application operations, recreational flying, military training exercises, and education programs. Colorado Plains Regional supports the local community and is a vital part of Akron's economy.

Airport Classification

The 2020 Colorado Aviation System Plan (CASP) has identified six functional classifications for Colorado's 65 publicly-owned, public-use airports and one privately-owned, public-use airport. The six classifications were newly developed for the 2020 CASP and replace the roles previously developed in the 2011 study. These classifications follow the Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA) role categories as defined by the National Plan of Integrated Airport Systems (NPIAS) and the ASSET study. However, the CASP expands upon these roles to create more specific classifications for airports that are not included in the NPIAS. Airports that are included in the NPIAS are eligible for federal funding. As of the 2019 NPIAS publication, 48 publicly-owned airports and one privately-owned airport in the Colorado airport system are included in the NPIAS, while 17 publicly-owned airports are not.

Colorado Plains Regional Airport is one of 16 airports in Colorado classified as a GA-Community airport. GA-Community airports are defined as being publicly-owned and having at least 10 based aircraft or being located 30 miles from the nearest NPIAS airport. Additionally, these facilities can support Native American communities and/or are used by federal government agencies. GA-Community airports often support quality-of-life activities such as emergency services and medical transport and can provide economic benefits to surrounding areas.



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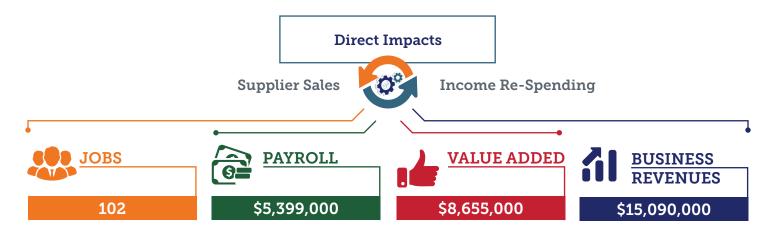


Colorado Plains Regional Features

B	Associated City/County	City/County Akron/Washington	
	Associated OEDIT Region	1 - Golden Plains Region	
	FAA GA ASSET Classification	Basic	
**	Annual Operations (2018)	20,500	
×	Number of Based Aircraft (2018)	7	
	Runway(s)	1	
Ť	Air Traffic Control Tower	No	

Economic Impacts of AKO

The 2020 Colorado Aviation Economic Impact Study (CEIS) measured the economic impacts of all airports in the state. Colorado Plains Regional is one of 56 general aviation airports contributing to the state's aviation economic impacts. The components that comprise the total economic impacts for AKO are summarized below. Visit the project website to learn more about the methodology used to determine the economic impacts of AKO and all other Colorado airports.





Airport Needs and Recommendations

The 2020 CASP identified several performance measures (PMs) and facility and service objectives (FSOs) to provide a baseline for the infrastructure, facilities, and service capabilities required to best support the type and volume of aviation activity typified by each classification. The CASP identified gaps between the airport's existing condition and the needs to satisfy PMs, FSOs, and/or future facility needs driven by aviation demand forecasts. It is important to note that the PMs and FSOs are not requirements or mandates for airports to meet, rather, they serve as guidelines for airports and CDOT Division of Aeronautics to use during the airport planning process. Airports considered to be deficient in meeting the PMs and/or FSOs were reviewed to determine the recommended projects needed to satisfy those components.

Planning level costs were developed for recommended projects and were associated with the appropriate goal category, PM, or FSO. These costs were developed based on 2019 Colorado material costs and industry knowledge and were adjusted to reflect cost differentials between types, sizes, and locations of airports. Projects and associated costs from available airport master plans and the CDOT 20-year Capital Improvement Program (CIP) were also incorporated into the CASP to provide an estimate of the airport's needs based on meeting PMs and FSOs as well as forecasted future demand. The project cost estimates for Colorado Plains Regional to meet appropriate goals, PMs, and FSOs, and projects identified by the airport from other planning efforts, are categorized by project type in the following chart.

Did You Know?

AKO has hosted specialized aviation and education events that attract visitors from across northeastern Colorado and neighboring states. The airport has emphasized the importance of promoting aviation to students and the local community. AKO has an open-door policy for educators and students wanting to explore opportunities in aviation.

Airport Project Costs by Type





Airport Report Card

Facility and service objectives (FSOs) were developed for each of the six airport classifications in the 2020 CASP. The following table details the FSOs and corresponding performance of Colorado Plains Regional. These objectives were analyzed in conjunction with the other performance measures (PMs) to determine the airport's project needs and associated costs.

	Objective Category	GA-Community Objective	Current Condition		Meets 2020 Objective?		
A	RC	B-I	B-II			Yes	
R	unway Length	Accommodate 95% small aircraft adjusted for elevation and mean maximum daily temp during hottest month	7,001 feet (5,900 feet)			Yes	
R	unway Width	60 feet	100 feet		Yes		
R	unway Strength	12,500 pounds	5,000 lbs SW; 85,000 lbs DW; 125,000 lbs 2			Yes	
Т	axiway	Turn-arounds	Partial parallel			Yes	
R	unway Markings	Non-precision	Non-precision			Yes	
A	pproach	Non-precision	Non-precision		Yes		
V	isual Aids	Rotating beacon, lighted wind cone, REILs, VGSIs	Rotating beacon, lighted wind cone, REILs, VGSIs		Yes		
R	unway Lighting	MIRL	MIRL			Yes	
v	Veather Reporting	On-site ASOS, AWOS, or Automated Unicom	ASOS			Yes	
		•					
Te	erminal (CS and/or GA)	Facility with restrooms, pilot-lounge, and Wi-Fi	Facility with restrooms, flight planning space, Wi-Fi, and rest area		Yes		
A	pron Tie-Downs	Tie-downs for 60% of based aircraft fleet plus 25% of weekly average overnight transient storage during peak season	60% of based aircraft fleet plus 25% transient aircraft fleet:	11	Total tie- down spaces:	18	Yes
Н	langars	Hangars for 40% of based aircraft fleet	40% of based aircraft fleet:	6	Number of based aircraft hangar spaces:	12	Yes
	edicated Maintenance/SRE torage Building	Based on community need	No			Based on community need	
	lectric Vehicle Charging tations	Based on community need	No			Based on community need	
P	erimeter Security	AOA 3-wire fencing with appropriate signage	AOA 3-wire fencing with appropriate signage			Yes	
	Services/Other						
Je	et A Fuel	,					Based on community need
A	vGas Fuel	24/7 (Self-Serve or Call-Out)	Full service			Yes	
	ircraft De-icing	Based on community need	None		Based on community need		
	ourtesy Car	Yes	Yes			Yes	
S	ustainability Plan	Based on community need	No for All Airports				Based on community need
	Restroom (24-hr accessible)√	Wi-Fi Service 🗸					

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