



GILBERT FIELD
Winter Haven
Regional Airport

AIRPORT ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Winter Haven Regional Airport (GIF)
Airport Master Plan Update

September 25, 2025

Agenda

Introductions

Overview of Airport

Overview of Airport Master Planning Process

Project Deliverables

Project Website – Public Comment

Questions



Winter Haven Regional Airport (GIF)

Gilbert Field

- Total Airport Property: 520 acres
- Two (2) Paved Runways:
 - RW 5/23: 5,005' x 100'
 - RW 11/29: 4,001' x 60'
- Supports General Aviation (GA) Operations & Flight Training
- 174 Based Aircraft (Source: Airport Master Record)
- Jack Browns Seaplane Base adjacent to GIF Waterway 1/19W



Airport Master Plan



- **What is an airport master plan?**
 - A comprehensive study of the airport that typically describes short-, medium- and long-term plans for airport development
- **What is an airport layout plan?**
 - A set of drawings depicting existing conditions and recommended development
- **What will not be included in this airport master plan?**
 - Noise study, evaluation of aircraft traffic patterns and flight paths

Sources: FAA AC 150/5070-6B, Airport Master Plans; FDOT Guidebook for Airport Master Planning

Airport Master Plan



- **What are the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) roles?**
 - "FAA reviews all elements of the master plan to ensure that sound planning techniques have been applied." The FAA only approves the aviation forecast and airport layout plan elements.
 - FDOT developed the Guidebook for Airport Master Planning "with the intent to help the user understand the development, preparation, and use of airport master planning documents in Florida ..."

Sources: FAA AC 150/5070-6B, Airport Master Plans; FDOT Guidebook for Airport Master Planning

Project Deliverables



- **Working Paper 1 – Inventory**
 - *Anticipated November 2025*
- **Working Paper 2 – Aviation Activity Forecasts**
 - *Anticipated February 2026*
 - Requires FAA concurrence before proceeding (3 months on schedule)
- **Working Paper 3 – Facility Requirements**
 - *2 months after FAA forecast concurrence*
- **Working Paper 4 – Environmental Considerations**
 - *Includes Waste Audit and Climate Vulnerability/Risk Assessment*
 - *3 months after FAA forecast concurrence*

Project Deliverables



- **Working Paper 5 – Alternatives Identification and Evaluation**
 - *5 months after FAA forecast concurrence*
- **Working Paper 6 – Facilities Implementation Plan**
 - *10 months after FAA forecast concurrence*
- **Airport Layout Plan Drawing set**
 - *14 months after FAA forecast concurrence*
 - Requires FAA review and conditional approval

Project timing subject to review periods.

Project Meetings



- **Stakeholder and public involvement**

- Airport Advisory Committee meetings
 - Inventory and Forecast – anticipated March 2026
 - Facility Requirements, Environmental Considerations, Alternatives Review – 6 months after FAA forecast concurrence
 - Recommended Development Plan – 12 months after FAA forecast concurrence
- Public Information Workshop – aligned with alternatives review
- Presentation to City Commission – before submission of ALP to FAA
- Project website: www.winterhaven-mp.com
 - Public comment opportunity

Aviation Activity Forecasts



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- Total Operations
- Air Taxi / Charter Operations
- General Aviation Operations
- Military Operations
- Critical Aircraft
- Based Aircraft
- Emerging Technologies



- Peaking Characteristics
 - peak month
 - average day of the peak month
 - peak hour of the average day
- Categories of Operations
 - local vs itinerant
 - instrument activity
 - day/night split
 - operational fleet mix

Committee Engagement

- Provide input to study process from your perspective
 - Overall goals
 - Airport strengths
 - Potential areas of improvements



Project Website – Public Comment



- After set up, additional information regarding the GIF airport master plan, will be available at <https://www.winterhaven-mp.com/>
- Website will contain FAQ to be updated during study
- Presentations as they occur
- Draft working papers as prepared
- **Opportunity to submit comments**
- In addition to the website, there will be a public information workshop



QUESTIONS?