



**Meeting Notes**

Topic: T.F. Green Airport Improvement Program EIS – Purpose and Need      Date/Time: October 19, 2005  
October 20, 2005

Location: Warwick – Buttonwoods      Notes: VHB  
Community Center      Taken by:  
Cranston – William Hall Library

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**Summary of FAA Public Meetings**

The meeting was hosted by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) as part of public outreach in support of the T.F. Green Airport Improvement Program Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

**Location, Time and Attendance:**

Warwick (Buttonwoods Community Center) - October 19, 2005 5:00 PM - 9:15 PM – Approximately 90 members of the public in attendance  
Cranston (William Hall Library) - October 20, 2005 5:00 PM - 8:30 PM – Approximately 30 members of the public in attendance

**Meeting Purpose:**

The purpose of the meetings was to provide an overview of the T.F. Green Airport Improvement Program Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and the Purpose and Need for the proposed program of airport improvements. The meeting provided an opportunity for the public to speak with the FAA, the Rhode Island Airport Corporation (RIAC), and the EIS team, and to provide input. The same materials were presented at the two locations noted above to ensure that communities near the airport had convenient access to the information being provided. The presentation slides and boards will be posted on the EIS website ([www.vhb.com/pvd/eis/outreach.asp](http://www.vhb.com/pvd/eis/outreach.asp)).

**Meeting Notes:**

The FAA held public meetings on October 19th (Warwick) and 20th (Cranston). The meetings were advertised in the local and state newspapers (Warwick Beacon, Cranston Herald, and Providence Journal), on COX Cable television. Notification was also carried out through individual mailings, meeting poster distribution to community bulletin boards, web postings, and telephone calls.

The first hour of the meeting consisted of board displays and one-on-one discussions among FAA, RIAC, and technical experts and the meeting attendees.

**Boards**

- Meeting Format, Agenda and Information
- What is an EIS?
- EIS Process and Schedule
- Opportunities for Public Input
- Agency and Tribal Coordination Efforts
- Role of T.F. Green in the State, Regional and National Aviation System
- Recent Aviation Industry Trends
- Forecast Update Results
- Airport Facilities Assessment
  - Airport Safety Needs
  - Airport Efficiency Needs
- Purpose of the T.F. Green Airport Improvement Program

During the second hour, the EIS team made a formal slide presentation for the meeting attendees. **Susanna Liller**, of Barton and Gingold, welcomed the group and explained how the meeting would be run. **John Silva**, FAA Project Manager, provided an introduction to the attendees. This was followed by **Carol Lurie**, Project Manager from Vanasse Hangen Brustlin (consultant to the FAA),



who provided an update on the preparation of the EIS since the previous public meeting (Supplemental Scoping Meeting on February 8, 2005). Ms. Lurie presented information on the roles of FAA and RIAC in the oversight and management of the airport. She continued with a discussion of changes in the aviation industry in the post 2001 era. Ms. Lurie presented revised passenger and operations forecasts that will form the basis of the EIS environmental impact analysis. Next in the presentation was the airport facility needs assessment, outlining safety and efficiency needs. The final portion of the presentation included a draft Purpose and Need Statement, which is as follows:

The **purpose** of the T.F. Green Airport Improvement Program is to:

- Enhance safety by improving the runway safety areas and taxiways and removing obstructions.
- Enhance the efficiency of the Airport and the New England Regional Airport System, and meet future demand for aviation services.

The meeting was opened to questions and input from the public after the presentation. A panel with the FAA and members of the consultant team responded to questions and input. Topics included:

- The wording of the Project Purpose & Need
- Status, schedule, and findings of New England Regional Aviation System Plan
- Trends in cargo operations and general aviation
- Forecasting methodology
- Off-site alternatives such a Quonset
- T.F. Green's role in the region including relationship with the Bradley Airport catchment area
- T.F. Green's relationship with Logan Airport
- Role of low cost carriers
- The use of the findings of the RIDEM air quality studies in the EIS
- Housing/relocation studies included in EIS
- Tax and economic impacts of the proposed improvements
- Mitigation for existing and future impacts
- Water quality and the RIPDES permit for the airport
- Health studies
- Alternatives and runway length requirements
- Effect of potential changes in airport user fees
- Flight paths and air traffic control procedures
- RIAC's authority over T.F. Green Airport
- Airport security
- Voluntary nighttime curfew
- Warwick Intermodal Train Station
- Status of the sound insulation and voluntary land acquisition programs associated with the Part 150 Study
- Property tax relief for households affected by aircraft noise
- Land use compatibility

The meetings will be broadcast on local access cable television.

- The Warwick Meeting will show on Warwick Channel 18 on:  
Time and Date to be Determined
- The Cranston Meeting will show on Cranston Channel 18 on:  
Saturday October 29, 2005 8:00 PM – 10:00 PM, Sunday October 30, 2005 8:00 PM – 10:00 PM

Meeting notes, the presentation slides, and boards will be available on the EIS website at:  
[www.vhb.com/pvd/eis/outreach.asp](http://www.vhb.com/pvd/eis/outreach.asp).

The Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) on the project website will be updated to respond to input received at the meetings.