



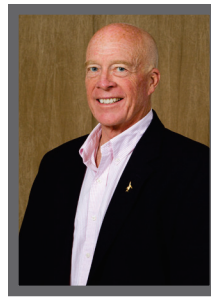
AERONAUTICS COMMISSION

2020 Annual Report

OKLAHOMA



MEET THE FY 2020 OKLAHOMA AERONAUTICS COMMISSION



Chairman
Dave Amis
Oklahoma City - District 5



Vice Chairman
Jim Putnam
Edmond - At Large



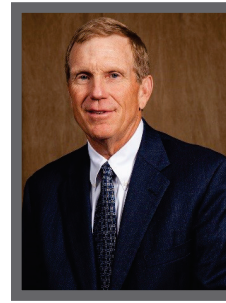
Secretary
Jerry Hunter
Oklahoma City - At Large



Lindy Ritz
Norman - District 4



Dr. David Conway
Durant - District 2



Kevin Potter
Bartlesville - District 1



Michael Ray
Guymon - District 3

MEET THE DIRECTOR



Grayson Ardies has been the Oklahoma State Director of Aeronautics since November 2020. The Commission's mission is to promote aviation and aerospace, which includes fostering the growth of the aerospace industry and ensuring that the needs of commerce and communities across Oklahoma are met by the 108

public airports that comprise the state's air transportation system. Ardies emphasis is on promoting the aerospace industry, one of the state's largest industries and top employers; critical planning and development for the state's air transportation system; making the state's 49 regional business airports the best possible economic centers in their communities; and encouraging public-private partnerships to promote the aerospace industry.

Ardies began working for the Commission in 2009 as an intern. Rising through the ranks, he became the lone 5010 airport inspector as an Aviation Program Manager, conducting airport and pavement inspections at Oklahoma's public-use, general aviation airports to provide each community with a foundation for the federal and state capital planning process. In 2016 he became Manager of the Airport Division to oversee the development of the Commission's Five-year Airport Construction Program which directs approximately \$25 million of federal, state, and local funding per year. He was responsible for airport inspections, airspace zoning reviews in accordance with the State's Aircraft Pilot and Passenger Protection Act, the

state's anemometer tower marking law, and providing assistance to airports with their development, operation, and technical documents. Ardies served as Deputy Director from January 2019 through October 2020, and was unanimously selected by the seven-member Commission to fill the State Director of Aeronautics position, beginning November 2020.

He has led many statewide agency initiatives including a three-year effort working with the state legislature regarding the protection of military training airspace. He also managed a two-year project that conducted an Aerospace and Aviation Economic Impact Study which established the industry as the second largest economic engine in the state. Under his leadership the Commission developed a unique P3 (public/private) partnership at Carlton Landing Airport on Lake Eufaula, and guided the difficult but necessary five-year effort to close Lake Murray State Park Airport.

Ardies was awarded the honorable 2020 State Aviation Distinguished Service Award from the National Association of State Aviation Officials (NASAO). The award, which was established in 1989, honors State Aviation personnel who have excelled in their service and dedication to aviation progress and development in their state. Ardies was also listed in the Power 15 List in Aviation and Aeronautics in Oklahoma by the Journal Record in 2020.

Director Ardies graduated from the University of Oklahoma with a degree in Aviation Management with double minors in Business Administration and Air Traffic Control. As part of his education through the aviation program, he also received a commercial pilot's license with single and multi-engine instrument ratings and is a certified flight instructor.

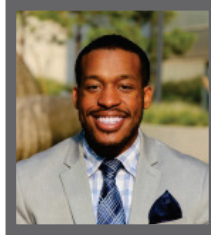
MEET THE AERONAUTICS COMMISSION STAFF



Grayson Ardies
State Director



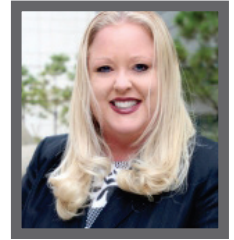
Chris Wadsworth
Chief of Staff



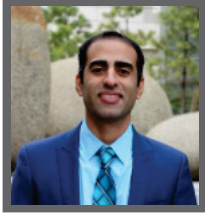
Courtney Finney
Deputy
Operations Officer



Nick Young
Aviation Program Manager



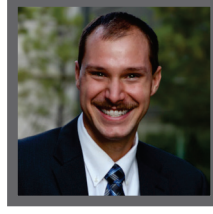
Sandra Shelton
Public & Government
Affairs Coordinator



Benyamin Naghavi
Airport Engineer



Michelle Bouziden
Grants Administrator
& Executive Assistant
to the Director



Thomas Galloway
Aviation Program
Manager



Paula Kedy
Aerospace & Aviation
Education Coordinator



Andrea Post
Executive Assistant to
the Director

VISION

The Commission is considered the lead government agency for providing support, funding, planning, programming and engineering, advocacy, and promotion of Oklahoma's airports and is a critical partner in providing support, advocacy, and promotion of the aviation and aerospace industry.

MISSION

OAC's mission is to promote aviation, which includes ensuring that the needs of commerce and communities across the state are met by the state's 108 public airports that comprise the Oklahoma Airport System, and ensuring the viability of the state's aerospace industry.

HISTORY & POWERS OF THE COMMISSION

Empowered and directed to encourage, foster, and assist in the development of aviation and aerospace in this state and to encourage the establishment of airports and air navigation facilities, the Oklahoma Aeronautics Commission (OAC) was formally created in 1963 by an act of the Oklahoma Legislature, succeeding the Oklahoma Aviation Commission. Since FY2002, the Commission has invested \$212.8 million in federal funds and \$75 million of the \$89.3 million it has received in state funds into airport infrastructure - 84% of OAC's total revenues invested in airport infrastructure across the state. OAC is a non-appropriated agency funded directly by users of the Oklahoma Airport System through aircraft excise and fuel taxes, and aircraft registration fees. These taxes and fees generate \$5 million on average annually, with 84% going directly back into airports.

FY2020 OAC REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES SUMMARY

REVENUES

Miscellaneous Receipts	\$225,563
Aviation Specialty License Plates	\$6,816
Aviation Fuel Tax	\$91,747
Aircraft Registration	\$680,884
Aircraft Excise Tax	\$3,661,196
Federal Grant Reimbursements	\$388,297
Total Deposited Revenues	\$5,054,503

EXPENDITURES

Capital Projects	\$6,110,333
Operating/Administrative	\$1,233,481
Aviation Education	\$187,003
Total Expenditures	\$7,530,817

HISTORY OF AVIATION AND RELEVANCE TODAY

Motivated by Governor Henry Bellmon and others, the Oklahoma Aeronautics Commission (OAC) was created by the Legislature in 1963. The OAC was a successor agency to the Oklahoma Aviation Commission, which was created by the Legislature in 1946, predating the Civil Aeronautics Board and Administration, which became the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). In view of the fact that Tinker Air Force Base was built in the early 1940s, American Airlines largest maintenance base was moved from New York's LaGuardia Airfield to Tulsa in 1946, and the Civil Aeronautics Administration's Standardization Center was moved from Houston to Oklahoma City in 1946, Bellmon, along with legislators and prominent business leaders, believed that it was essential for the state to have a state agency focused upon aviation, aerospace, and airports to ensure that state government did all that it could do to take full advantage of the opportunity presented by the rapid growth of aviation after World War II. Aviation was having a profound impact upon the everyday lives of all Americans; it was dramatically shrinking the world.

The core responsibility of OAC has been to ensure that the needs of communities and commerce across the state are met by a system of public airports, the Oklahoma Airport System (OAS). OAC has utilized federal, state, and local funds to make the investment for needed development and maintenance to the 108 airports that comprise the OAS. Beginning in 2001, with aviation-generated revenue provided by the Legislature from the aircraft excise and fuel taxes, and aircraft registration fees, OAC has been able to make a meaningful investment in our airport system that has also resulted in receiving additional federal funding from the FAA for our airport system. Since FY2002, the Commission has invested \$212.8 million in federal funds and \$75 million of the \$89.3 million it has received in state funds into airport infrastructure - 84% of OAC's total revenues invested in airport infrastructure across the state. OAC is a non-appropriated agency funded directly by users of the Oklahoma Airport System through aircraft excise and fuel taxes, and aircraft registration fees. These taxes and fees generate \$5 million on average annually, with 84% going directly back into airports.

Many of these investments in infrastructure have been critical to airport projects. The 2,000 foot extension to the runway at Enid would not have been possible without the largest State/OAC airport grant ever of \$2.5 million. The extension was done so that T-38 trainer jets from nearby Vance AFB could land and takeoff from the Enid municipal airport rather than having to go to Wichita or Tulsa to train when the main runway at Vance is closed for maintenance; a significant step to help BRAC-proof Vance. The record investment from OAC was necessary because the FAA could not invest what it usually would



because the extension was driven by military rather than civil aviation demand. This is just one example of several critical state investments in airports that the OAC has been able to do. Having funding to invest at the state level has also been leveraged to garner \$189 million in federal/FAA funding during this same time period. The state investment has been particularly pivotal insofar as the receipt of federal discretionary funding.

State investment and federal investment directed by OAC has also figured prominently in economic development and sustainment in many communities across the State. Major employers such as Michelin in Ardmore (Ardmore's largest employer), the Chickasaw Nation in Ada, Seaboard Farms in Guymon (Guymon's largest employer), and Conoco-Phillips (Phillips 66) in Bartlesville (Bartlesville's largest employer) all cite having immediate and ready access to their sites in those communities through the local airport as significant reasons they chose to locate or stay in those communities. These are just a few examples of similar stories across the State.

The statutory purpose of the OAC as stated in its original legislation in 1963 is "to encourage, foster, and assist in the development of aeronautics." Aeronautics is broadly defined to encompass about anything pertaining to aviation, aerospace, or airports. Due to this broad charge, OAC has engaged in many facets of aviation and aerospace beyond its core responsibility.

OAC has one of the most robust aerospace and aviation education programs in the country. Since FY2001, it has provided \$3.8 million in aerospace and education funding to organizations and programs throughout the state. Just within the last 5 years alone, the Commission has awarded over \$1.4 million in education grants and contracts. OAC supports about 30 aerospace/aviation education programs, many of which are STEM, across the State. Such an endeavor is crucial to helping ensure the workforce necessary, today and tomorrow, for one of Oklahoma's largest industries.



COMMISSION DUTIES

As part of its broad mandate to encourage and foster the development of aviation and aerospace, the Legislature, consistent with this mandate, specifically and somewhat exceptionally, tasked OAC to “recommend necessary legislation to advance the interests of the state in aeronautics.” Fulfilling this responsibility, OAC has drafted and recommended legislation that has served this goal:

- 2019 Protection for military airspace from encroachment by tall structures, creating a setback requirements for wind turbine construction to be clear of military training routes, runway approaches, drop zones and bombing ranges.
- 2018 Requirement that at least 50% of the exempt aircraft’s operations must be charter to qualify for the aircraft excise tax exemption.
- 2017 Inspection of all public-use airports to ensure aviation safety.
- 2017 First state in the U.S. to place “Women in Aviation & Aerospace Day,” in statute, commemorating contributions of women to Aviation and Aerospace.
- 2014 Requiring marking of MET (wind evaluation) towers for aviation safety.
- 2013 Led effort to keep 6 air traffic control towers open to ensure aviation safety.
- 2010 Aircraft Pilot & Passenger Protection Act, providing state zoning authority to protect all public-use airports, including military airports, while facilitating compatible development.
- 2008 Passed legislative tax credits for engineers hired by aerospace employers and the employers hiring them which has significantly helped Tinker, FAA, Boeing, Spirit, NORDAM meet engineering needs; one of the top three reasons cited by Boeing for moving 2,000 engineers to Oklahoma.
- 2005 Eliminated sales tax on all aircraft repairs, giving OK companies a competitive advantage, critical to Oklahoma remaining one of the seven centers in the world for the maintenance, repair and overhaul of aircraft. Oklahoma has the largest military (Tinker AFB) and commercial (American Maintenance Base) aircraft repair facilities in the world; and the largest independent MRO provider (AAR) in the world.

In addition to advocating for legislation that benefits the industry, OAC also has numerous functions to maintain the Oklahoma Airport System.

Airport Engineering & Preliminary Engineering Reports:

- OAC develops the scope of work, selects and contracts with qualified consulting firms.
- OAC submits FAA grant application for 90% funding.
- OAC administers the federal grant funds for the development of preliminary engineering reports. The reports produce a well-defined scope of work with a detailed cost estimate that the City, FAA, and OAC use to plan and program funding for airport capital improvement projects.

Design

- OAC ensures the development of airports meets FAA and State design standards by providing technical support to cities, consultants, and OAC planning staff.
- OAC reviews project specific plans and specifications to ensure the design is consistent with funding agencies’ project scope of work and required standards and specifications.



Construction Oversight

- OAC makes periodic site visits to ensure construction is consistent with the approved plans and specifications.
- OAC reviews and approves progress pay requests for completed work items.
- OAC evaluates Change Orders and Grant Amendments for need and justification.
- OAC attends final inspection of completed projects.

Grants Administration

- OAC collects needed financial documentation that will confirm state grant funds are being expended appropriately and as the Legislature intended.
- OAC only advances pay requests that have the required supporting documentation (invoices from contractors and vendors).
- OAC makes timely reimbursements to the cities.



BIRD RETIRES, LEAVES LEGACY OF STRONG AVIATION ADVOCACY & FLOURISHING AIRPORT SYSTEM

At its October 14 meeting, the seven-member Oklahoma Aeronautics Commission accepted the retirement of long-time State Director of Aeronautics Victor Bird. Bird leaves a long legacy of state policymaking with 36 years of public service to the State of Oklahoma. During his 18-year tenure with OAC, Bird emphasized promotion of the aerospace industry, one of the state's largest industries and top employers; critical planning and development for the state's air transportation system; upgrading as many of the state's 49 regional business airports as possible to be jet-capable; and encouraging public-private partnerships to promote the aerospace industry. Under his leadership, the Commission has invested \$71 million in state funds and directed \$189 million in federal funds into airport infrastructure statewide.

"As Governor Stitt's transportation secretary, I want to congratulate Vic on a lifetime of service to the State of Oklahoma and thank him for bringing a vision and energy to the Aeronautics Commission at a critical time in its history," Secretary of Transportation Tim Gatz said. "Vic is a nationally respected leader in the aerospace sector and his expertise and advocacy have helped grow the industry and ensure that Oklahoma has a long-term plan for keeping our air transportation system safe and effective."

Bird's career in state government started in the Oklahoma Attorney General's office under Mike Turpen in 1983. He subsequently served at Oklahoma State University, the Office of the Lieutenant Governor and again in the Attorney General's office under two different attorneys general. Bird earned his juris doctorate and bachelor's degree from the University of Tulsa, leading to him to a career in law within the public sector. It was this legal background and his knowledge of state government that ultimately led him to the Oklahoma Aeronautics Commission as Director in 2002. Although he was a newcomer to aviation and aerospace, he saw the amazing opportunities to help foster and grow the industry and immediately put his knowledge and connections within state government to work.

Highlights of Bird's tenure include formation of the Governor's Aerospace Task Force in 2004, which resulted in several recommendations to ensure the viability and growth of the state's aerospace industry. One of those rec-

ommendations that Bird was instrumental in bringing to fruition was the Legislature's creation of Engineer Tax Credits for Aerospace, which provides tax credits to engineers that go to work in aerospace and the aerospace companies that hire them. Engineers that go to work for Tinker AFB, the FAA Monroney Aeronautical Center, Boeing, Northrop Grumman and others, and the employers that hire them have greatly benefitted from these tax credits. Bird also championed a sales tax exemption on purchases of products and services from the maintenance, repair and overhaul (MRO) sector of the aerospace industry. Up to 80% of aerospace companies in Oklahoma are engaged in MRO and this provided them a critical competitive advantage.

Other legislative successes include the Aerospace Development Act of 2008, which transferred two key aerospace programs, the Center for Aerospace Supplier Quality and the Oklahoma Aerospace Institute, to OAC. These programs evolved into the very successful Aerospace Commerce Economic Services (ACES) program now operated by the Oklahoma Department of Commerce. The Aircraft Pilot and Passenger Protection Act, which became law in 2010, was also accomplished under Bird's watch and ensured that public-use airports and military airports were provided legal protections from encroaching development. It was this accomplishment that led to Bird receiving AOPA's coveted Hartranft Award.

In 2010, Bird was elected chair of the National Association of State Aviation Officials (NASAO) as the first Oklahoman to ever hold the post, and he has been the long serving co-chair of NASAO's Legislative Committee.

During his career, Bird was honored with several awards and commendations from the aviation and aerospace industry. In 2006, he received the Distinguished Service Award from the Oklahoma Association for Career and Technical Education for his contributions to career and technology education in Oklahoma. In 2009, Bird was the recipient of the prestigious General Thomas P. Stafford Award, which recognizes those who have made significant contributions to the Oklahoma aerospace industry and who honor the pioneering spirit of Gen. Stafford. Additionally, in 2017, Bird received the Kenneth A. Rowe Ambassador of Aviation Award from NASAO in honor of his national accomplishments, and, in 2020, the President's Award from the Oklahoma Airport Operators Assn. for his outstanding contributions to Oklahoma aviation.

AUGUST DECLARED AVIATION AND AEROSPACE AWARENESS MONTH

At the Commission's August 7 meeting, a proclamation was presented to the Commission from the office of Governor J. Kevin Stitt declaring the entire month of August "Oklahoma Aviation and Aerospace Awareness Month".

The state's first-ever Oklahoma State Aviation & Aerospace Day was celebrated on August 19, 2018, after the passage of a measure placing it into state law during the 2017 legislative session. The date runs concurrent to National Aviation Day which was originally declared on August 19, 1939, when Franklin Delano Roosevelt issued a presidential proclamation encouraging citizens to observe the day with activities that promote interest in aviation.

The proclamation also highlights that the future of a safe, secure, efficient and progressive aviation and aerospace industry is dependent on energizing state and national policies, well informed and educated citizens, a technology proficient workforce, bold pioneering research, ingenuity, perseverance and courage. Citizens were asked to devote some portion of the state's Oklahoma Aviation and Aerospace Awareness Month to honor the achievements of Oklahomans in aviation and aerospace.

OKLAHOMA GENERAL AND COMMERCIAL AVIATION AIRPORTS PLAY IMPORTANT ROLE DURING GLOBAL PANDEMIC

As the runways of mega airports across the world cooled due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Oklahoma Airport System saw an increased amount of smaller-sized aircraft traffic.

"We saw a noticeable increase in corporate aircraft and light aircraft transits and increased activity among based aircraft since the Spring weather," said Craig Thompson, Airport Manager at Ada Regional Airport.

As part of the agency's duties outlined in state statute, OAC oversees the development of a statewide system of airports, encourages aeronautical safety and advancement, and coordinates activities with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) to develop a national airport system. During this time of pandemic, the state monitored airports within the system for any concerns.

Paul Priegel, Director of Airports for Stillwater Regional Airport said, "We had a significant increase. In February we saw combined local and itinerant GA Operations of 7052 compared to 4518 compared to last year. Of course, last February we had lots of ice impacting our airport, but in 2018, we only saw 5072,

a big February for us. This count is only our tower count and we know Oklahoma State University is going from first light until 10pm daily."

The state of Oklahoma covers almost 69,000 square miles. While much of the state's population of almost four million is focused in the Tulsa and Oklahoma City metropolitan areas, the remainder resides in smaller communities scattered across the state. Many smaller hospitals are not able to have specialty doctors on staff. Fixed-wing aircraft are used to support various emergency medical needs. Aircraft are used to transport patients, who have life-threatening medical conditions, from smaller hospitals to larger medical facilities. In the event there was an increased demand for medical flights, the Commission asked airports to prepare to maintain their operations as safely and efficiently as they could.

OKLAHOMA AERONAUTICS LAUNCHES BECOME A PILOT WEBSITE

Though local, state, and national runways and airports saw an unprecedented downturn in aircraft traffic and passenger load in early 2020 due to the COVID-19 global pandemic, pilots were still utilizing the 108 airports within the Oklahoma Airport System. From the runway of Wiley Post Airport and the numerous training schools based at RL Jones Riverside in Tulsa to the continued training at our armed forces installations such as Vance and Altus Air Force Bases, pilot instruction for military, sport, private and professional aviators were still a daily occurrence in the state. Flight training was declared essential during the quarantine as part of national transportation infrastructure.

No aviation forecasters, nor the Oklahoma Aeronautics Commission (OAC), could have foreseen what was deemed as the worst trial for the aviation industry since 9/11. In 2019, when the Commission began looking at the pilot shortage issue at the urging of several Commissioners, military partners, and flight training schools, aviation was thriving in the global economy.

Out of several meetings, four recommendations were approved by the full Commission. Of those recommendations, the Commission committed to continued support of the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association (AOPA) High School Aviation Curriculum.

The second initiative, a central website (clearinghouse) for pilot information and resources went live in the spring of 2020. The website is designed to be a central resource to share with the public to answer all questions regarding how to become a pilot, aviation education assets, scholarship information, and employment.

Oklahoma Women in Aviation and Aerospace Day

When state policymakers created the Oklahoma Aeronautics Commission back in 1963, one of the primary responsibilities given to the new agency was to promote aviation in Oklahoma. Throughout its 55+ years serving the citizens of Oklahoma, the Aeronautics Commission has worked extensively with both public and private partners to promote the aviation and aerospace industry. Through its ongoing relationships with state lawmakers, Oklahoma's congressional delegation, elected officials, airport officials and other stakeholders, the Aeronautics Commission continues to help support the growth of aviation. During fiscal year 2018, the Commission was involved in making Oklahoma the first-in-the-nation to create a day dedicated to the contributions of Women in Aviation and Aerospace in our Great State.



Organizers of the third annual Oklahoma Women in Aviation and Aerospace Day hosted their event November 1st at the AAR Corporation hangar on Will Rogers World Airport. Tickets to the occasion sold out in three weeks to a crowd of 500 aviation and aerospace professionals and students.

The public luncheon, reserved for aviation and aerospace enthusiasts, provided an opportunity for individuals to learn more about current Oklahoma general, business, and commercial aviation, the future of the industry, and how Oklahomans may advocate on behalf of aviation and aerospace for young girls and women to pursue aviation interests.

The Oklahoma Aeronautics Commission (OAC), in partnership with the Oklahoma Air Force Association Central Oklahoma Gerrity Chapter, and AAR Corporation hosted the event and secured Rear Admiral (Ret) Margaret "Peg" Klein as their keynote speaker.

Klein exemplifies the Oklahoma standard. She has flown over 4500 flight hours in the EC-130 Hercules and E-6 Mercury. She holds numerous aviation-firsts, including her post as the first woman to serve as the 82nd Commandant of Midshipmen at the United States Naval Academy.

Klein serves as the Dean of the College of Leadership and Ethics at the U.S. Naval War College in Newport, RI. She completed a 35-year and served as the Secretary of Defense's Senior Advisor for Military Professionalism. Klein also served as Chief of Staff for the newly created U.S. Cyber Command. In 2008, she served as director of worldwide operations for the Navy's Network Warfare Command. Klein's leadership experience reaches from sky to sea, and from classroom to boardroom. In 2011, she commanded an American military force of five ships, 30 aircraft, and over 3,300 Sailors and Marines in successful combat operations in the Mediterranean Sea.

The history of Oklahoma Women in Aviation and Aerospace Day began in 2017 when the Oklahoma legislature passed a bill to officially recognize the contribution of Oklahoma women in the State's aviation and aerospace industry December 9th annually.

The date marks the birth of the famous Chickasaw aviator, Pearl Carter Scott, of Marlow, Oklahoma. Scott learned to fly at the age of 13 under legendary aviator Wiley Post. She became the youngest pilot in the United States with her first solo flight on September 12, 1929, the same year that Amelia Earhart established the female pilot group, the Ninety-Nines.

With so many aviation historical dates in mind, the event was moved from December to accommodate the 90th annual meeting of the The Ninety-Nines,



Inc, International Organization of Women Pilots which was held November 2nd in Oklahoma City. The event hosted 99s from across the United States. After the keynote, a panel discussion included Klein as well as other aviation and aerospace professionals who candidly answered questions about their own experiences and the future of the industry. Commissioner of Labor, Leslie Osborn, moderated the session.

Mayor David Holt presented a congratulatory proclamation on behalf of the City of Oklahoma City to the Ninety-Nines membership and to their International President, Jan McKenzie. KOCO Channel 5's news anchor Markie Martin, a private pilot, served as the event's celebrity emcee for the day.



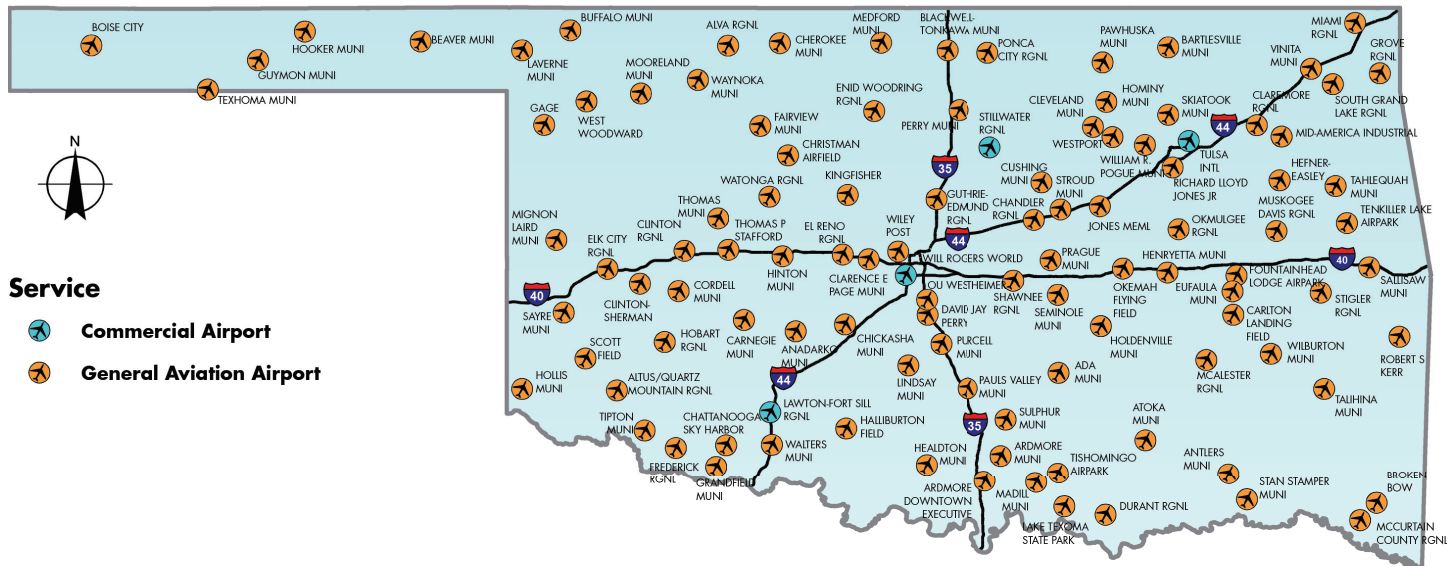
AIRPORT PLANNING & PROGRAMMING

- Develops the Commission’s five-year airport construction program (ACP) on an annual basis each spring.
- This directs an average of \$20M per year to the 108 public airports in the Oklahoma Airport System (OAS) for capital projects such as runway extensions, pavement rehabilitation, terminal building construction, and lighting projects. The ACP directs three sources of funding: \$4M OAC funding, \$3M local funding, \$13M FAA funding.
- Conducts safety and standards inspections for Oklahoma’s 135 public-use airports on a 3 year cycle. These inspections provide the foundation to ensure a safe airport environment and determine where an airport doesn’t meet FAA/OAC standards so those deficiencies can be addressed in the ACP.
- Conducts airport master record updates for Oklahoma’s 135 public-use airports on a 3 year cycle. The master record provides data on each airport that is publicized to pilots through airport directories, aeronautical charts, and online aviation databases.
- Conducts pavement inspections at 82 airports. These pavement inspections determine the condition of the pavement on a 0-100 scale and the schedule for which the pavement should be rehabilitated.
- Oversees the development of a 20 year, long-term infrastructure development plan for each of the 108 airports in the OAS.
- Administers the state’s zoning authority under the Aircraft

Pilot Passenger Protection Act to ensure compatible development of structures and land-use in the vicinity of public-use and military airports.

Administers the state’s authority to require marking of anemometer towers (wind evaluation towers or METs) and development of a location database for these towers ensuring the safety of low level flying operations.

- Provides technical assistance for UAS (Unmanned Aircraft Systems) operations to Oklahoma communities. Acts as a conduit and technical resource between the UAS community and existing users of Oklahoma’s airports.
- Provides technical assistance to Oklahoma communities regarding the operation and development of their local airport. This includes assisting them with their capital planning and programming documents, primary guiding documents (minimum standards, airport rules/regulations, hangar lease/rates/charges policy), and general layout of the development of the airport.
- Led the Commission’s Statewide Aviation and Aerospace Economic Impact Study Project that determined the industry was the state’s second largest with annual economic activity nearing \$44 billion.
- Oversees the Commission’s continuous system planning process for Oklahoma airports including administering any grants received from the FAA for these activities.



STATE SYSTEM OF AIRPORTS BY THE NUMBERS

- 108 - Number of publicly owned airports in Oklahoma
- 49 - Number of regional business airports
- 43 - Number of regional business airports that have jet-capable runways (5,000 feet or greater)
- 97 - Percentage of Oklahoma’s population that is within 25 miles of one of the state’s 49 regional business airports
- 94 - Percentage of Oklahoma’s population that lives within 25 miles of an airport with a jet-capable runway

- 84 - Percentage of annual revenues the Oklahoma Aeronautics Commission expends on airport infrastructure improvements
- \$4M - Average amount of state funding the Oklahoma Aeronautics Commission expends annually on airport infrastructure improvements
- \$40M - Average amount of federal funds that Oklahoma’s airport system receives annually for airport infrastructure improvements



AIRPORT CONSTRUCTION PROGRAM

Several cities across the state made some much-needed improvements to their local airports in FY2020, thanks to various state grants the Oklahoma Aeronautics Commission awarded through its Airport Construction Program. Airport sponsors, which are typically the municipalities where the airports are located, are required to contribute local matches toward their airport projects. The amount of the local matches currently range from five percent for state funds to ten percent for federal funds (the Commission may make half the sponsor's required federal match). Effective in FY2010, the Aeronautics Commission began awarding grants to local municipalities for terminal construction or renovation. The grant awards for new terminals are for a maximum of \$500,000, and sponsors would be responsible for 50 percent in matching funds. Based on direct impacts to the economy, it is estimated that airport supported activities contribute almost \$500 million in annual tax revenues in Oklahoma. That is a great return on investment for all Oklahomans.

FY2020 ACP GRANT RECIPIENTS:

Alva Regional Airport - \$255,028 to install ODALS.

Antlers Municipal Airport - \$408,988 to extend runway 500'.

Ardmore Municipal Airport - \$211,017 for Phase 2 of taxiway A reconstruction to connect the north end of A to runway 13.

Atoka Municipal Airport - \$230,891 to install new LED medium intensity runway lights and LED PAPIs

Blackwell-Tonkawa Municipal Airport - \$8,489 for PER study to widen runway 17/35 (NEPA).

Carlton Landing Field - \$220,171 for runway pavement rehabilitation, obstruction removal, and lighting installation.

Carlton Landing Field - \$773,033 to construct taxilanes and partial perimeter fence.

Chandler Regional Airport - \$163,649 to construct parallel taxiway.

Chattanooga Sky Harbor Airport - \$472,012 to rehabilitate runway (crack seal and seal coat) and install runway lights.

Chickasha Municipal Airport - \$450,024 to rehabilitate runway lighting, PAPIs, beacon, and signage.

Christman Airfield (Okeene) - \$25,649 to rehabilitate runway 17/35 pavement and lighting.

Cordell Municipal - \$38,702 to rehabilitate runway 17/35 and install vertical/visual guidance system.

Fairview Municipal Airport - \$8,800 for PER study to construct taxiway.

Fountainhead Lodge Airport (Eufaula) - \$21,202 to rehabilitate apron and runway 18/36.

Lawton-Ft. Sill Regional Airport - \$500,000 for construction of new terminal building.

McCurtain County Regional Airport (Idabel) - \$8,500 for PER study to rehabilitate runway 02/20.

McCurtain County Regional Airport (Idabel) - \$178,523 to rehabilitate AWOS.

Okmulgee Regional Airport - \$454,530 to rehabilitate runway and parallel taxiway pavements.

Richard Lloyd Jones Jr. Airport (Tulsa) - \$125,251 to rehabilitate secondary runway 1R/19L and connecting taxiways.

Scott Field Airport (Mangum) - \$209,765 to rehabilitate runway, taxiway, and apron pavement.

South Grand Lake Regional Airport - \$7,850 for PER study to construct taxiway.

South Grand Lake Regional Airport - \$229,032 to widen and rehabilitate runway.

Thomas P. Stafford Airport (Weatherford) - \$129,861 to rehabilitate AWOS.

Tulsa International Airport - \$300,000 for Airport Facilities Terminal Integrated Laboratory (AFTIL) study by the FAA.

University of Oklahoma Max Westheimer Airport (Norman) - \$279,840 to rehabilitate parallel taxiway systems for runway 18/36.

Watonga Regional Airport - \$8,368 for PER study to rehabilitate runway 17/35.

Waynoka - \$68,419 to Rehabilitate Runway, taxiway, and apron pavements.

Wiley Post Airport (OKC) - \$29,201 to install new LED lights and signs and rehabilitation of pavement on taxiways east of taxiway A.

AIRPORT CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS FOR FY2020



Airport Name	Project Description	Federal Share	State Share	Local Share
Ada Regional	Acquire Land For Approaches	\$75,704		\$8,412
Alva Regional	Install ODALS		\$255,028	\$13,424
Antlers Municipal	Improve Airport Drainage, Install Runway Lighting - 17/35, Install Runway Vertical/Visual Guidance System - 17/35, Remove Obstructions	\$238,348		\$26,483
Antlers Municipal	500' Runway Extension		\$408,988	\$21,527
Ardmore Downtown Executive	Install Runway Lighting - 17/35, Rehabilitate Runway - 17/35	\$134,910		\$14,990
Ardmore Municipal	Phase II - Taxiway A reconstruction to connect the north end of A to RY 13	\$3,798,312	\$211,017	\$211,018
Atoka Municipal	New LED MIRLS & LED PAPI's		\$230,891	\$12,153
Atoka Municipal	Rehabilitate Runway - 18/36	\$312,399		\$34,711
Blackwell-Tonkawa Municipal	PER: Widen Runway 17/35 (NEPA)	\$76,401	\$8,489	
Carlton Landing Field	Runway, Taxiway, and Apron Pavement rehabilitation; obstruction removal, lighting installation	\$299,999	\$220,171	
Carlton Landing Field	Construct Taxilanes and Partial Perimeter Fence		\$773,033	
Chandler Regional	Constructing parallel taxiway	\$2,945,691	\$163,649	\$163,650
Chattanooga Sky Harbor	Rehabilitate Runway (crack seal & seal coat) and Install Runway Lights		\$472,012	\$24,843
Cherokee Municipal	Rehabilitate Runway - 17/35	\$537,957		\$59,773
Chickasha Municipal	Construct Apron, Construct Taxiway	\$483,231		\$53,692
Chickasha Municipal	Rehabilitate Runway lighting, PAPIs, beacon, & signage		\$450,024	\$26,686
Christman Airfield (Okeene)	Rehabilitate Runway [Multi-Year Funding] - 17/35, Rehabilitate Runway Lighting - 17/35	\$299,999	\$25,646	\$34,684
Clarence E. Page	Conduct Miscellaneous Study	\$35,728		\$8,970
Cleveland Municipal	Rehabilitate Apron, Rehabilitate Runway [Multi-Year Funding] - 18/36, Remove Obstructions	\$299,999		\$33,333
Clinton-Sherman	Rehabilitate Apron [Multi-Year Funding], Rehabilitate Runway [Multi-Year Funding] - 17R/35L	\$299,999		\$33,333
Cordell Municipal	Install Runway Vertical/Visual Guidance System - 17/35, Rehabilitate Runway - 17/35	\$299,999	\$38,702	\$35,372
Cushing Municipal	Rehabilitate Taxiway	\$48,600		\$5,400
Eufala Municipal	Construct Fuel Farm	\$330,007		\$36,667
Fairview Municipal	PER: Parellel Taxiway	\$79,200	\$8,800	

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AIRPORT CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS FOR FY2020



Airport Name	Project Description	Federal Share	State Share	Local Share
Fairview Municipal	Rehabilitate Runway Lighting - 17/35	\$227,583		\$25,287
Fountainhead Lodge Airport (Eufala)	Rehabilitate Apron, Runway 18/36 [Multi-year FAA Funding]	\$190,812	\$21,202	
Frederick Regional	Rehabilitate Taxiway	\$594,462		\$62,740
Gage	Rehabilitate Runway [Multi-Year Funding] - 17/35	\$299,999		\$33,333
Grandfield Municipal	Improve Airport Drainage, Rehabilitate Runway - 17/35, Rehabilitate Runway Lighting - 17/35	\$594,462		\$66,051
Guthrie-Edmond Regional	Rehabilitate Apron	\$60,390		\$6,710
Halliburton Field (Duncan)	Rehabilitate Taxiway Lighting	\$481,027		\$53,447
Healdton Municipal	Rehabilitate Apron, Rehabilitate Runway - 17/35, Remove Obstructions [Non-Hazard]	\$299,999		\$33,333
Hefner-Easley (Wagoner)	Install Runway Vertical/Visual Guidance - 18/36	\$133,893		\$14,877
Hobart Regional	Rehabilitate Taxiway	\$442,856		\$49,206
Holdenville Municipal	Install Runway Lighting - 17/35	\$260,626		\$28,958
Hominy Municipal	Rehabilitate Apron, Rehabilitate Runway - 17/35, Remove Obstructions	\$299,999		\$33,333
Hooker Municipal	Reconstruct Apron	\$444,685		\$49,409
Jones Memorial (Bristow)	Reconstruct Taxiway	\$194,040		\$21,560
Lawton-Fort Sill Regional	Construction of new terminal building	\$12,600,000	\$500,000	\$3,400,000
Lawton-Fort Sill Regional	Expand Terminal, Install Emergency Generator	\$785,511		\$87,279
Lindsay Municipal	Install Runway Vertical/Visual Guidance System - 01/19, Rehabilitate Runway Lighting - 01/19, Remove Obstructions	\$299,999		\$33,333
Madill Municipal	Construct Taxiway	\$540,103		\$60,011
McCurtain County Regional (Idabel)	PER: Rehabilitate Runway Pavement	\$76,500	\$8,500	
McCurtain County Regional (Idabel)	Rehabilitate AWOS		\$178,523	\$9,396
Medford Municipal	Rehabilitate Taxiway	\$301,811		\$33,535
Mignon Laird Municipal (Cheyenne)	Rehabilitate Apron, Rehabilitate Runway - 18/36, Rehabilitate Runway Lighting - 18/36		\$299,999	\$33,333
Mooreland Municipal	Rehabilitate Runway - 17/35	\$318,173		\$35,353
Okemah Municipal	Rehabilitate Apron [Multi-Year Funding], Rehabilitate Runway [Multi-Year Funding] - 18/36	\$299,999		\$33,333
Okmulgee Regional	Rehabilitation of the runway and parallel taxiway system pavements	\$77,211	\$454,530	\$32,502
Perry Municipal	Improve Airport Drainage, Improve Fuel Farm	\$56,700		\$6,300

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AIRPORT CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS FOR FY2020



Airport Name	Project Description	Federal Share	State Share	Local Share
Ponca City Regional	Rehabilitate Runway - 17/35	\$424,456		\$47,162
Prague Municipal	Construct Taxiway	\$420,737		\$46,749
Purcell Municipal - Steven E Shephard Field	Reconstruct Apron	\$55,620		\$6,180
Richard Lloyd Jones Jr (Tulsa)	Rehabilitation of secondary RY 1R/19L and connecting taxiways	\$2,254,515	\$125,251	\$126,434
Sayre Municipal	Install Runway Vertical/Visual Guidance System - 17/35	\$110,499		\$12,278
Scott Field (Mangum)	Install Runway Vertical/Visual Guidance System - 17/35, Rehabilitate Apron, Rehabilitate Runway - 17/35, Rehabilitate Runway Lighting - 17/35	\$299,765		\$33,333
Scott Field (Mangum)	Rehabilitate Runway, Taxiway, & apron pavement		\$209,765	\$11,041
Skiatook Municipal	Install Taxiway Lighting	\$231,228		\$25,692
South Grand Lake Regional	PER: Construct Taxiway	\$70,650	\$7,850	
South Grand Lake Regional	Widening and rehabilitating RY	\$4,122,572	\$229,032	\$229,032
Stillwater Regional	Reconstruct Apron	\$5,200,000		\$577,778
Tahlequah Municipal	Install Taxiway Lighting	\$107,100		\$11,900
Talihina Municipal	Install Airport Beacons, Install Miscellaneous NAVAIDS [Multi-Year Funding], Remove Obstructions [Non-Hazard] [Multi-Year Funding]	\$299,999		\$33,333
Thomas Stafford (Weatherford)	Construct Fuel Farm	\$317,772		\$35,308
Thomas Stafford (Weatherford)	Rehabilitate AWOS		\$129,861	\$6,835
Tishomingo Airpark	Rehabilitate Runway [Multi-Year Funding] - 17/35, Remove Obstructions [Non-Hazard]	\$299,999		\$33,333
Tulsa International	Rehabilitate Runway - 18R/36L	\$224,190		\$24,910
Tulsa International	AFTIL study by the FAA		\$300,000	\$139,000
Univ. of Ok. Westheimer	Rehabilitation of parallel taxiway for RY 18/36	\$5,124,230	\$279,840	\$279,842
Watonga Regional	PER: Rehabilitate Runway 17/35	\$75,312	\$8,368	
Waynoka Municipal	Rehabilitate Runway [Multi-Year Funding] - 17/35	\$299,999	\$68,149	\$36,935
Wilburton Municipal	Reconstruct Apron	\$523,500		\$58,167
Wiley Post (OKC)	Intallation of new LED lights and signs and rehabilitation pavement on taxiways east of TY A	\$525,613	\$29,201	\$29,201
Will Rogers World (OKC)	Rehabilitate Access Road	\$2,729,223		\$303,247
Will Rogers World (OKC)	Reconstruct Apron	\$3,467,708		\$385,301
Will Rogers World (OKC)	Rehabilitate Access Road	\$1,842,903		\$204,767
Will Rogers World (OKC)	Acquire Snow Removal Equipment	\$902,307		\$100,256
William R Pogue Municipal (Sand Springs)	Improve Airport Drainage	\$40,653		\$4,517
TOTAL		\$60,862,579	\$5,816,792	\$7,912,302

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AEROSPACE & AVIATION EDUCATION

A priority for the Aeronautics Commission is encouraging Oklahoma's young people to pursue careers in the aviation and aerospace industry. This is mostly accomplished through the awarding of aerospace and aviation education grants and contracts to various programs and entities across the state. Since FY2001, it has provided \$3.8 million in aerospace and education funding to organizations and programs throughout the state. Just within the last 5 years alone, the Commission has awarded over \$1.4 million in education grants and contracts to several worthwhile programs designed to expose students to the wonders of flight and to STEM education. Financial support for these programs is crucial if Oklahoma's aviation and aerospace industry is to continue to flourish. Developing a pipeline of competent, well-trained workers is critical for the industry's continued growth and viability.

AEROSPACE & AVIATION EDUCATION FUNDING RECIPIENTS FOR FY2020

- **ADA CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT** - The goal of "The Sky is Not the Limit" was a district-wide aviation program to build skills in STEM and to ensure students obtained careers in the field of aviation. The students within the Ada School District participated in hands-on activities and flight simulation at the aviation lab on the campus of Ada High School. 2,650 students participated and the amount awarded was \$23,000.
- **AIR FORCE ASSOCIATION** - AFA CyberCamps were designed for middle and high school students interested in cybersecurity. The camps were for all types of students eager to learn more about cybersecurity. This beginners/advanced approach to STEM encouraged young students to pursue careers that are critical to protecting our Nation's future. 60 students participated and the amount awarded was \$2,000.
- **ALVA HIGH SCHOOL** - The goal of the program was to implement project-based learning to empower students to learn more about the aviation/aerospace industry. Students studied the history of flight, principles of flight, prepared for the FAA Remote Pilot Certificate, and learned about aircraft accident investigation. 20 students participated and the amount awarded was \$2,500.
- **ATOKA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL** - Through a partnership with Spartan Aviation, Atoka Elementary used a variety of hands-on activities, industry focused field trips, guest speakers, and a borrowed flight simulator to introduce the fundamentals of flight. 420 students participated and the amount awarded was \$2,500.
- **BLACKWELL PUBLIC LIBRARY** - The Makerspace program gave young people an increased knowledge of flight and rocketry through their Summer program "A Universe of Stories." Students learned about the aviation industry as well as principles of physics, astronomy, physical science, chemistry, math, technology, and engineering through hands-on STEM activities. Activities were derived from NASA, Star-Net Libraries, ISS Education, and more! 50 students participated and the amount awarded was \$2,308.
- **BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA ARBUCKLE AREA COUNCIL** - The goal of the Aviation Merit Badge program was to introduce Scouts to aviation and the aviation industry, including: history of aviation, four basic forces of flight, aircraft systems, instrumentation, communication, and navigation, aviation facilities, and careers in aviation. 300 students participated and the amount awarded was \$1,162.
- **CACHE PUBLIC SCHOOLS** - Cache 5th and 6th Grade Center were educated using the Civil Air Patrol and Aerospace Education curriculum. Students were introduced to flight simulators where they will explore the fundamentals of flight. Students then use their understanding of aerodynamics to construct a remote control model plane. 140 students participated and the amount awarded was \$2,700.
- **CAMERON UNIVERSITY** - The Department of Chemistry, Physics & Engineering hosted a 5-day summer science academy for middle school girls. The goal of the academy was to introduce the principles of aerospace engineering, rocket design, and robotics required for STEM and aerospace careers. 12 students participated and the amount awarded was \$1,120.
- **CITY OF ALTUS** - The Altus Aviation Camp was a program intended to teach aviation basics through STEM education. This program focused on rocketry, aerodynamics, lift theory, and aircraft design and control. The amount awarded was \$2,000.
- **ELK CITY MIDDLE SCHOOL** - Elk City Middle School teachers are working to expose children to the aviation/aerospace field. This program includes the learning of fundamental flight principles and the piloting of drones. The amount awarded was \$4,900.

- ENID PUBLIC SCHOOLS - EPS is committed to expanding STEAM for students. In the 2019-2020 school year, EPS implemented a district-wide aerospace Project Based Learning project event for 4th and 5th graders in a rocket design and flight competition. The students also designed and create mission patches. The amount awarded was \$7,810.
- FOR INSPIRATION AND RECOGNITION OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY (FIRST) ROBOTICS - FIRST uses robotics to inspire youth in STEM. The goal was to have students build base knowledge and life skills to carry into higher education and careers to include aerospace engineering. This year's theme was Deep Space and robots to deal with Deep Space activities. The amount awarded was \$7,500.
- GIRL SCOUTS OF WESTERN OKLAHOMA - This program took place in three different ways; a 6-week program targeting at-risk population of 300 girls, a special Day Camp opportunity for girls with a high interest in aviation and aerospace careers, and a large-scale effort to support adult volunteers statewide in facilitating aviation and aerospace programming for members of their troops. 950 students participated and the amount awarded was \$15,000.
- GUTHRIE EDMOND REGIONAL AIRPORT - Students explored the four forces of flight by building paper airplanes/styrogliders and rockets. Other activities were geared towards aviation careers in crop dusting, aircraft mechanic, ATC, and airport operations managers. GOK also be a hosted a flight camp in the Summer of 2020. Approximately 150 students participated and the amount awarded: was \$1,500.
- KISS INSTITUTE FOR PRACTICAL ROBOTICS - As part of a team, students worked in STEM and computer programming and engineering which gave them practice in the real life skills of project management, documentation and presentation, and systems engineering. The amount awarded was \$10,500.
- MCALESTER HIGH SCHOOL McAlester High School's Aerospace Engineering class prepared students to take the Private Pilot and Part 107 Remote Pilot certification written test by exposing them to regorous course work. Amount awarded: \$5,000.
- MERRITT PUBLIC SCHOOL The Up, Up, and Away program incorporated STEM with reading and social studies and included building and launching rockets, tour of the Stafford Air and Space Museum, and lessons on the history of aviation and space flight. Amount awarded: \$1,275.
- METRO TECHNOLOGY CENTERS/FAA - The goal of the Aviation Career Exploration (ACE) camp is to expose 7th and 8th grade students to careers available within the aerospace industry. Using a STEM curriculum, students will gain an understanding of the history of aviation and aerospace, learn how to identify the various parts of an airplane, and be provided an orientation flight to experience the principles of flight first-hand. Amount awarded: \$13,250.
- NEWSPAPER IN EDUCATION - Soaring Oklahoma: Aerospace and Defense program - Eight lesson plans published digitally and in The Oklahoman Newspaper, delivered in classroom sets to registered teachers. Amount awarded: \$5,000.
- OKBESTROBOTICS-OKBestRobotics was a volunteer organization that seeks to encourage middle school and high school aged students to consider careers in STEM. Students will be required to give oral and written presentations alongside keeping engineering notebooks about their robots. Amount awarded: \$1,500
- OK CAREERTECH FOUNDATION - OEIP is a STEM-based initiative designed to connect educators to industry creating a better educated, trained, and motivated workforce. There were four OEIP sites located in technology centers across the state with three primary focus being the aerospace industry. Amount awarded: \$5,000
- OKLAHOMA ENGINEERING FOUNDATION - The OEF Engineering Fair introduced students to the world of engineering, project management, innovation, and robotics; all fundamental elements of aviation education. Through unique competitions, students were given the opportunity to build, create, innovate, and engineer projects—putting hands-on experiences within their grasps. Amount awarded: \$5,000
- OKLAHOMA SCHOOL OF SCIENCE & MATH- The existing OSSM Workshop program is looking to expand their four one-day Math Workshops and three one-day Science Workshops to include four additional one-day workshops focusing on STEM careers in aviation/aerospace industries in Oklahoma. Amount awarded: \$1,500.
- OKLAHOMA SCIENCE & ENGINEERING FOUNDATION- Students explored a variety of subject areas, INTO ORBIT, which explores the challenges of living and working in outer space. As they developed their robot designs, students learned new skills in structural design, mechanical design, geometry, motion, stability, time management, programming, and math. Amount awarded: \$5,000.
- OK STATE UNIVERSITY SPEEDFEST - Speedfest had its 10th year in their high-speed aircraft design/build/fly competition intended to foster enthusiasm for aviation and STEM. There were two flight competition classes: Alpha Class is the Advanced class which is for collegiate-level teams. India Class is the Invitational class which consists of high school teams, and teams of K-12 teachers formed from across the state. Amount awarded: \$5,000.

- OKLAHOMA WONDERTORIUM- Oklahoma WONDERtorium, a not-for-profit, private children's museum incorporated hands-on activities and experiments to excite children about the world of aviation. The project was inspired by the new \$90k NASA-endorsed exhibit, "Sun, Earth, Universe." Amount awarded: \$6,700.
- OKMULGEE PUBLIC SCHOOLS- Project Flight integrated all subject areas in grades 5-7 through an interdisciplinary approach to STEM concepts. Key features included a kick-off with a Teaching & Learning Academy for teachers, hobby kits for rockets, helicopters, airplanes, and drones, STEM learning activities and research projects, and culminating in an annual Career and Flight Fair. Amount awarded: \$5,630.
- PONCA CITY REGIONAL AIRPORT - Northern Oklahoma Flight Academy's (NOFA) 17th annual summer aviation and aerospace education camp for middle and high school students was established on sound STEM concepts and hands-on interactive education. Amount awarded: \$10,200.
- PUTNAM CITY HIGH SCHOOL - Honors Aviation was a curriculum-based, hands-on experience designed to foster working in an aviation career field. Students studied classroom based curriculum with the Air Force Civil Air Patrol, EAA Young Eagles, Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association (AOPA), and local Air Force bases to get hands-on flying experience and simulator usage. Amount awarded: \$12,000.
- ROSE STATE COLLEGE - The goal of the 11th Annual Summer Aerospace Discovery Camp program exposed students to the excitement of a career in aeronautics. This included learning about the history of flight, drones, classroom learning and lab experiences. This program also exposed them to the educational route to those careers through pursuing studies in STEM. Amount awarded: \$12,020.
- SAND SPRINGS PUBLIC SCHOOLS - This grant was used to teach aviation and aerospace concepts to high school students. Students learned how to manipulate, maneuver, program, and fly drones in the class. Once skills have been mastered they will qualify for obstacle course competitions. The curriculum starts at a ninth grade level and can be pursued through twelfth grade. The 9th grade curriculum gives students a foundation for aviation. Amount awarded: \$2,000.
- SOUTHEASTERN OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY – TAKE FLIGHT! - STake Flight Aviation Science Camp - Curriculum/Subject areas continue to focus on various aspects of Aeronautics and Aviation. Those will include: Aerodynamics, design and performance, navigation, and weather. The campers will also learn about career paths in Aeronautics, dealing with the details of manned flight and/or aircraft design. Amount awarded: \$6,500.
- STARBASE OKLAHOMA - Operation: Flying with STEM - Provide hands-on, inquiry-based Aerospace STEM educational enrichment programs to 4,500 Oklahoma students through traditional STARBASE curriculum providing 25 hours of instruction and additional Career Day on the military installation, as well as to 6th-8th grade students via STARBASE 2.0, an after school STEM mentoring program. Amount awarded: \$25,000.
- TULSA COMMUNITY COLLEGE - To increase the number of women in Oklahoma pursuing higher education in STEM with an emphasis in aviation and aerospace career fields TCC is proposing a "Girls in Aviation Day." The anticipated outreach is 200 young women ages 8-18. They will be introduced to Tulsa Aviation and Aerospace businesses and Oklahoma industry leaders. TCC's aircraft and flight simulators will be used for flight training activities and some introductory flights. Amount awarded: \$2,030.
- TULSA COMMUNITY WORKADVANCE - Tulsa Community WorkAdvance (TCW) is a unique program that is proven to bridge the skills gap in Tulsa's aerospace and advanced manufacturing sectors. We provide short-term, customized technical training and extensive soft skills training to underserved Tulsans so they can start new careers in high-demand industries like advanced manufacturing and aerospace. Amount awarded: \$15,930.
- TULSA REGIONAL STEM ALLIANCE - TThe dynamic mesh network of business, higher education, k-12 schools, organizations, government, and community agencies TRSA can introduce students to innovative STEM pathways to high-impact careers. TRSA facilitates 28 schools across Oklahoma with elementary students designing, building, and flying their own kites, and offering hands-on experiences at Tulsa Community College for high school students. Amount awarded: \$5,000.
- UNIVERSITY CENTER AT PONCA CITY FOUNDATION The LEGO Space Challenge will take STEM related academics to new heights with a 12 week after-school program and a 2 week long summer camp. Students will engage in various space, aerospace, and aviation related challenges. Using a LEGO robotic kit and their gained knowledge of flight, students will engineer different designs for their robotic bases to solve creative challenges. Amount awarded: \$5,000.
- UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA SOONER FLIGHT ACADEMY - OU Sooner Flight Academy provides opportunities for learners of all ages to develop a love for aviation, to learn about STEM in flight. Amount awarded: \$46,000.
- WILBURTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS - Students will meet weekly after school for 20 weeks during the school year to use a flight simulator to learn the basics of flight, cockpit instrumentation, navigation, and basic radio use. Amount awarded: \$3,200.

2020 STATE AVIATION ART CONTEST WINNERS ANNOUNCED

The Oklahoma Aeronautics Commission announced the names of twelve students that placed in the Oklahoma 2020 International Aviation & Aerospace Art Contest.

The state-level contest, sponsored by the Aeronautics Commission, encourages youth, ages 6 to 17, to reflect on aviation and aerospace by designing a piece of art based on the year's chosen theme. The contest theme was "Flying, Yesterday and Tomorrow."

The entries for 2020 accounted for 956 works of art representing 84 schools across the state. "The annual Oklahoma Aviation Art Contest is critical to stimulating aviation interest among young minds. If we can reach them at the earliest of ages, we can guide them into STEM based education and aviation and aerospace careers," said former Aeronautics Director, Victor Bird.

In the Junior Division, ages 6 to 9, Grace Huang, from Truman Primary School in Norman, took home first prize. This year's second-place winner was Emma Newsom from Maryetta School in Stilwell, while third place went to Chloe Childs from Community Christian School in Norman. Kinsley Porter received an honorable mention from the judges and is a student at Bridge Creek Intermediate School.

Dory Monks from Yukon, a student at Lakeview Elementary School took top honors in the Intermediate Division, ages 10-13. Taking second was Brooklyn Torres from Purcell Junior High, while Sophia Zhao, from Roosevelt Elementary School in Norman, placed third. Receiving an Honorable Mention in the division was Faith Lawson, from Ada Junior High.

Brock Bailey, a homeschooled student from Collinsville finished atop the Senior Division, ages 14-17, followed by Frederica Belloni, a student at Enid High School. Leslie Marquez from Guymon High School, took third. Ella Bolander also from Guymon High School received an honorable mention in the division.

First-place winners in each of the three age categories receive \$200, while the second-place winners receive \$150. A cash prize of \$100 is presented to students who place third, and honorable mention will receive \$50.

The top three entries in each age division are forwarded to Washington, D.C., where they compete nationally against other winners from the U.S. for the right to advance to the international competition.



In the Junior Division, ages 6 to 9, Grace Huang, from Truman Primary School in Norman, took home first prize.



Dory Monks from Yukon, a student at Lakeview Elementary School took top honors in the Intermediate Division, ages 10-13.

CITY OF BRISTOW SOARS TO NEW HEIGHTS WITH THE EXPANSION OF JONES MEMORIAL AIRPORT



BRISTOW, Okla. (June 26, 2020) — The Jones Memorial Airport in Bristow, OK, in coordination with the City of Bristow, hosted a ribbon-cutting ceremony on Friday, June 26 in honor of the airport's brand new 4,000-foot runway. The \$3.9 million project began construction in 2018 to improve the safety and standards issues with the existing runway and recently saw its completion.

"Today is a significant milestone on our journey to becoming a fly-to state instead of a flyover state," Gov. Kevin Stitt said. "Oklahoma is catching the eye of the nation as we continue to create new jobs, diversify our economy, generate innovative solutions and become a Top Ten state. In numerous national studies, company after company lists close access to a public general aviation airport as one of the top reasons they locate, stay and grow their business in a community. The Bristow airport, with its new 4,000-foot runway, will serve as a magnet to companies around the country."

This momentous ribbon-cutting established the beginning of a new decade for the City of Bristow, allowing it to fly full speed toward the future. Those who were lucky enough to attend the ceremony received a first-class ticket to watch history in the making for the Bristow community, taking a piece of the ribbon with them – both figuratively and literally.

"A new runway in Bristow isn't just going to benefit the local economy here, but it will benefit the entire region," U.S. Senator Jim Inhofe said. "We've invested nearly \$4 million on this project through a local, state and federal partnership, but that's a worthy investment given the airport's annual economic impact of \$7.2 million. Furthermore, this project is bringing additional investments here at Bristow – a new fuel system and a new terminal building are already in the works. As the last pilot to land on the runway before the groundbreaking two years ago and the first one on the new runway today, I can't wait to see the new opportunities this runway brings to Northeast Oklahoma."

Sen. Inhofe piloted the first aircraft to land on the new runway. He was joined by several speakers throughout the ceremony including Lt. Gov. Matt Pinnell, Secretary of Transportation Tim Gatz, Secretary of Commerce Sean Kouplen, Bristow Mayor Rick Pinson and State Director of Aeronautics Victor Bird, among others. Upon a head-turning arrival, the American, Oklahoma and

City of Bristow flags were presented by Boy Scout Troop #571 of Bristow to kick off the ceremony as the Bristow High School Choir patriotically welcomed the speakers.

"The City of Bristow has truly transformed throughout the past 120 years," Bristow Mayor Rick Pinson said. "With a long history of supporting the entirety of Oklahoma behind them, this construction represents more than just a new and more expansive runway — it signifies growth and economic opportunity right here in Bristow."

The Jones Memorial Airport provides an annual economic impact of \$7.2 million and supports more than 70 direct and indirect jobs. Among those who use the airport are Phillips Pipeline Control, Riverside British Petroleum and its biggest tenant, Consolidated Turbine Specialists, who is a large investor of the airport and has plans to start its third expansion within the next year.

The growth of the Bristow community continues to expand with the presence of Irvine, California-based aerospace company, PAS MRO, that recently purchased land near the Jones Memorial Airport and will be attending the runway expansion ceremony. This company provides services in the fields of bearings, components, assemblies and controlled inspections servicing the aircraft, marine and groundpower industries and saw the benefits of expanding their partnerships in Bristow.

In 2015, in partnership with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), the Oklahoma Aeronautics Commission (OAC) began researching the economic impact associated with aviation and aerospace in Oklahoma. Upon their findings, and due largely in part to the existing runway's pressing safety concerns, it was decided that the Jones Memorial Airport was due for a new runway and through the FAA's Airport Improvement Program, was approved in partnership among the Federal, State and city governments.

With aerospace as Oklahoma's second-largest industry and because aviation is essential to the state's transportation network and economic ecosystems, the Jones Memorial Airport Runway Expansion is a significant part in moving the state's transportation efforts forward as Oklahoma airports continue supporting non-stop commercial airline and general aviation flights that connect businesses and residents to destinations throughout the nation.



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