

AIRPORT BEACON REPORT

Smith Reynolds Airport
February-May 2020



The Airport Beacon Report is published three times a year to improve the communication between the airport and its tenants with the community around it.

Final Community Meeting on Airport/Whitaker Park Area Plan will be Feb. 13



A planning meeting was held at Smith Reynolds Airport on Jan. 16.

There's one final community meeting left for the Smith Reynolds Airport/Whitaker Park Strategic Area Plan currently being developed by the City/County Planning Board.

The area plan encompasses 2,900 acres and includes businesses and neighborhoods adjacent to Smith Reynolds Airport and Whitaker Park. The final meeting will be held at the Smith Reynolds Airport terminal on Thursday, Feb. 13, from 6-7:30 p.m. Residents can drop by to review, discuss and comment on the draft strategic plan that will be presented to local officials for approval. Public hearings on the draft plan will be held before the City-County Planning Board and City Council in Spring 2020.

More than 100 people attended the public kickoff meeting for the plan held at Carver High School on Oct. 17, 2019. The kickoff meeting allowed citizens to give input on how future development at the airport and Whitaker Park can spur additional business growth in the area.

Discussion also centered on ways to improve the appearance of areas along Akron Drive and Liberty Street, which are the

main business corridors in the area. Resident suggestions included recruiting aviation-related companies, offering aviation-related work training programs, and adding trees, street lighting, sidewalks, bike lanes, and bus stations along Liberty Street and Akron Drive.

Close to 50 people attended the second community meeting for the plan held at the Hanes Hosiery Recreation Center. Residents discussed proposed economic development recommendations, including:

- Maximizing the benefits of Smith Reynolds Airport and Whitaker Park's proximity to Downtown and the Innovation Quarter.
- Making improvements to the airport and the surrounding area to become a better aesthetic gateway to Winston-Salem, particularly for air travelers.
- Recruiting aviation/aerospace-related businesses to Smith Reynolds Airport, Whitaker Park, Brookwood Business Park and nearby business areas.
- Cultivating the job skills of area residents of all ages.
- Informing existing business owners of available business assistance programs offered by local governments and agencies.

A third meeting was held at Smith Reynolds Airport on Jan. 16 to discuss revisions and additions to the economic development recommendations and to present final site development plans for possible streetscape and building improvements on Akron Drive and Liberty Street.

2 - Disaster Drill

Multiple agencies held a full scale disaster drill.

3 - Taxiway Q

New developments on the Taxiway Q project.

4 - Employment Opportunities

See who's hiring around Smith Reynolds Airport.



Successful disaster drill held November 9



The Airport's Crash Fire Rescue Truck puts out a fire on the Mobile Aircraft Rescue Fire Fighter Trainer.

Smith Reynolds Airport was part of a full scale disaster drill on November 9, that involved more than 250 first responders from numerous agencies.

The full-scale exercise simulated a terrorist attack at the airport that involved responding to a simulated aircraft fire and injured civilians portrayed by volunteer actors. It also involved a simulated hostage situation at Carver High School. Both Wake Forest Baptist and Forsyth Medical Center also participated.

Multiple city and county agencies came together for the exercise, including City/County Emergency Management,

Winston-Salem Police and Fire Departments, Forsyth County Fire Department, Emergency Services, Sheriff's Office and the Volunteer Fire Departments of Mineral Springs, Rural Hall, City View and Walkertown.

The exercise was part of a \$1.87 million homeland security grant to help prepare the region to respond to a complex, coordinated terrorist attack. The drill also met a certification requirement that the airport conduct a full-scale disaster drill every three years.



Santa Fly-In

On December 22, 2019, Santa made a special trip from the North Pole and landed on Runway 4-22 at Smith Reynolds Airport. For the past seven years, Santa has been visiting the Airport to meet children and spread Christmas joy. This free community event, which was started by a local pilot, has gotten bigger every year. For future Santa Fly-Ins, we encourage you to visit facebook.com/WSSantaFlyIn.



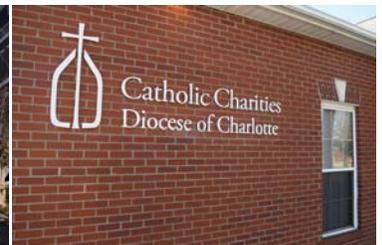
Harvested deer help feed local families

Meat from deer harvested at the airport was donated to Catholic Charities and Winston-Salem Rescue Mission.

Deer harvested from Smith Reynolds Airport by wildlife officers are helping feed families in need in Winston-Salem.

Professional wildlife officers harvested 21 deer from airport property that were sent to CravenDeer Processing in Asheboro. This produced 700 pounds of meat that went to Catholic Charities and Winston-Salem Rescue Mission, where it was used to feed those in need over the holidays.

Deer on the runway at Smith Reynolds Airport had



become a hazard, resulting in aircraft experiencing close calls or striking deer. Several months ago, the Winston-Salem City Council approved a change to the wildlife ordinance at Smith Reynolds Airport to allow wildlife officers to harvest deer at the airport as part of a plan to help alleviate the wildlife hazards. The plan also includes habitat management and repairs to breaches in the 5.9 miles of interior fence around the airport.

Project Update - Taxiway Q

Since the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) has determined that the existing parallel Taxiway A (Alpha) is too close to Runway 15-33 at Smith Reynolds Airport, the Airport Department along with other agency partners, have been working on a solution. To correct this safety concern, the FAA and the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) have provided the County with grant funding to conduct an environmental assessment and to determine a development plan.

Years ago, the Airport asked the FAA for a "modification to standard" to leave Taxiway Alpha in place instead of moving it to the other side of the Runway. The FAA said no, but since that time the FAA has reconsidered and is looking at an option that would move Taxiway Alpha about 30 feet to the west. Until we hear back on the modification to standard option, we are on hold with the design of



This photo shows the current condition of Runway 15-33.

Taxiway Q (Quebec) and the environmental assessment.

Taxiway Q is a new taxiway, which is proposed to be located on the east side of the current Runway 15-33. If that option is approved, there are 16 parcels that the Airport may need to purchase with FAA funding. Please be advised that the FAA, NCDOT, and Airport Department are looking at several options to improve safety and to minimize impacts on neighbors and the environment. If there are impacts, any remediation efforts would first be closely coordinated with the City, County, and State agencies so that all rules and requirements are followed prior to impacting or disturbing the project area. As the study progresses, project information will be made available and an advertised public meeting will be held to present information and any preliminary designs to keep you informed of the project's progress.

Construction continues on the Forsyth Tech Aviation Lab

As the ball was dropping on December 31, 2019 in Time Square, New York City, the Mazie S. Woodruff Aviation Technology Lab at Smith Reynolds Airport was approximately 52% completed. The new facility located at 2739 Aviation Drive, will be a two-story, 53,000 square foot building. At a cost of approximately \$16 million, it will have a 12,000 square foot airframe lab that can house up to eight aircraft along with classrooms and components labs that include sheet metal, composite structures like fiberglass and carbon fiber, avionics/electrical, paint, aircraft welding and piston/turbine engines. Students will be able to earn associate degrees in two programs of study: Aviation Systems Technology and Aviation Electronics (Avionics). If the weather continues to cooperate



with the construction crews, the facility is expected to be completed by Fall 2020.

The aviation lab will prepare students for jobs in the Maintenance Overhaul and Repair (MRO) industry. Currently, aerospace companies at Smith Reynolds Airport and around the state are searching for qualified candidates. North State Aviation (NSA) is one of the companies eager to hire graduates from the aviation lab. Since obtaining a new contract with United Airlines to work on B737s, NSA has been hiring a large number of employees. To promote the great employment opportunities, the County plans to partner with Carver High School to encourage students who live near the airport to enroll in the program.



Smith Reynolds Airport
3801 N. Liberty Street
Winston-Salem, NC 27105

Employment Opportunities

North State Aviation in Winston-Salem, NC is looking for experienced licensed **A&P Mechanics** and other positions. Please visit our website at nsamro.com for more details or email us at HR@nsamro.com.

EPES Transport is hiring truck drivers and other positions for regional opportunities. Visit epestransport.com for details.

Piedmont Propulsion in Winston-Salem, NC is looking for various positions. Please visit our website at piedmontpropulsion.com/careers/ for more details.

Love kids? Winston-Salem Forsyth County Schools is now hiring. **Full-time, Part-time & Substitute School Bus Drivers.** Visit wsfcs.k12.nc.us/Page/1188 for more info.

Take Offs & Landings at Smith Reynolds

1 month

December 2019 2,949
December 2018 2,806

12 month

44,956
44,971

Learn to Fly

Contact Piedmont Flight Training

"Most Experienced Flight School in North Carolina"

Visit flypft.com or contact 336-776-6070 or info@FlyPFT.com

Other County Resources in Your Area

Carver School Road Branch Library, 4915 Lansing Drive, offers a variety of programs and resources. For more information, visit forsyth.cc/library/Carver.

N.C. Cooperative Extension Forsyth County Center, 1450 Fairchild Road, offers resources and workshops related to farming, gardening and the 4-H youth program. Visit forsyth.cc/CES/ for details.



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