

Transportation Advisory Committee

Meeting date: July 27, 2026

Agenda Item #: 7 (Attachment E)

Airports and General Aviation in the Denver Region

Agenda item type: Informational briefing

Summary

Informational briefing on airport and general aviation in the Denver region. As critical components of Colorado's transportation system, airports support economic development, provide essential community connectivity, and serve key roles in emergency response activities, including wildfire suppression efforts.

Background

A primary objective of all transportation systems is the safe and efficient movement of people and goods. Transportation networks consist of two fundamental components: terminals (nodes) and routes (links). Airports serve as critical transportation terminals, connecting surface transportation networks with the national and global air transportation system. As such, airports must be recognized as essential elements of the broader multimodal transportation network.

Airports generate significant demand on surrounding roadways, intersections, highways, and transit systems. When these surface access facilities become constrained, impacts can occur not only for travelers, but also for airport employees, tenants, and businesses that depend on reliable airport access.

As critical components of Colorado's transportation system, airports support economic development, provide essential community connectivity, and serve key roles in emergency response activities, including wildfire suppression efforts. The Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) Division of Aeronautics provides education, technical assistance, and funding programs that help airports fulfill these important functions.

Within the Denver metropolitan region, Centennial Airport (APA) and Rocky Mountain Metropolitan Airport (BJC) are vital transportation assets. Centennial Airport is one of the busiest general aviation airports in the nation, providing critical access for business aviation, medical transport, flight training, and air cargo operations. Rocky Mountain Metropolitan Airport similarly serves as a key gateway to the region, connecting the Denver area to destinations across the country and around the world while supporting workforce development through aviation education and training programs.

Action by others

None.

Previous discussion/action

None.



Recommendation

None.

Attachment(s)

Staff presentation.

For more information

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