



Saratoga County Airport

Land Easement Acquisition Landowner Meeting Runway 14 End

January 11, 2016



McFarland Johnson

1. Purpose of Meeting
2. Overview of Environmental Assessment (EA) Process
3. Types of Acquisitions
4. FAA Requirements & Guidelines
5. Acquisition Process
6. Timing & EA Schedule
7. Break Out Session



Purpose of Meeting

- Inform Affected Landowners
- Provide Background Information on Proposed Acquisitions
- Provide Detailed Information
- Discuss Next Steps with Affected Landowners

A public informational meeting to discuss the EA in more detail will be held at a later date.



Environmental Assessment



Overview of EA

- Required under National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)
- Describes the Impacts of Action and Alternatives
- Sufficient Detail to Determine if Significant Impact
- Provide EA to Public for Review and Comment











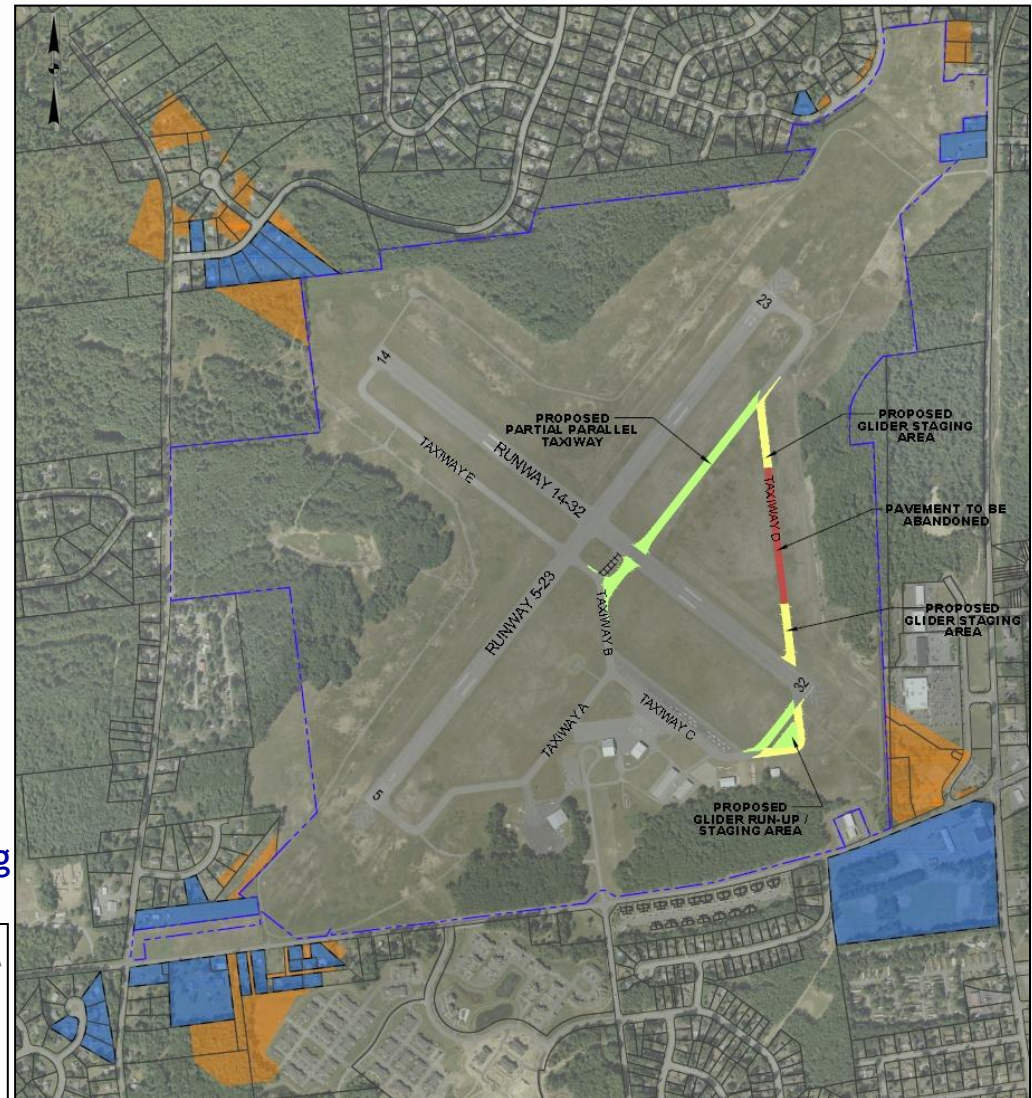
Contents of an EA

- **Purpose and Need:** Describes goals, objectives, and need for the project.
- **Alternatives:** Describes the alternatives considered for meeting the project objectives and the “do nothing” alternative.
- **Affected Environment:** Describes the existing conditions in the project area.
- **Environmental Consequences:** Analysis of impact categories.



- Land and/or Easement Acquisition
- Construction of Partial Parallel Taxiway
- Modifications to Taxiways C & D
- Establishment of Glider Staging Area
- Revisions to the Airport's Habitat Management Plan
- ❖ Runway extensions were NOT included in the Master Plan Update and are not being considered in the EA.

	PROPOSED AIRSIDE PAVEMENT
	PROPOSED GLIDER STAGING AREA
	TO BE ABANDONED
	TO BE REMOVED
	EXISTING AIRPORT PROPERTY
	EXISTING AIRPORT EASEMENT
	POTENTIAL AVIGATION EASEMENT ACQUISITION
	POTENTIAL AVIGATION EASEMENT ACQUISITION



EA Impact Categories

- Air Quality
- Climate
- Coastal Resources
- Construction Impacts
- Cultural Resources
- Cumulative Impacts
- Farmlands
- Floodplains
- Groundwater
- Land Use
- Light Emissions
- Natural Resources & Energy Supply
- Noise
- Section 4(f) (Recreation)
- Socioeconomic Impacts
- Solid & Hazardous Wastes
- Threatened & Endangered Species
- Visual Impacts
- Wetlands & Streams

*In accordance with FAA Order 1050.1F Environmental Impacts: Policies and Procedures & 5050.4B NEPA Implementing Instructions for Airport Actions



1. AVIGATION EASEMENT:

- Property right is acquired from landowner by County
- Protects the use of airspace above a specified height

2. FEE SIMPLE ACQUISITION:

- County purchase of property interests

3. ONE TIME ACCESS:

- One time access for tree topping/removal

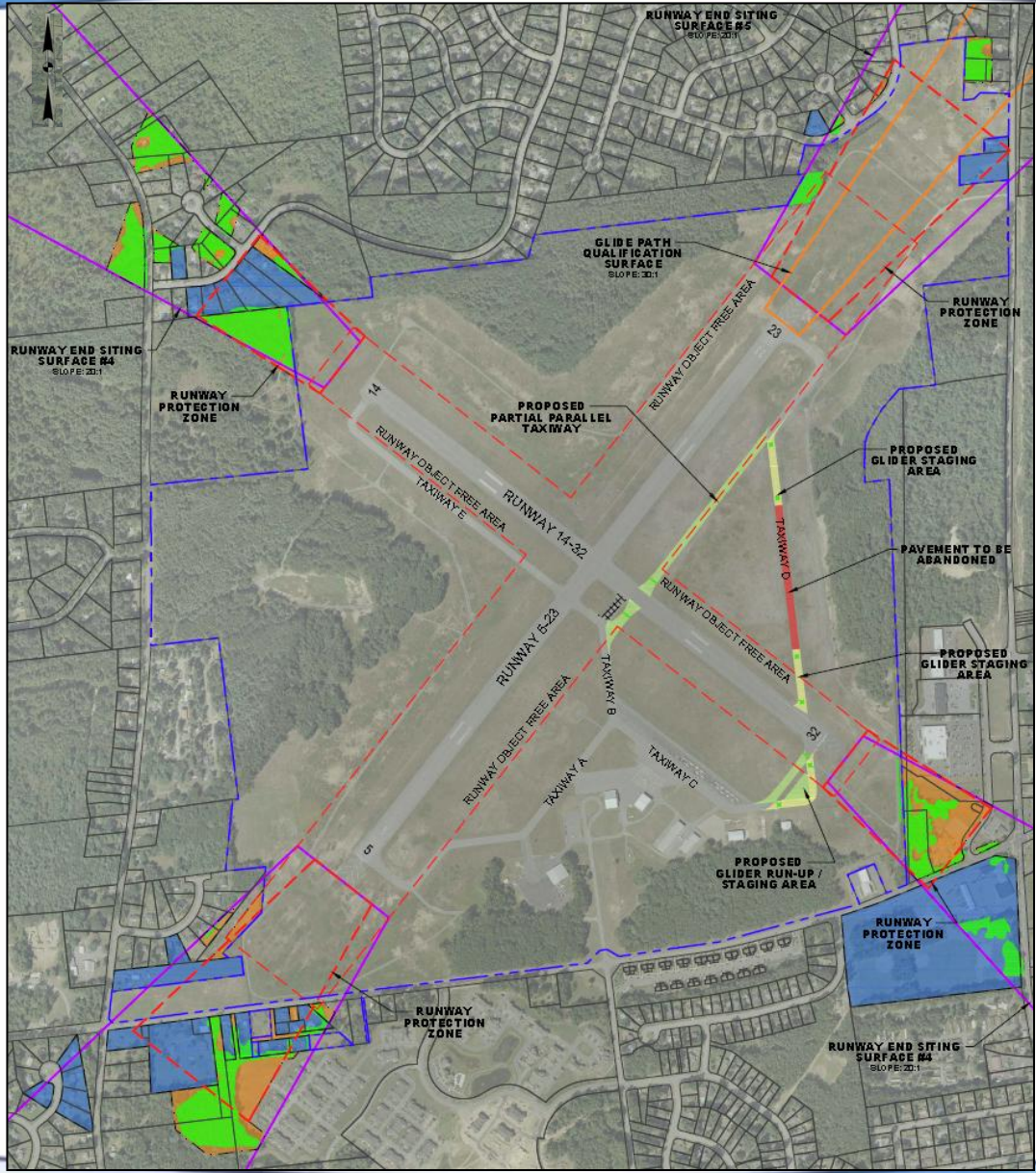
*Willing seller only acquisition; therefore, condemnation is NOT being considered unless there is a serious impact on airport operations.



What is the Purpose of the Land Acquisition?

- Comply with FAA Safety Standards:
 - Runway Protection Zone (RPZ)
 - Protect Airspace
 - Runway End Siting Surfaces (RESS)
- Comply with FAA Funding Requirements
- Improve the Safety of the Airport for Airport Users and the Surrounding Community.

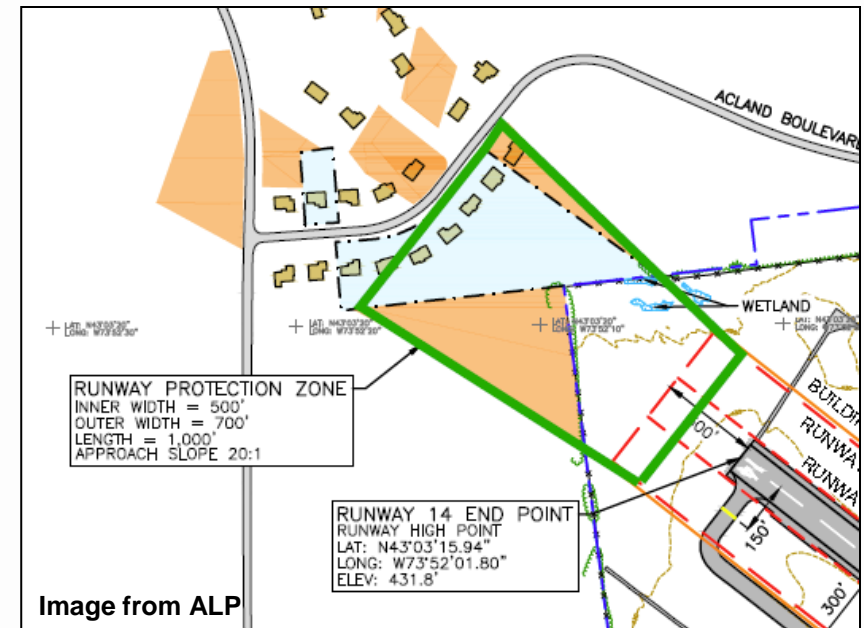




Why is Land Acquisition Needed?

Potential Land Acquisition Occurs Within:

- **Runway Protection Zone** - A trapezoidal two-dimensional surface off of each runway end.
- RPZ is intended to enhance the protection of people and property on the ground.
- FAA “expects airport sponsors to take all possible measures to protect against and remove or mitigate incompatible land uses”.
- RPZ dimensions are determined by the critical aircraft that uses the runway.

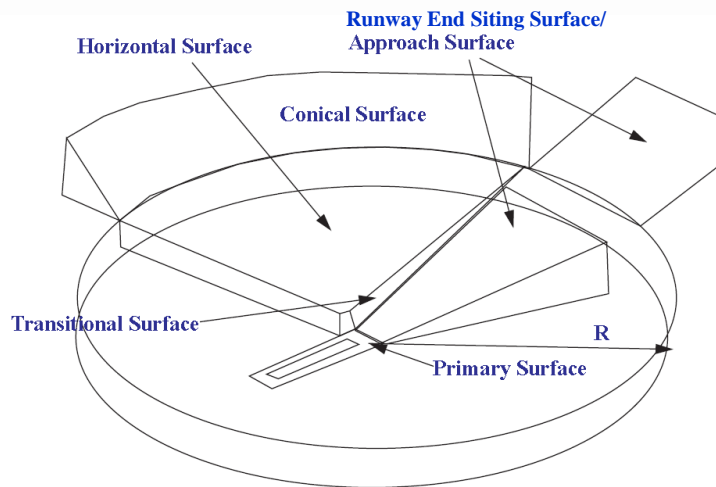


Why is Land Acquisition Needed?

- **Runway End Siting Surface** - A three-dimensional surface underlying the aircraft approach paths.
 - 20:1 slope (rises one foot vertically for every 20 feet horizontally)
 - Surface must be clear for nighttime approaches.
 - ❖ Identifies clearances for nighttime use of instrument approaches.



Runway 14 - Runway End Siting Surface



How were obstructions determined?

- ▶ Ground survey controlled aerial photography combined with 3D mapping of the airport
- ▶ Survey performed by Aero-Metric, Inc. in Summer 2012
- ▶ Tree canopy elevations were compared to airspace surface elevations
- ▶ Analysis identified objects/trees penetrating OR within 10' of the airspace surfaces



FAA's Role & Requirements

- FAA Authorizes Grant Funding for Airport Projects
- FAA Grant Assurances/Obligations States that the Airport will Assure Airspace Hazards are Removed or Otherwise Mitigated
- FAA Policy to Maintain the Operational Use of Established Runways
- Protect Runway Approaches for Safety Purposes
- Approach Surfaces Should be Kept Clear of Obstacles
- RPZ Standards Must be Met



FAA's Role & Requirements

- When penetrations to approach and departure surfaces are present, an obstruction action plan must be prepared.
- FAA Reviews/Approves:
 - Obstruction Evaluation (included in the MPU)
 - NEPA Review (Environmental Assessment)
- Applicable FAA Guidance:
 - Advisory Circular (AC) 150/5100-17 *Land Acquisition and Relocation Assistance for Airport Improvement Program Assisted Projects*
 - AC 150/5300 13A *Airport Design*
 - Order 5100.37 *Land Acquisition and Relocation for Airport Projects*
 - Order 5190.6B *FAA Airport Compliance Manual*
 - Interim Guidance on Land Uses Within a Runway Protection Zone - FAA Memo dated September 27,2012



1. NEPA

- Complete the NEPA Process

2. SURVEY

- Survey and Plat of Proposed Acquisition

3. APPRAISAL

- Fair Market Value Appraisal
- NYSDOT Review of Appraisal
- Phase I Environmental Site Assessment (Fee Acquisitions Only)

4. WRITTEN OFFER FROM COUNTY & NEGOTIATIONS

All acquisitions in accordance with:

- Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970
- AC 150/5100-17 *Land Acquisition and Relocation Assistance for Airport Improvement Program Assisted Projects*

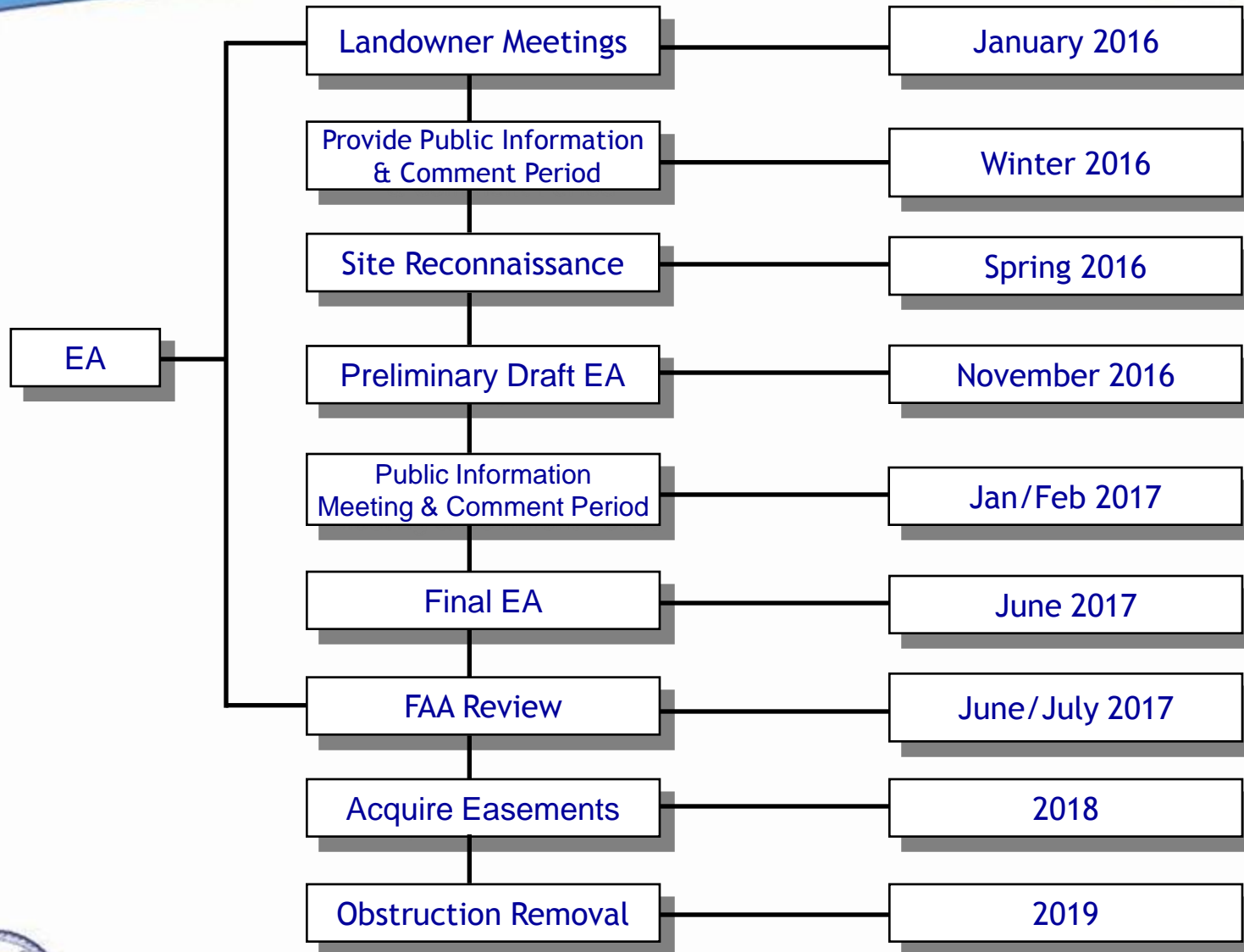


Easement Rights & Restrictions

- FAA “Land Acquisition for Public Airports” Brochure is Available
- Easement Language will be Tailored to the Specific Property
 - Places of public assembly or gatherings within a RPZ easement are not allowed.
 - Use property without allowing any structure or trees to penetrate the airspace surface or interfere with the movement of aircraft.



Schedule



- Continue EA Data Collection and Analysis
- Visual Site Reconnaissance of Properties by Permission
 - ❖ Permission Forms Available
- On-going Communication with Landowners



AFFECTED LANDOWNERS BREAK-OUT SESSION



Further Questions/Comments

Please Contact:

Aimee Rutledge
Project Manager
arutledge@mjinc.com

Michael Churchill
Sr. Airport Engineer
mchurchill@mjinc.com

Jeff Wood
Sr. Environmental Planner
jwood@mjinc.com

McFarland Johnson
60 Railroad Place, Suite 402
Saratoga Springs, NY 12866
(518) 580-9380
Email: SaratogaEA@mjinc.com

