

**Airport Master Plan Update Facts
Prepared by the
Chatham Airport Commission**

It is time to clarify the major issues regarding the facts and the process of the Chatham Airport Master Plan Update (AMPU). The AMPU is purely a planning document that looks at all aspects of the airport now and into the future as drafted by Gale Associates, engineering consultant to the Airport Commission.

The AMPU plan does **not**:

- Expand the runway or the physical size of the airport;
- Encourage or enable larger aircraft to use the airport;
- Change or expand airport operations for any type of aircraft;
- Allow or induce any aircraft to fly at a lower height or higher speed over people's homes;
- Increase the noise footprint over Chatham;
- In any way change the "Fly Friendly" program for noise reduction;
- Advise the taking of properties by eminent domain;
- Seek to have the town subsidize the airport, or change the funding method for Chatham mandated by the Grant Assurances as a federally funded airport;
- Have anything to do with skydiving or other permitted airport activities;
- Commit the Airport Commission or the Town to anything, as it is only a preliminary planning document.

The AMPU plan **does**:

- Review the adequacy of the airport's landside and airside facilities with respect to compliance with FAA design standards and Grant Assurances;
- Address the safety of the airport environment;
- Address the needs of the airport through the planning period, such as hangars, aircraft parking, administration building, approaches, etc.;
- Document environmentally sensitive areas and existing conditions (Ch. 3);
- Document the need for new or improved facilities to enhance safety, environmental friendliness, security, and to fill a possible demand for services. (Ch. 5);
- Provide for the exploration of modern GPS-based instrument approaches to improve safety and reduce noise. (Ch. 6);
- Provide for the exploration of a solar array on airport property for financial sustainability and to reduce the town's carbon footprint (Ch. 7);
- Address the airport's contribution to the local economy (Ch. 9);
- Provide an assessment of wildlife hazards in the environs of the airport;
- Provide for an Environmental Assessment to evaluate potential impacts of proposed actions identified in the AMPU on environmental resources and make recommendations for mitigation.

The AMPU will maintain the character of Chatham as a small airport that primarily serves recreational pilots, while improving safety and security for residents and aviators alike.