

Draft Environmental Impact Report / Environmental Assessment

The Martha's Vineyard Airport Commission has submitted a Draft Environmental Impact Report / Environmental Assessment (DEIR /EA) for the airport's Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) to the Secretary of Energy & Environmental Affairs and the Federal Aviation Administration. This will continue a review process of the above-referenced project pursuant to the Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act (MEPA) and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The Capital Improvement Plan is the airport's list of projects in the Airport Master Plan (ALP) that are proposed to be implemented over the next several years:

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| 1. Business Park Lots 34 and 38 | 4. Obstruction Removal/Vegetation Management (2023) | 7. Terminal Renovations (2028) |
| 2. Fuel Farm Improvements (2022) | 5. Taxiway Echo Reconstruction (2023) | 8. Aircraft Parking (2029) |
| 3. Hangar Development (2022) | 6. Runway 15-33 Reconstruction (2023) | 9. Access Road Improvements (2030) |

The Airport is required by the FAA to review their current and future aviation demands and make the necessary improvements to maintain a safe facility to serve the community. The first step is a Master Plan, which provides a blueprint for the future. The future plan is just that, a plan, and will only be implemented as warranted by actual activity. The recommendation contained in a Master Plan are contingent upon further environmental study and must be financially feasible. Capital Improvement Plan projects were identified through the previous Airport Master Plan (2016) and vetted through a public process

The definition of a successful master plan includes the following characteristics:

- * Financially feasible – the phasing of the plan's capital projects should be aligned with identified need and the ability to secure available funding
- * Environmentally compatible – the plan should minimize potential environmental impacts
- * Balanced – the plan should maintain a balance between airport development needs and community impacts
- * Technically sound – the plan should comply with Federal, State, and local requirements and it should be able to be constructed efficiently and cost effectively
- * Responsive – the plan should address the physical and operational needs of stakeholders
- * Flexible – the plan should consider changes in industry dynamics which will enable MVY to be responsive and continue to be self-sufficient.

The Notice of Project Change and DEIR/EA will be available on the airport's website at <https://mvyairport.com/>. On or before January 22, 2021, copies of the DEIR/EA may also be obtained from the Martha's Vineyard Airport – Administrative Offices at 71 Airport Road (508-693-7022) and may be viewed at Edgartown Public Library (26 West Tisbury Road) and the West Tisbury Library (1042 State Road).

The formal MEPA comment period begins on January 22, 2021. The Airport Commission has requested a 12-day extension of the comment period, until March 5, 2021. All persons wishing to formally comment on the project should write to the Secretary of Energy & Environmental Affairs, 100 Cambridge St., Suite 900, Boston, Massachusetts 02114, Attention: MEPA Office; or may comment via email at alexander.strysky@state.ma.us, referencing the above project. The airport will hold a virtual public meeting on the project on Tuesday February 23 at 4 PM. Information on how to attend and access the public meeting will be posted on the airport's website.