



LONGMONT MASTER PLAN

The master plan process is now complete and has been sent to the FAA for their approval of the process. So, what happens next? Once the FAA approves the process the airport will use the master plan as a guide for future development. In that sense, a master plan, much like a game plan for football which provides initial direction for how an airport will execute its development strategies in the coming years. But also, just like a game plan, nothing is set in stone and the master plan is designed to be flexible with the times and changing conditions.

The master plan provides a framework for airport development projects for the next 20 years. However, since no one really knows what will happen in 20 years, or even ten, the plan is designed to be modified, updated and changed to meet the needs of the airport and the Longmont community, on an annual basis. An airport master plan is essential in identifying which projects are eligible for federal funding, which projects may require environmental action, and which projects will best benefit the airport, the community and the national airspace system.

Every year the airport publishes a **Capital Improvement Plan**. This CIP is revised with the input of the airport operator, the State of Colorado and the Federal Aviation Administration. Just like a game plan, as we begin to move away from the master plan process itself, the CIP allows us to make adjustments based on the economic and financial realities and changing community demographics.

Although the master plan may identify certain projects to occur within certain time frames, that does not necessarily mean those timelines are set in stone. Every project must be approved by the Longmont City Council, and if it is to receive federal money, by the FAA.

The master plan process is essential to identifying what projects are eligible for federal money and to provide a periodic centering of where the airport is in relation to local, state, and national economies, the needs of the community and the needs of aviation users. A good master plan includes significant input from those that are affected by the airport including its users, business operators, and the surrounding community. This master plan received a tremendous amount of community feedback and included three open houses, plus public meetings. Now that it is complete, the airport will move forward to building its CIP and begin the process of developing the airport to meet the needs of the City of Longmont, the State of Colorado and the national airspace system.