

Hello! We are writing to give you a quick update on the St. Mary's Airport project. The project was originally intended to address lighting and resurfacing needs at St. Mary's airport, and has recently been revised to also include runway safety area improvements.

To best address all project and airport issues, we have formed a "St. Mary's team" comprised of staff from Planning, Design, M&O, Construction, and which includes an FAA representative as appropriate. We are working on an aviation forecast to determine the critical aircraft and design group of the St. Mary's airport. This will influence all further discussions and decisions about the configuration of the airport.

We'll work closely with the FAA so that they are aware of all airport uses, in addition to scheduled operations. HDL Engineering Consultants, LLC (HDL) will be working with the DOT&PF to collect relevant airport, user, and community data and develop the aviation and demographic forecast. It is possible that you may be called to give additional information about your experiences with the airport, and any concerns that you have had with the airport or its navigational aids, and how these experiences have affected aircraft operations.

Our goal is to fully document and support the needs of the St. Mary's community and to feasibly address runway safety areas at the airport, and safety issues associated with the lack of surface course and minimal runway safety areas. We have been working with M&O forces to bring in additional crushed surfacing under small M&O projects while we develop the capital project, so that operations may safely continue at the airport while we wait for the larger capital project.

We plan to come to St. Mary's in the early summer 2018 to host a public meeting on the project. Please keep an eye out for project notices. We also have a project website which will be updated from time to time as we move forward in the project: <http://dot.alaska.gov/nreg/stmarys/>

Meanwhile, if you have any questions or concerns about the project or its timeline, the **St. Mary's Team** members from Northern Region DOT&PF would love to hear from you.

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