



1.0 INTRODUCTION

The Greater Binghamton Airport (BGM), a publicly-owned, public-use, commercial service airport, serves the aviation needs of Broome County, Central New York, and portions of Northeastern Pennsylvania. The Broome County Department of Aviation, the airport sponsor, has initiated an Airport Master Plan Update for BGM in order to determine the airport's potential for serving the community and enhancing revenue, evaluate the needs of current and future airport users, and to identify specific opportunities for improving airport facilities.

Funding for the Airport Master Plan Update was raised by the Broome County Department of Aviation through Passenger Facility Charges collected at BGM. Passenger Facility Charges are fees placed on enplaned passengers at commercial airports controlled by public agencies. Airports use these fees to fund FAA approved projects including those that enhance safety, security, or capacity; reduce noise; increase air carrier competition; or assist in planning for future airport needs.

Airport planning is a process that needs to be addressed at most airports periodically and at fast growing airports constantly. This is typically accomplished through an update to the Airport Master Plan but could also include terminal, business, airspace or other specialty planning. The most recent Airport Master Plan, for BGM was prepared by McFarland-Johnson, Inc., in 1997. Due to the age of this document the Airport Master Plan currently contains outdated mapping, drawings, and recommendations. An airport such as BGM should update the Airport Master Plan every 5-10 years. This information must be revised so that the airport has an up-to-date planning document that is based upon current industry trends and accurate local/regional demand.

This Airport Master Plan Update is designed to keep BGM's planning efforts current as demand and needs evolve at the airport and in the immediate vicinity. The preparation of this Airport Master Plan Update and the subsequent implementation of the airport development program presented in this report will ensure that the aviation needs of Broome County and its surrounding communities are met in a manner that maximizes safety and efficiency at BGM for the next 10 to 20 years.

The scope of work for the project begins by documenting the existing facilities and environs in the Inventory and then evaluating current and future demand in the Aviation Demand Forecasts. The Airport Master Plan Update then evaluates airport needs based upon current and future demand. After documenting the airport needs; the plan identifies and analyzes development alternatives. The project culminates in the preparation of the Airport Layout Plan Drawing Set, which illustrates future development and serves as the airport's official planning document for capital expenditures for the next twenty years.





The long-term goals for BGM are:

- Goal 1 - Meet the air travel needs of the citizens and businesses in the airport's service area
- Goal 2 - Maintain airport facilities in a manner that is consistent with a first-class operation
- Goal 3- Identify opportunities to enhance the economic viability of the airport through a "business planning" component

The objectives to be accomplished under this Airport Master Plan Update are:

- Obj. A - Evaluate design standards in light of a changing aircraft fleet mix
- Obj. B - Develop a plan to meet all airport design standards, if feasible
- Obj. C - Evaluate alternatives for improving market growth and increasing revenue
- Obj. D - Identify areas needed or not required for aviation use and update the Exhibit "A" Property Map
- Obj. E - Obtain approval of the Airport Layout Plan (ALP)
- Obj. F - Engage the public through participation in the planning process

