



Lake Elmo Airport

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT NEWS

MARCH 2018



Lake Elmo Airport Draft Environmental Review Document Available and Public Hearing Scheduled

The draft Environmental Assessment/Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EA/EAW) document for the proposed Lake Elmo Airport improvements is now available for public review and comment. The draft document can be downloaded from the [Documents and Links page](#) of the project website. Hard copies are also available at the Lake Elmo City Hall, Lake Elmo Public Library, Baytown Community Center, and the Metropolitan Airports Commission (MAC) General Offices. A summary table of the documented environmental consequences is provided on the following page.

The public comment period goes through Thursday, April 19, 2018. The MAC is holding a public hearing on Wednesday, April 4, 2018 at Oak-Land Middle School to receive verbal and written comments on the draft EA/EAW.

What to expect at the public hearing

During the public hearing, anyone may fill out an "I wish to speak" slip to make a verbal comment on the record. Speakers will be asked to observe a time limit to allow

adequate time for everyone who wishes to speak. Verbal and written comments will not be responded to during the hearing.

What happens with the comments?

All verbal and written comments received during the official comment period, including those from the public hearing, will be included in an appendix of the final document. Written responses will also be provided in the document. Written comments will be accepted until 5:00 p.m. CDT on April 19, 2018. ■

PUBLIC HEARING

Wednesday,
April 4, 2018
Open House at 6:00 p.m.
Presentation at 6:30 p.m.
Hearing at 7:00 p.m.

Oak-Land Middle School
Auditorium
820 Manning Ave. N.
Lake Elmo, MN 55042

Draft EA/EAW Document 

www.metroairports.org/General-Aviation/Lake-Elmo-Environmental-Assessment/Documents-and-Links.aspx

Summary of Environmental Consequences

Environmental Impact Category	Impacts: Preferred Alternative	Required Permitting/Mitigation & Associated Actions
<i>Air Quality</i>	Minimal impacts during construction	Implement EPA-recommended best management practices (BMPs) and control strategies during construction.
<i>Biological Resources (including fish, wildlife, and plants)</i>	Tree removal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tree removal to occur during NLEB dormant season (October 1 – April 30). Implement April 2015 USFWS/USDOT NLEB avoidance and minimization measures. Implement MDNR Blanding's turtle avoidance measures.
<i>Climate</i>	<i>None</i>	<i>None</i>
<i>Coastal Resources</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>None</i>
<i>DOT Section 4(f) Lands</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>None</i>
<i>Farmlands</i>	42.28 acres directly converted	<i>None</i>
<i>Hazardous Materials, Solid Waste, and Pollution Prevention</i>	<i>None</i>	Dispose of construction materials and solid waste in accordance with state and local laws.
<i>Historic/Architectural & Archeological Resources</i>	<i>None</i>	Hand cut trees near archeological building foundations.
<i>Land Use</i>	<i>Residential</i>	Potential zoning conflicts
	<i>Ground Transportation</i>	Increased travel time on 30 th Street
	<i>Wildlife Attractants</i>	Wetlands near runway approach
<i>Natural Resources and Energy Supply</i>	<i>None</i>	<i>None</i>
<i>Noise and Compatible Land Use</i>	<i>None</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish airport advisory commission. Update voluntary noise abatement plan and hold educational briefings with pilots.
<i>Socioeconomics, Environmental Justice & Children's Health & Safety</i>	<i>None</i>	<i>None</i>
<i>Visual Effects (including light emissions)</i>	New airfield light systems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Install light baffles for REILs. Install solid fencing in runway approaches. Implement low, medium, and high intensity light settings to reduce frequency of light emissions.
<i>Water Resources</i>	<i>Wetlands</i>	2.36 acres direct wetland impact
	<i>Stormwater</i>	12.6 acres increased impervious area
	<i>Floodplains</i>	0.06-acre wetland fill in floodplain
<i>Cumulative Impacts</i>	No substantial impacts	<i>None</i>