PROPOSED TAXIWAY IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT

NOTICE OF FLOODPLAIN ENCROACHMENT

The City and County of San Francisco (the City), by and through the San Francisco Airport Commission (the Commission), proposes to implement taxiway improvements at the San Francisco International Airport (SFO or the Airport) in unincorporated San Mateo County, California. Proposed taxiway design improvements would remain and be completed within the regulated 100-year floodplain, as identified on the November 12, 2015, Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Preliminary Federal Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) for Airport property. This Preliminary FIRM classifies the majority of SFO as being within the 100-year floodplain, including the ground disturbance area associated with the proposed taxiway improvements, pending FEMA making the Preliminary FIRM effective. Maps showing the location of the proposed taxiway improvements and the floodplain encroachment can be found at:


At SFO, the existing taxiway system, situated within a fully developed, land-constrained site, is the legacy of incremental airfield changes that occurred over several decades before larger aircraft were in operation. Along with these changes, FAA airport design standards have evolved over time. Consequently, areas of the taxiway system do not meet the current FAA airport design standards for the large aircraft that operate at the Airport.

The purpose of the proposed taxiway improvements is to meet current Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) airport design standards as detailed in FAA Advisory Circular and enhance the operational safety and efficiency of the existing taxiway system at the Airport. Improvements proposed within the floodplain include: the realignment, shifting, and reconstruction of portions of existing taxiways; shifting of a segment of a vehicle service road; replacement or reinstallation of runway edge light and components; designation of a new helipad; and relocation of two stormwater drainage pump stations and associated utility infrastructure.

The environmental review, agency consultation, and other actions required by applicable federal environmental laws for this project are being carried out in accordance with FAA Orders 1050.1F, Policies and Procedures for Considering Environmental Impacts, 5050.4B, National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Implementing Instructions for Airport Actions, Executive Order 11988, Floodplain Management, and Department of Transportation Order 5650.2, Floodplain Management and Protection. The existing taxiway system are located within the floodplain; impacts to the floodplain are expected to be negligible and encroachments associated with the proposed taxiway improvements would not have adverse impacts on the floodplain’s natural and beneficial values, result in a high probability of loss of human life, or result in damages that could be substantial in cost or extent, including the interruption of service or loss of a vital transportation facility.

Written or email comments must be submitted by Friday, June 19, 2020. Comments or requests for a public hearing for the Proposed Action may be submitted to:

Audrey Park  
San Francisco International Airport  
Bureau of Planning and Environmental Affairs  
P.O. Box 8097  
San Francisco, CA 94128  
Email: audrey.park@flysfo.com  
Tel: (650) 255-7624

If a public hearing is requested, a meeting would be held by teleconference pursuant to the Governor’s Executive Order N-29-20 and the Twelfth Supplement to Mayoral Proclamation Declaring the Existence of a Local Emergency