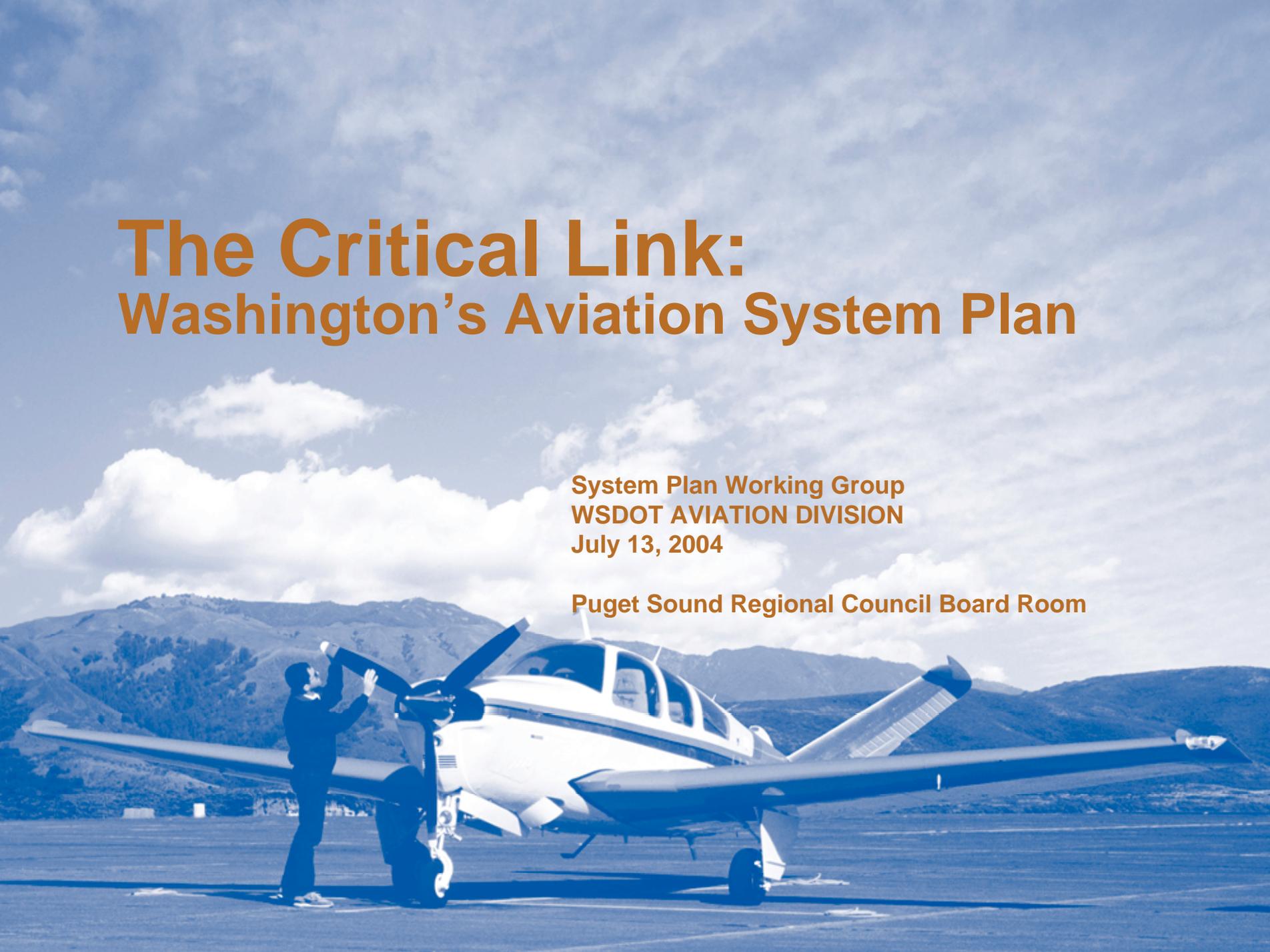


The Critical Link: Washington's Aviation System Plan

System Plan Working Group
WSDOT AVIATION DIVISION
July 13, 2004

Puget Sound Regional Council Board Room



Meeting Objectives

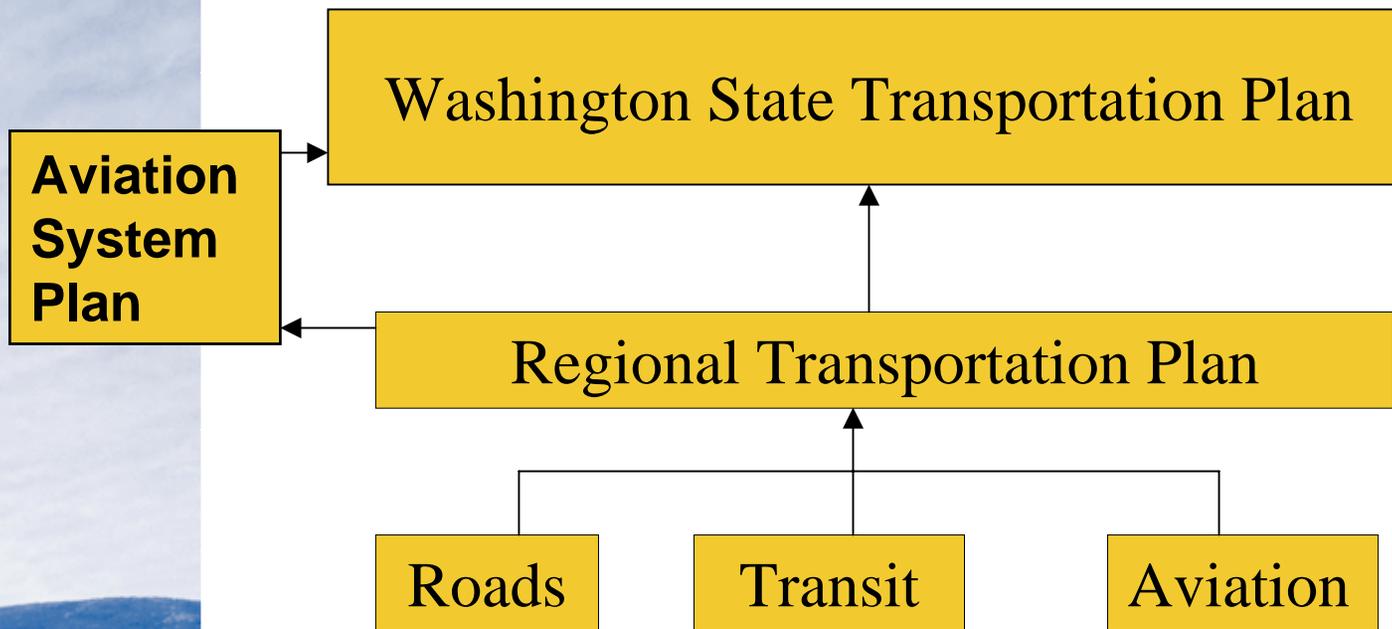
- Convene System Plan Work Group
- Discuss key aviation issues
- Discuss Classification System methodology
- Begin discussion on evaluation criteria

Today's Agenda

- Operating guidelines
- Working Group Goals
- Key Issues
- Decision Process
- Classification System Options
- Next Steps



Washington's Transportation Planning Hierarchy



Working Group Goals

- Develop a proposed classification methodology to identify priority investments for the state system and for local airports
- Develop functional evaluation criteria to meet State aviation system needs
- Discuss the role of RTPO's in facilitating the integration of aviation into regional transportation planning and the WTP.



Operating Guidelines

- 20-25 members, statewide, representing various aspects of aviation system
- Three meetings
- Advisory
- Liaison responsibility
- All opinions respected and recorded



Why are we in this situation?

- Aviation is often overlooked at state and local level, despite its important economic and safety role
- Most local transportation plans have not incorporated aviation into their planning
- As a result, the system is in a downward spiral neglected infrastructure and encroachments.
- Can the aviation system evolve...or will it continue its downward spiral?

Why are we updating the system plan?

- WSDOT Aviation has been directed to institute business planning process so Legislature and Transportation Commission make informed funding decisions
- Washington Transportation Plan –state plan for multi-modal investments
- Regional Transportation Plans-local plan for multi-modal investments

State Statutory Authority

- Chapter 47.68 RCW – overall provisions for governing Aeronautics
- Chapter 47.80 RCW – establishes regional transportation system planning process
- Chapter 47.06 RCW – establishes statewide transportation planning, and facilities of statewide significance.
- Chapter 468-86 WAC – establishes standards for state & local coordination for transportation planning

Aviation System Policy Goals

- Preservation
- Safety
- Capacity
- Environmental Protection



Today's Aviation System

129 airports in the state system plan

- 40 (31%) cities
- 13 (10%) counties
- 31 (24%) public port districts
- 25 (19%) private
- 16 (13%) state
- 4 (3%) owned jointly



(Map of Aviation System)



National Plan of Integrated Airport Systems (NPIAS)

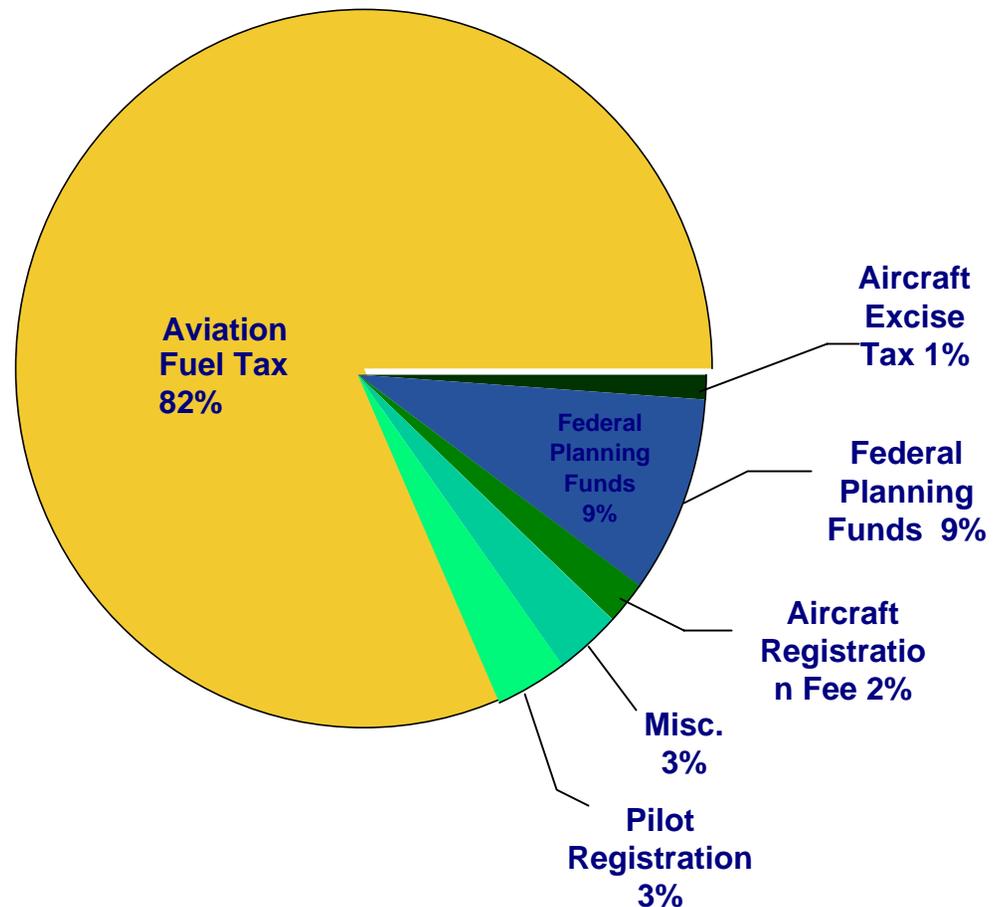
- Primary Service, scheduled commercial service serving 10,000+ passengers a year.
- Commercial Service, scheduled commercial service serving 2,500 to 9,999 passengers a year.
- Reliever airports.
- General aviation airports.



Aviation Revenue

Aviation is funded by aviation related taxes and fees.

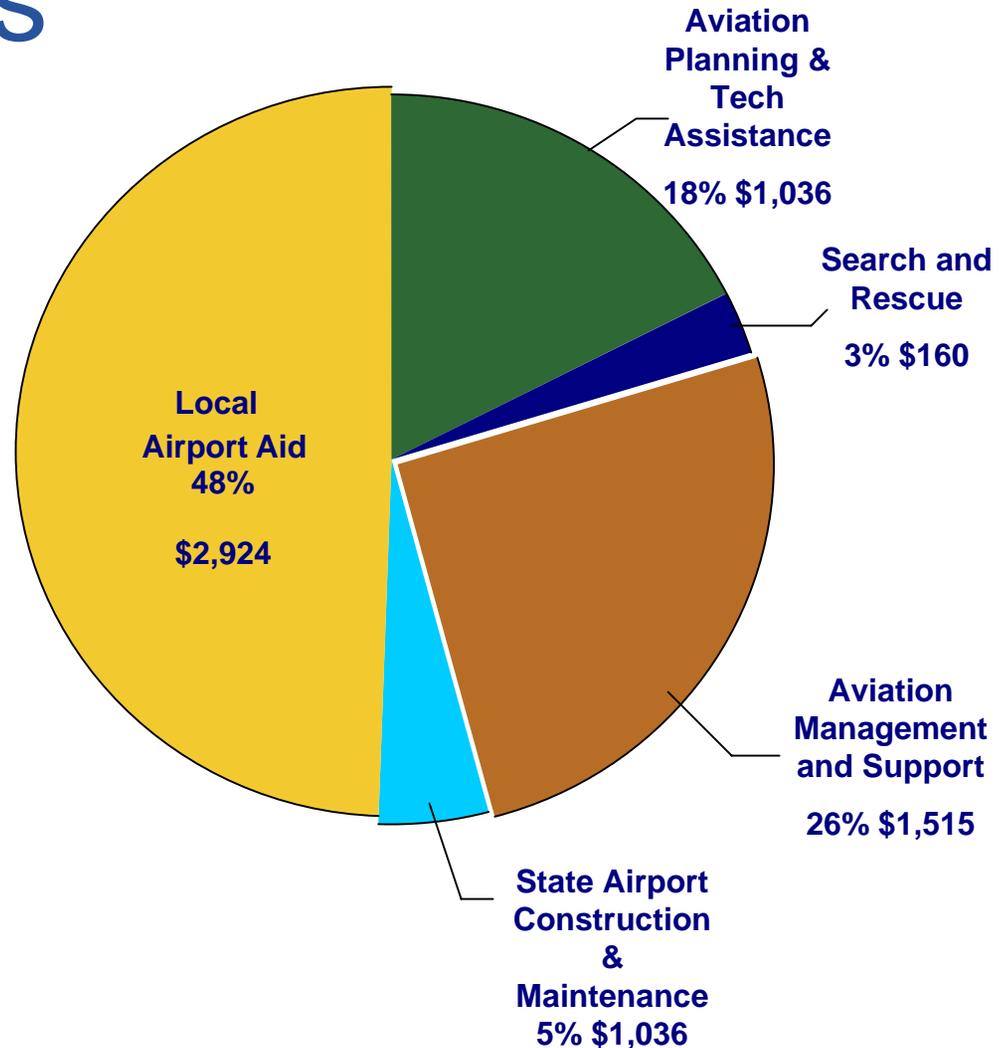
The major source is the tax on aircraft fuel.



Aviation Division Functions

For budgeting and management purposes, the Aviation Program is divided into five functional areas.

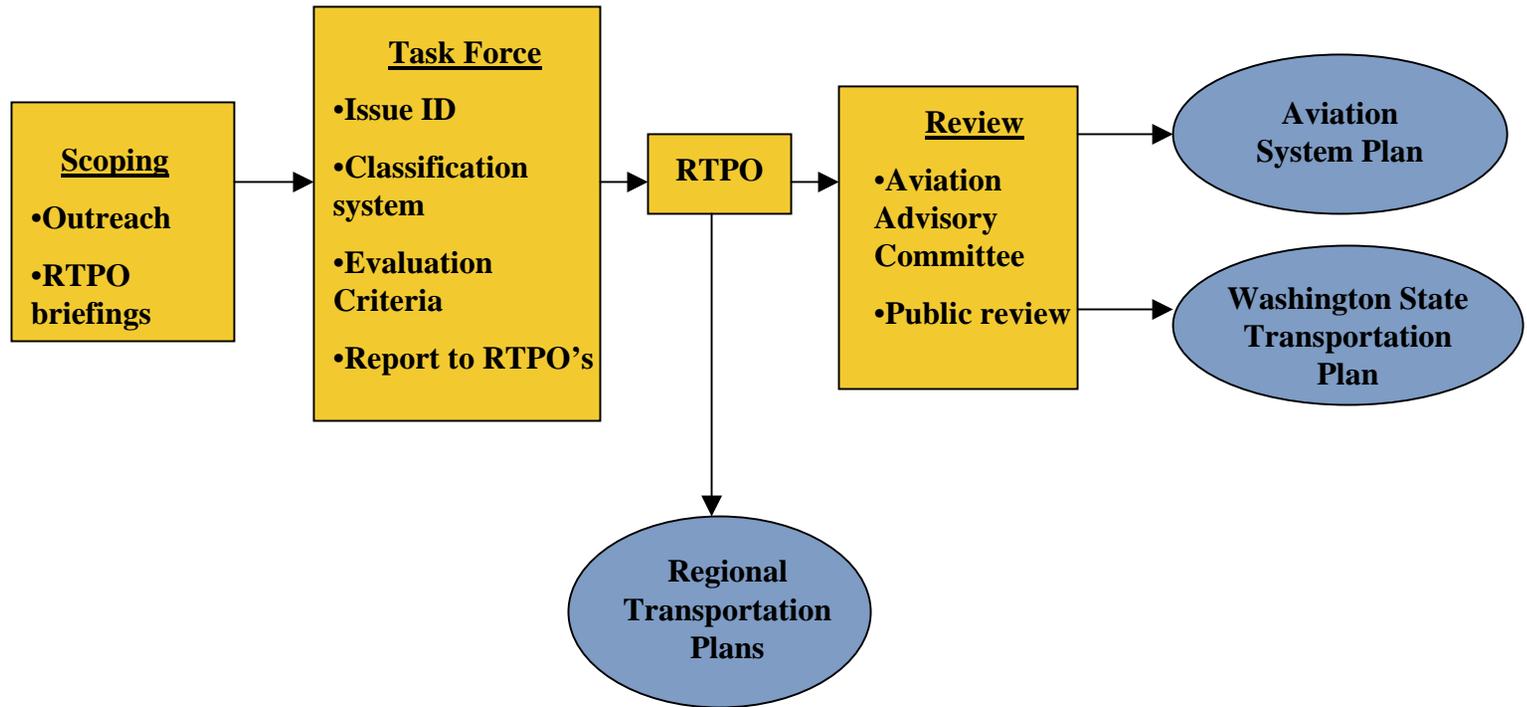
**Dollars in Thousands*



Draft Objectives: Aviation System Plan

- Safeguard airports for future generations.
- Identify gaps and deficiencies in the aviation system.
- Integrate aviation with the state's Transportation Plan.
- Ensure accessibility for people/goods.
- Ensure airports are cost effective and developed in a fiscally responsive manner.
- Promote economic development.
- Support information needs for decision-makers.

Proposed System Plan Decision Process



Study Group Recommendations:

Policy and Strategic Planning

- Strive to maintain serviceability and fairness in current public investments in the aviation system, taking into account different classes of airports.
- Maximize value and impact of public investment in the aviation system statewide.
- Meet priority needs of the aviation system, as identified in the Aviation System Strategic Plan.



Study Group Recommendations:

Policy and Strategic Planning

- Anticipate and strategically respond to emerging aviation system trends and issues.
- Increase consistency between FAA, State of Washington, and local aviation policies, rules, and regulations by class of airport recognizing that different types of airports have different regulatory and policy needs.



Study Group Recommendations:

Policy and Strategic Planning

- Develop a prioritized state system of airports that designates Airports of Statewide Significance (relying heavily on local input through the Regional Transportation Planning (RTPO/MPO) process.



Steps in developing the Aviation System Plan

Step 1: Inventory and forecast existing public use Airports.

Step 2: Evaluation and classification of airport function and role within the system.

Step 3: Identification of deficiencies in the system.

Step 4: Estimation of development costs to maintain the aviation system.

Step 5: Funding the system.

Step 6: Capital facility plan.

Considerations in developing classification system

- Can the Airport be expanded in a cost effective manner?
- What are the costs and benefits to bring the airport up to full federal/state standards?
- Does the airport contribute to the regions freight and goods mobility?



Aviation System classification methodology

- Evaluate Airport Design – operational/physical characteristics
- Apply United State Department of Transportation (USDOT) Demand Factors
- Apply Other Factors?
- Ranking or prioritization? Weighting?



Next Steps

- Continue to get feedback from stakeholder groups about System Plan objectives and considerations
- Get feedback from legislature and other policy makers on System Plan objectives and considerations
- Assist RTPO's on integrating aviation in transportation system
- Conduct research on “best practices” in system planning