

COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
DIVISION OF AERONAUTICS

20

ANNUAL REPORT

07





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## Colorado Discretionary Aviation Grant Program

Each year, the Colorado Aeronautical Board administers the distribution of the Colorado Aviation Fund through individual airport grants and statewide aviation system improvements. A share of the 2007 revenues from aviation fuel taxes awarded nearly \$10.8 million in the form of discretionary aviation grants.

The awarded grants were used to address airfield maintenance and safety, local match for federally-funded airport improvements, long-term planning, and system-wide safety programs.

Total Individual Grants to Airports	\$4,759,275
Total Statewide Aviation Pgm. Grants	\$10,781,814
<b>TOTAL AVIATION GRANTS</b>	<b>\$15,541,089</b>

### Statewide Aviation Program Grants

Publications, Airport Directory/Chart, Newsletter	\$160,000
Automated Weather Observation System Development and Maintenance	\$282,264
Airfield Maintenance-Crack Sealant Rebate Program & Engineering	\$80,000
Economic Impact Study	\$495,990
Internship Program	\$86,000
National Business Aviation Association Convention/Marketing	\$55,000
Security Planning, Airline Database Program	\$90,000
Statewide Aviation Education Program	\$9,500

### Individual Grants to Airports

Akron-Colorado Plains Regional Airport	\$58,400
Alamosa-San Luis Valley	\$24,000
Aspen-Pitkin County Airport	\$250,000
Boulder Municipal Airport	\$36,185
Buena Vista-Central Colorado Regional Airport	\$8,815
Burlington-Kit Carson County Airport	\$211,626
Cañon City-Fremont County Airport	\$64,700
Center-Leach Field	\$26,800
Cortez-Montezuma County Airport	\$100,526
Creede-Mineral County Airport	\$70,000
Delta-Blake Field	\$74,000
Denver-Centennial Airport	\$75,000
Denver-Front Range Airport	\$249,158
Denver-Rocky Mountain Metro Airport	\$194,737
Durango-La Plata County Airport	\$62,400
Eagle-Eagle County Airport	\$118,425
Erie Municipal Airport	\$17,895
Fort Collins-Loveland Municipal Airport	\$250,000
Fort Morgan Municipal Airport	\$3,947
Glenwood Springs Municipal Airport	\$6,400
Granby-Grand County Airport	\$200,000
Grand Junction Regional Airport	\$213,000
Greeley-Weld County Airport	\$168,303
Gunnison-Crested Butte Regional Airport	\$446,217
Hayden-Yampa Valley Regional Airport	\$150,000
Holyoke Municipal	\$86,080

LaJunta Municipal Airport	\$107,947
Lamar Municipal Airport	\$11,842
Las Animas City and County Airport	\$45,000
Leadville-Lake County Airport	\$3,947
Limon Municipal Airport	\$11,842
Longmont-Vance Brand Airport	\$31,789
Meeker Airport	\$11,842
Monte Vista Municipal Airport	\$3,947
Montrose Regional Airport	\$13,513
Nucla-Hopkins Field	\$108,986
Pagosa Spgs-Stevens Field	\$192,719
Paonia-North Fork Valley Airport	\$61,000
Pueblo Memorial Airport	\$204,737
Rangely Airport	\$80,613
Rifle-Garfield County Regional Airport	\$200,000
Saguache Municipal Airport	\$19,200
Salida-Harriet Alexander Field	\$7,895
Steamboat Spring Municipal Airport	\$33,947
Sterling Municipal Airport	\$19,263
Telluride Regional Airport	\$250,000
Walden-Jackson County Airport	\$80,000
Walsenburg-Spanish Peaks Airfield	\$7,895
Wellington	\$40,000
Westcliffe-Silver West Airport	\$25,000
Wray Municipial Airport	\$11,842
Yuma Municipal Airport	\$7,895



Photo Courtesy Adam Aircraft

## Tax Revenue Reimbursements

Publicly-owned, public-use airports are recipients of aviation fuel excise and sales tax reimbursements which equal \$.04 per gallon excise tax and 65% of the total amount of fuel sales tax collections at their airport. These monthly revenue rebates are ear-marked for aviation purposes such as airport operations, maintenance, and personnel costs.

### Reimbursements by Airport

July 1, 2006 - June 30, 2007

Akron-Colorado Plains Regional Airport	\$4,739.30	Hayden-Yampa Valley Regional Airport	\$139,016.73
Alamosa-San Luis Valley Regional Airport	\$17,265.61	Holly Municipal Airport	\$0.00
Aspen-Pitkin County	\$207,220.82	Holyoke Municipal Airport	\$757.46
Boulder Municipal Airport	\$2,974.09	Kremmling-McElroy Field	\$5,308.46
Brush Municipal Airport	\$0.00	La Junta Municipal Airport	\$733.80
Buena Vista-Central Colorado Regional Airport	\$1,127.91	La Veta-Cuchara Valley Airport	\$0.00
Burlington-Kit Carson County Airport	\$446.36	Lamar Municipal Airport	\$7,724.08
Canon City-Fremont County Airport	\$4,044.23	Leadville-Lake County Airport	\$2,047.74
Center-Leach Field	\$0.00	Limon Municipal Airport	\$417.54
Colorado Springs Municipal Airport	\$740,927.22	Longmon-Vance Brand Airport	\$11,721.69
Cortez-Montezuma County Airport	\$16,929.64	Meeker Airport	\$3,177.29
Craig-Moffat County Airport	\$2,368.93	Montrose County Regional Airport	\$117,104.09
Delta-BlakeField	\$1,574.75	Montte Vista Municipal Airport	\$1,750.37
Denver International Airport	\$5,784,677.50	Nucla-Hopkins Field	\$469.18
Denver-Centennial Airport	\$1,197,053.92	Pagosa Springs-Steven's Field	\$12,615.90
Denver-Front Range Airport	\$23,138.30	Paonia-North Fork Valley Airport	\$164.95
Denver-Rocky Mountain Metro Airport	\$375,937.05	Pueblo Memorial Airport	\$121,760.77
Durango-La Plata County Airport	\$145,535.53	Rangely Airport	\$557.72
Eagle County Airport	\$467,478.68	Rifle-Garfield County Airport	\$132,177.32
Erie Municipal Airport	\$2,183.69	Salida-Harriet Alexander Field	\$2,329.38
Fort Collins-Loveland Municipal Airport	\$30,812.82	Steamboat Springs Municipal Airport	\$3,073.24
Fort Morgan Municipal Airport	\$2,803.03	Sterling Municipal Airport	\$4,550.57
Glenwood Springs Municipal Airport	\$969.80	Telluride Regional Airport	\$81,344.96
Granby-Grand County Airport	\$963.36	Trinidad-Perry Stoke Airport	\$4,082.12
Grand Junction Regional Airport	\$249,342.18	Walsenburg-Spanish Peaks Field	\$202.59
Greeley-Weld County Airport	\$22,479.52	Wray Municipal Airport	\$120.02
Gunnison-Crested Butte Regional Airport	\$31,869.95	Yuma Municipal Airport	\$0.00

Total Excise Tax Reimbursements	\$1,493,929.00
Total Sales Tax Reimbursements	\$8,494,143.15
<b>TOTAL REIMBURSEMENTS</b>	<b>\$9,988,072.15</b>

## Colorado Showcases at NBAA

The Colorado Division of Aeronautics along with eleven Colorado constituents attended the 60th Annual National Business Aviation Association (NBAA) Convention and Meeting and Convention in Atlanta, Georgia. Participants of the 2500 sq. ft. Colorado pavilion included a grouping of Colorado airports, economic development organizations, and Colorado-based aviation businesses.

The NBAA convention is considered one of the world's premier business aviation attractions for corporate and individual owners of business aircraft. The 2007 convention realized a record total of 1,152 exhibitors with a record attendance of more than 32,000 people.

The purpose of attending NBAA is to showcase what Colorado can offer aviation-related businesses. Colorado has many critical elements important to aviation-related companies; educated workforce, premier airport system, and incentives on the state and local level for doing business in Colorado.

In addition, the delegation is informed the convention attendees that Colorado is a magnificent tourism destination, in which the entire state can be reached by the Colorado airport system.

## State Infrastructure Bank

The Colorado Transportation Commission supports local operators of transportation facilities with funds available through a low interest revolving loan program. This unique program enacted by the Colorado Legislature in 1998, and adopted by CDOT in 1999. The Colorado Element of the Colorado State Infrastructure Bank (SIB) funds eleven airport accounts totalling over \$32 million.

Loans awarded to airports from the SIB have been used for projects such as capital airport improvements; air traffic control towers, snow removal equipment, and pavement reconstruction. Loans have also been utilized for land acquisitions protecting airports from residential encroachment.



### 2007 Colorado Pavilion Participants

- Colorado Plains Regional Airport
- Garfield County Regional Airport
- Grand Junction Regional Airport
- Greeley-Weld County Airport
- Colorado Spring Municipal Airport
- Front Range Airport
- Western Colorado Economic Alliance
- Viasala, Inc.
- Jon Caples & Associates, Inc.
- Rocky Mountain Metro Airport
- Centennial Airport

### Colorado SIB Airport Participants

- Front Range Airport
- Aspen-Pitkin County Airport
- Gunnison-Crested Butte Airport
- Pagosa Springs-Stevens Field
- Colorado Springs Airport
- Centennial Airport

*Current interest rate 3% through fiscal year 2007.*





Photo by Shahn Sederberg

## Colorado Commercial Air Service

Commercial Air Service plays a critical role in the economic well-being of our state. The efficient movement of people and goods depends on improving aviation facilities that provide safe, timely, and economical delivery throughout Colorado.

Airline hub services through airports such as Denver International Airport serve several international markets. National and Regional carriers bring passengers and goods into statewide markets. Colorado's tourism industry relies heavily on Commercial air service to introduce new visitors and bring return visitors to Colorado's mountain destinations with point to point direct service from many of the Nation's major cities.

### Commercial Airline Passenger Activity

FAA CY 2006

Denver International Airport	22,822,111	▲9.72%
Colorado Springs Airport	997,763	▼2.70%
Eagle County Regional Airport	217,039	▲1.78%
Aspen-Pitkin County Regional Airport	201,642	▲3.96%
Grand Junction Regional Airport	159,509	▲1.72%
Yampa Valley Regional Airport	131,448	▲1.30%
Durango-La Plata County Airport	113,516	▲11.57%
Montrose Regional Airport	82,316	▲4.64%
Gunnison-Crested Butte Regional Airport	48,073	▲7.15%
Fort Collins-Loveland Municipal Airport	32,847	▼5.26%
Telluride Regional Airport	16,438	▼9.35%
Cortez Municipal Airport	9,252	▲12.76%
San Luis Valley Regional Airport	7,194	▲32.17%
Pueblo Memorial Airport	4,955	▲22.86%
<b>TOTAL PASSENGERS</b>	<b>24,844,103</b>	<b>▲8.17%</b>

Data Provided by the Federal Aviation Administration.



Photo by Shahn Sederberg

## Airport Pavement Condition Indexing

The Colorado Division of Aeronautics undertakes an annual analysis of existing airport pavement surfaces. The analysis process is called Pavement Condition Indexing (PCI), where airport pavements are surveyed based on several distress types. Each pavement sample is surveyed for distresses and is given a PCI score based on the distress severity, e.g., the lower the PCI number, the more severe the pavement distress. Each pavement sample PCI score is compiled into an engineering software program, where an overall PCI is calculated for a particular airport.

The airport PCI results are an important tool for the Division's pavement maintenance program, allowing for better priority allocation of pavement maintenance funds. The PCI results are also able to identify the future life cycle of airport pavements. These projections help identify long term needs and the planning for future capital pavement improvement funding. The Division's goal is to maintain Colorado's airport pavements at an average PCI score of 75 or above, see Figure 2.

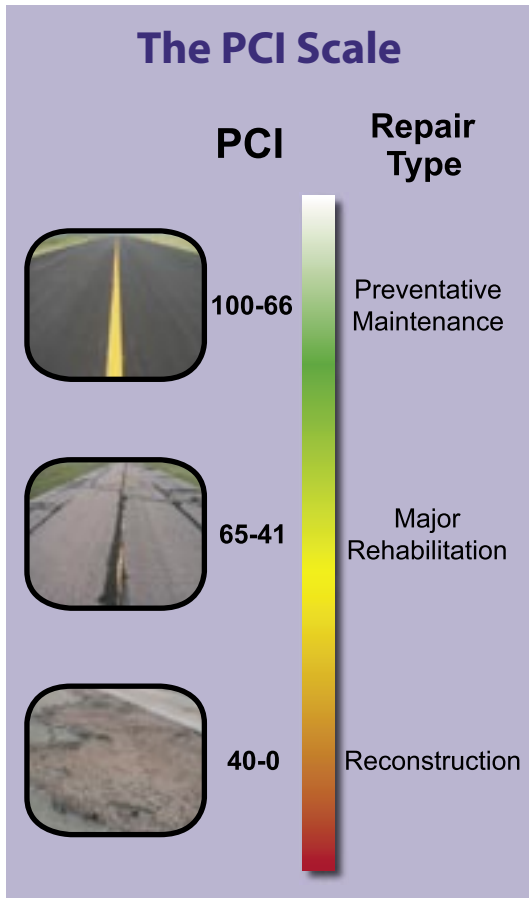


Figure 1

Pavement indexing reports show the Crack Fill Rebate Program has had a positive impact on Colorado's airport pavement conditions. The Crack Fill Rebate Program provides Colorado airports a 75% rebate on the purchase of crack sealant materials. More than \$50,000 was reimbursed to 17 airports that took advantage of the program. PCI reports identified that 93% of the Colorado's airport pavements were in good to fair condition. Proper routine pavement maintenance will insure the State's ability to maintain airport pavements at a PCI value of 75 or higher.

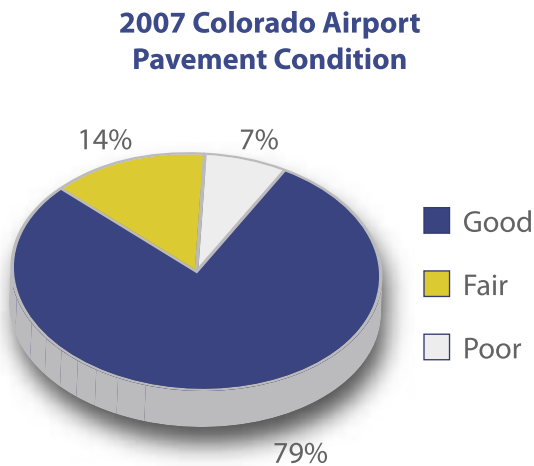


Figure 2

## Airport Capital Improvement Program

With the assistance of a grant in the amount of \$234,895 from the Federal Aviation Administration, the Division helps guide airports in identifying short and long term needs and available state and federal funding. This comprehensive planning by CDOT-Aeronautics addresses maintenance and improvement needs of the State's system of airports.

General aviation airports received a total of \$18,435,136 in FAA discretionary dollars for capital construction, while commercial service airports received \$53,874,000 discretionary dollars in 2007.

In 2007, FAA General Aviation Entitlement funds totaling \$4,675,200 went to non-commercial airport facilities for planning, airfield maintenance, land acquisition, ramps and terminal upgrades.

Meeker Airport, Lake County Airport, Greeley-Weld County Airport and Front Range Airport participated in state, federal and locally funded runway rehabilitation projects which will provide improved surfaces and facilities.

Significant projects were completed at the Aspen-Pitkin County Airport and the Burlington-Kit Carson County Airport where complete runway rehabilitations took place while the Yampa Valley Regional Airport near Hayden completed a multi-year project including a new terminal along with expanded ramp and vehicle parking areas. Runway and taxiway extension work continues at the Eagle County Regional Airport in order to improve its ability to accommodate large commercial aircraft; runway reconstruction was completed at the Colorado Springs Municipal Airport and Stevens Field in Pagosa Springs opened a newly constructed partial parallel taxiway in 2007.

Centennial Airport in the Denver metro area completed a runway rehabilitation project while Rocky Mountain Metropolitan Airport (formerly Jefferson County Airport) is getting closer to completion of a multi-year taxiway relocation project and Grand Junction Regional Airport (formerly Walker Field) continues its multi-year land side parking lot and roadway system complete reconstruction.



Lake County Airport-Leadville, CO



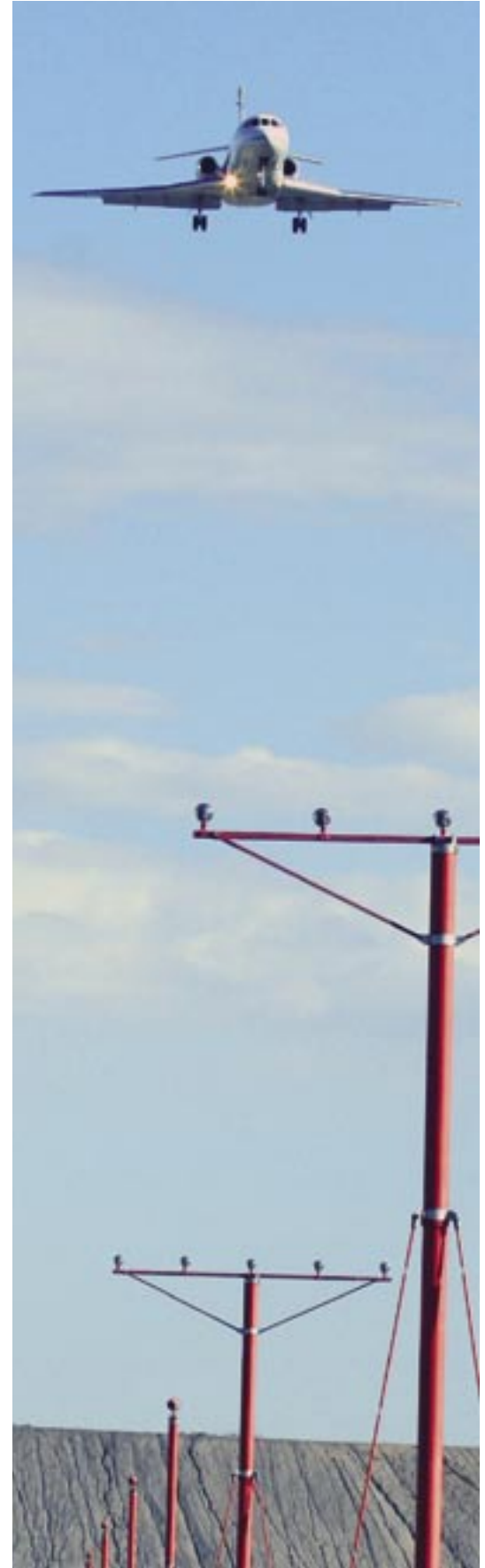
Pagosa Springs Runway Project



## Colorado's Vision and Approach for Aviation Safety

Survey information was previously supplied to the Federal Aviation Administration in preparation for non-precision GPS approaches at eleven critical airports where no previous instrument landing systems were available. In the past year approaches have been completed for Holyoke Municipal Airport in Holyoke, Monte Vista Municipal Airport in Monte Vista and Hopkins Field in Nucla. The remaining eight airports are in various stages of the approach production process.

Due to increased demand and lack of radar coverage at Colorado's mountain airports, multi-lateration radar and Automated Dependent Surveillance-Broadcast (ADS-B) facilities will be tested at several facilities in northwest Colorado. Conventional radar is unable to pickup aircraft once they drop below certain elevations. The improved coverage will impact the way Denver Center – Air Traffic Control “sees” aircraft in the mountainous terrain. The initial testing as well as anticipated future expansion of this new radar coverage is being supported by the Colorado Aeronautical Board, the Colorado Transportation Commission and the Federal Aviation Administration-Air Traffic Organization. Work has already begun on the test areas in Moffat, Routt and Garfield Counties. Upon completion of testing, the first phase is expected to be up and running within eighteen months.



On Approach at Montrose Regional Airport

## Colorado Aeronautical Board

The Colorado Aeronautical Board is the policy-making body that oversees the operation of the Colorado Division of Aeronautics. It is an honorary seven-member Board appointed by the Governor to serve three-year terms as representative of defined constituencies in the aviation community.



**Harold Patton**, Chairman  
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Mr. Patton has been active in community interests in the Denver metro area for many years, including a close relationship with Centennial Airport as an airport authority chairman and active pilot. He is associated with a family-owned oil and gas exploration and production corporation. His long aviation career includes both military and civilian flying.



**Harold J. Felderman**, Vice-chairman  
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Mr. Felderman serves the Aeronautical Board from a strong background in military and civilian aviation. He is retired from Jeppesen Co., a leader in the production of aviation charts and services. He is a former member of the Greeley City Council and served on the Greeley-Weld County Airport Authority Board. His military career includes more than 100 sorties over Vietnam.



**Larry Romrell**, Secretary  
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Mr. Romrell serves on the Board of Directors of Liberty Media Corporation and the Advisory Board of Guaranty Bank and Trust. He has been active in the telecommunication industry since 1961. He is directly responsible for the corporate aviation fleet operations at Liberty Media. He is a private pilot and resides in Franktown, CO.



**Dave Ubell**  
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Active as a farmer and rancher on the Western Slope, Mr. Ubell has held several positions relating to transportation maintenance and construction. He also served on the Montrose Board of County Commissioners as well as other resource and transportation boards and committees. His military career includes time in the United States Army.



**Dale Hancock**  
*West Slope Governments*  
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Mr. Hancock is Director of Operations for Garfield County, responsible for the management of multiple county services, including the Garfield County Regional Airport in Rifle, CO. He provides support staff for the Garfield County Commission in the fields of corrections, community services, telecommunications and public information.



**Dennis Heap**  
*Airport Management*  
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Mr. Heap's careers in both the commercial airline industry and as Director of Aviation at Front Range Airport amply have prepared him as representative of airport management. He is a former president of the Colorado Airport Operators Association and serves on numerous transportation and economic development boards.

**Position Vacant**  
*Pilot Organizations*