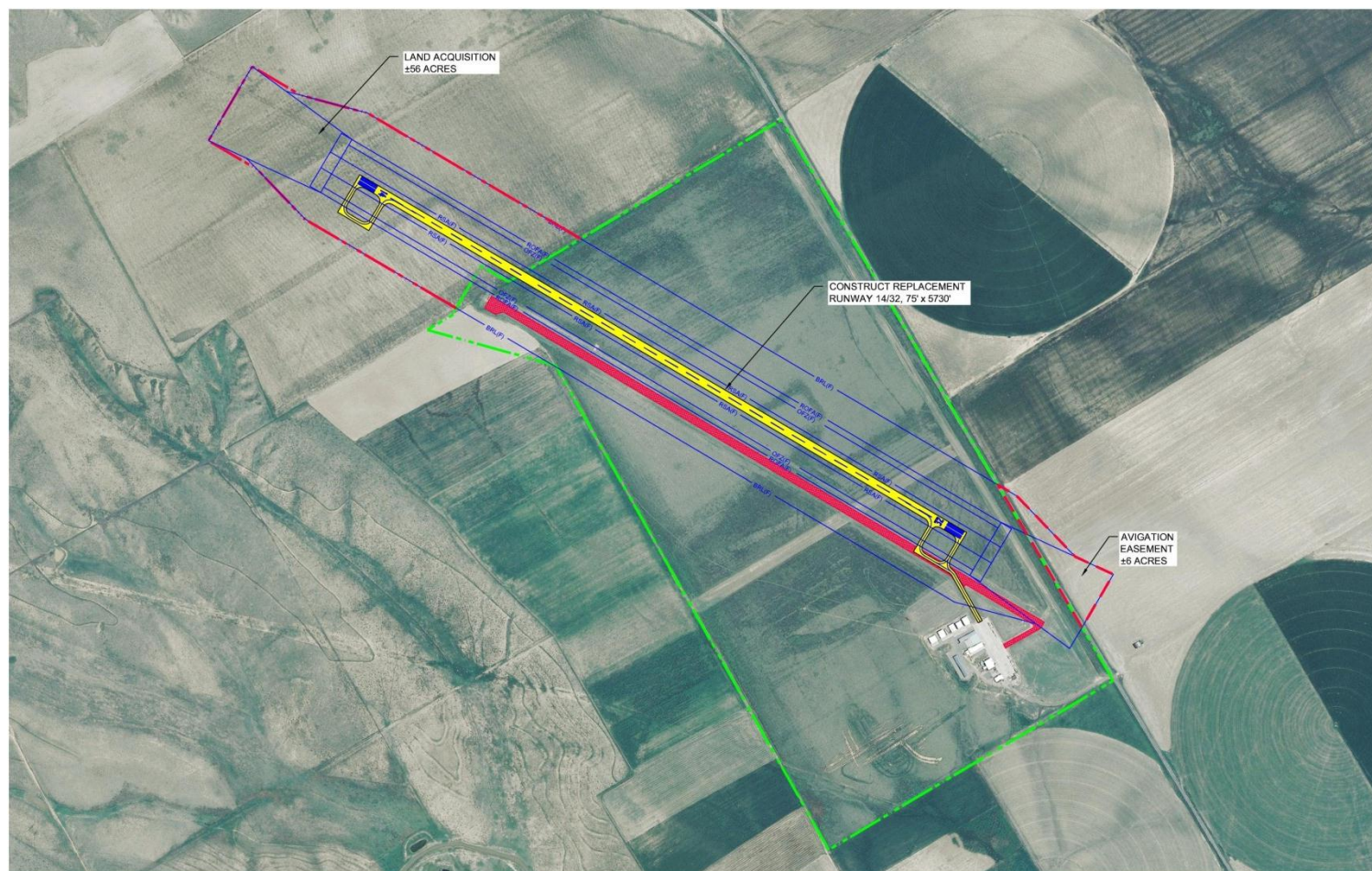


In 2012 the City of Fort Morgan is entering the final stages of a years-long effort to replace its main airport runway, which will preserve the vital economic development benefits the airport provides. The new runway is necessary because the existing runway has outlived its useful life. The new runway will continue to serve the agricultural and industrial needs of the area, but with added safety provisions. The new and longer runway will improve not only county and regional access to economic opportunity, but also community health, safety and welfare.

Essential Facts

- The proposed new runway is located 300 feet northeast of the existing main (14/31) runway (see illustration below).
- It is proposed to be 510 feet longer than the existing runway, and will be widened from 60' to 75'.



FORT MORGAN MUNICIPAL AIRPORT FORT MORGAN, COLORADO			
PROPOSED ACTION			
SCALE: NOT TO SCALE	DATE: 07/2011		
DRAWN: LKB	FILE: 5997601		
CHKD: JZP	JOB NO.: 105997		

What will the new runway cost?

The proposed new runway is currently estimated to cost about \$5.8 million. The FAA will provide 90% of the funding, and CDOT's Aeronautics Division will provide 5%, leaving the City to fund the remaining 5%.

Why is a new runway necessary?

The existing runway is worn out, narrow, short, steep and too close to the highway.

What lands must be purchased?

To extend the runway from its current length of 5,220 to 5,730 linear feet requires about an additional 56 acres (for land development and approach protection) from the land owner to the north of the airport, as well as about 6 acres of an aviation easement (approach protection) from the land owner to the east of the airport.

How will the land values be determined?

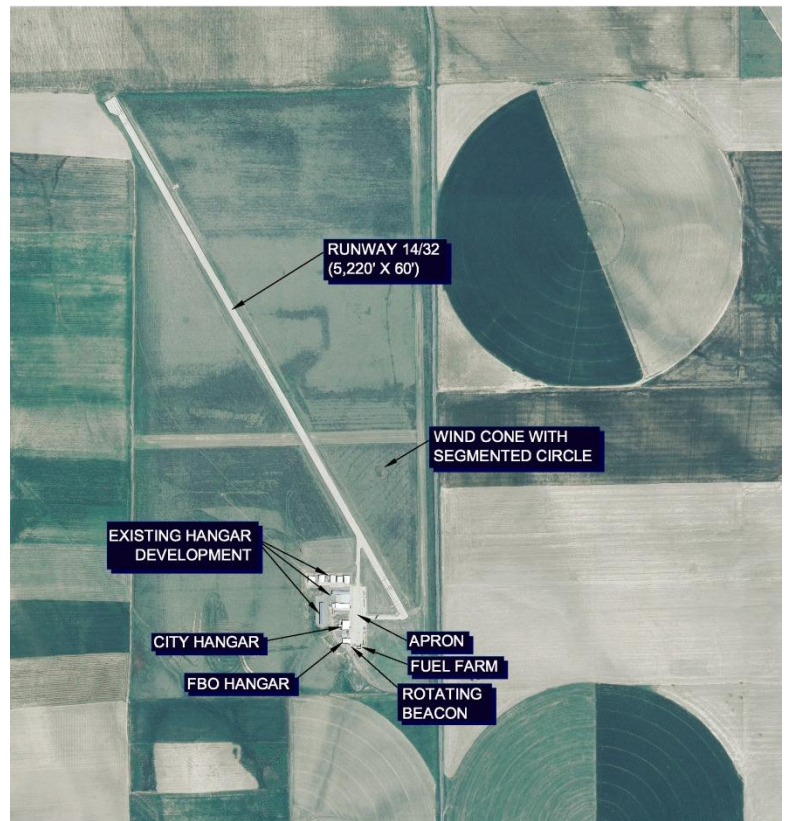
The value of the land for runway development and for approach protection is determined by a state certified land appraiser through a *Land Appraisal Report*. A second certified appraiser then conducts a *Review Appraisal* of the report to ensure that the methodology used in the appraisal report is reasonable, credible and adequately supported. The property owner then has the opportunity to hire their own appraiser as part of the project cost. The goal of the appraisal process is to ensure that any property owner is offered full, fair and just compensation for their land and/or air rights.

What if the runway is not constructed?

The City cannot afford a 5.8 million dollar project, and the existing runway is failing. Once the runway can no longer be safely used, and if it is not reconstructed, the airport must close. Additionally, because Fort Morgan has accepted federal (FAA) funding for the airport for such items as the new taxi lane and aviation easements, all of the remaining (proportional) value of this grant money must be repaid to FAA. In summary, either the runway must be reconstructed or the airport must close.

Location and Brief history

Fort Morgan Municipal Airport is located on State Highway 52, about 4.3 miles north of I-76. The first written record of the Fort Morgan airfield in its present location dates to 1933. By 1938, the airfield was known as Young field, after Paul Young, who started a flight training school at that time. This airfield was donated to the City in 1940, and was used as a glider pilot school in 1942 as part of the military preparations for WWII. By this time it consisted of 320 acres, which is nearly its current size. It has been in continual use since that time, principally serving the agricultural needs of Morgan County.



Type of airport and use/purpose

The Fort Morgan Municipal Airport is a public-use general aviation airport. As part of the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) system, it currently serves single and light twin-engine recreational and business aircraft. Scott Aviation, an aerial application (crop dusting) firm, is the principal employer and user of the airport, and the primary aerial application firm in Morgan County.

Economic impacts of the existing airport

Connecting Fort Morgan with the Future

According to the Colorado Department of Transportation's 2008 study by the Aeronautics Division, the airport contributes about \$2,978,000 to the local economy.

Why is an airport important?

In addition to the economic value, the local airport serves as another highway into town. As such, it not only serves certain agricultural needs, but also provides direct access to local wealth creating industries such as the Dairy Farmers of America, Cargill, and Leprino Foods. Other benefits include:

- Access to Air Ambulance Services
- Fire Fighting Resource
- Search and Rescue Support
- Availability of Aerial Applications
- Availability of Flight Training—Schools
- Recreation