

POTENTIAL TOPICS FOR NEW PROJECTS

CASP PROGRAM

Olga Perez Planning Program Specialist

Aviation Technical Subcommittee July 24, 2025

POTENTIAL TOPICS FOR NEW PROJECTS

CASP Program

Project 1: Economic Impact of the Region's Major Commercial Airports - Study

Project 2: Washington-Baltimore Regional Directory of Airports

Project 3: Initial Study of Urban Air Mobility (UAM) in Washington-Baltimore Region



POTENTIAL TOPICS FOR NEW PROJECTS

AIP APPLICATION

All three projects would be proposed as planning studies under the eligibility criteria of the Airport Improvement Program (AIP).

- AIP explicitly funds planning, surveying, and design activities necessary for eligible airport improvements.
- These studies provide critical data and strategic frameworks essential for:
 - Enhancing airport safety
 - Increasing capacity
 - Addressing environmental concerns
- They are **not** operational costs, maintenance, or ineligible revenue-producing facility projects, aligning with **AIP's focus on capital planning and development**.



Economic Impact of the Region's Major Commercial Airports - Study

This project proposes a study to quantify the **economic impact of the region's major commercial airports**, recognizing them as crucial drivers of economic growth.

Project Purpose:	Our Approach:	Key Goals & Outcomes:
 To develop a current, regional-level estimate of their total economic impact. To align and leverage existing airport-specific studies for consistency. To support regional planning with updated, credible economic data. To deliver a clear and unified message about the airports' economic value. 	 Review existing economic impact studies. Standardize metrics (jobs, output, labor income, etc.). Extrapolate findings to a regional level. Identify and address any data gaps. Prepare a comprehensive summary report with visual outputs. 	 Present a unified economic narrative for the airports' regional role. Highlight opportunities for strategic growth and regional competitiveness. Offer a comprehensive view of economically impacted areas. Enhance understanding of how different jurisdictions benefit.



Economic Impact of the Region's Major Commercial Airports - Study

The Economic Impact of the Region's Major Commercial Airports Study would meet AIP funding eligibility criteria as follows:

- It would be considered a "Planning Study," a fundamental activity for airport development explicitly funded by AIP.
- It encompasses "Professional services" such as reviewing existing studies, standardizing metrics, extrapolating findings, and identifying data gaps, all of which are directly fundable under AIP.
- Its primary objective is to develop a regional economic impact estimate and support planning with credible data, which informs decisions for future AIP-eligible projects focused on enhancing airport safety, increasing capacity, and addressing environmental concerns.
- It avoids ineligible "airport operations" or "operational costs," as its focus is on analysis, data collection, and reporting.



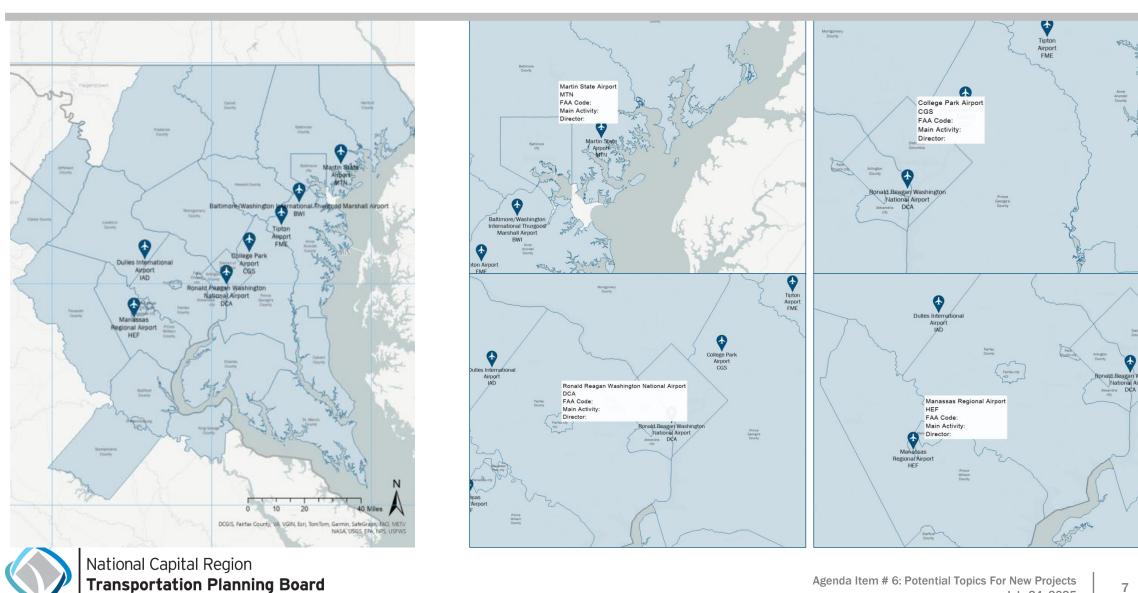
Washington-Baltimore Regional Directory of Airports

This project proposes to create a comprehensive, centralized directory of **all aviation facilities** in the Washington-Baltimore region, including general aviation airports and heliports.

Project Purpose: Our Approach: **Key Goals & Outcomes:** Address the current oversight of Develop a centralized directory Facilitate future projects and smaller, vital aviation facilities by with key details: location, activity improve coordination. CASP. type, ownership, contact info, Support more informed regional Recognize these facilities' support operations, revenue, and planning efforts. for local economic activity, runway/landing details. Offer a clearer, unified view of the emergency services, and Ensure the directory serves as a region's full aviation system. intermodal connections. single, accessible resource for Provide a complete view of planning and coordination. regional air infrastructure essential for informed planning.



Proposal: Regional Airport Directory Cont'd



Washington-Baltimore Regional Directory of Airports

The "Washington-Baltimore Regional Directory of Airports" project would meet AIP funding eligibility criteria as follows:

- It would be considered a "Planning Study," as its core purpose is to provide a comprehensive view of regional air infrastructure essential for informed planning and addressing current oversight of vital aviation facilities.
- It encompasses "Professional services" by developing a centralized directory with detailed information (location, activity type, ownership, operations, etc.), which are necessary for eligible planning and coordination efforts.
- It provides **critical data and strategic frameworks** essential for enhancing airport safety (e.g., for emergency services) and increasing capacity (by identifying underutilized or critical facilities)
- It avoids ineligible "airport operations" or "operational costs," as its focus is on data compilation, assessment, and creating a foundational planning resource.



This project proposes an **initial study to explore the readiness and potential of Urban Air Mobility** (UAM) in the Washington-Baltimore region.

Project Purpose:

- To identify opportunities, constraints, and next steps for integrating UAM into the regional transportation system.
- To serve as a foundational step to prepare for future developments in advanced air mobility.
- UAM involves advanced aircraft (e.g., eVTOLs) for moving people or goods within urban and suburban environments, operating at low altitudes.
- It promises enhanced connectivity, reduced congestion, and support for emergency response/logistics.
- UAM is a rapidly advancing field with growing interest, and a proactive approach ensures the region is prepared for policy, planning, and infrastructure implications.



Our Approach:

- Develop a baseline understanding of UAM technologies, concepts, and regulatory status.
- Identify potential regional use cases
 (e.g., emergency services, short
 passenger hops, cargo).Outline key
 infrastructure, airspace, and community
 considerations.
- Recommend whether and how to proceed with more detailed planning or engagement.

Key Goals & Outcomes:

- A summary memo or report on regional UAM potential.
- Identification of priority areas or specific use cases.
- A framework for future study or strategic engagement.



FEEDBACK MAY ATS

- Strong support for the UAM study, emphasizing that technology is outstripping regulation and the need to consider restricted airspace and ongoing state pilot programs.
- A caution that all proposed projects must adhere to AIP funding rules and FAA guidelines, requiring careful coordination.
- Advice to avoid duplicating efforts with ongoing state studies, be mindful of local sensitivities (referencing past issues), and clearly define the specific problem the UAM study aims to solve.



The "Initial Study of Urban Air Mobility (UAM) in Washington-Baltimore Region" project would meet AIP funding eligibility criteria as follows:

- It would be considered a "Planning Study," as its core purpose is to explore the readiness and potential of UAM, which is a foundational planning step for future airport and regional transportation developments.
- It encompasses "Professional services" by developing a baseline understanding of UAM technologies, identifying regional use cases, and outlining key infrastructure/airspace considerations, all necessary for eligible planning and engagement.
- It establishes a **baseline understanding** and explores how UAM could impact airport operations (like cargo) and ground access (like traffic), providing critical data and strategic frameworks that will inform future AIP-eligible capital improvements aimed at enhancing airport safety (e.g., integrating new air traffic), increasing capacity (e.g., reducing congestion), and addressing environmental concerns (e.g., reducing emissions/noise), based on civil aeronautical demand.
- It avoids ineligible "airport operations" or "operational costs," as its focus is on research, assessment, and creating a framework for future strategic development.



As we continue developing this program, your input is essential!

Feedback on the proposed projects
Suggestions for expanding or refining existing efforts
New project ideas not covered in this presentation
Priority areas of interest to the airports or the region
Level of interest in participating or supporting specific proposals

Please feel free to share your comments or suggestions via email.



Next Steps

- Gather feedback from ATS stakeholders
- Continue the conversation and engage in follow-up discussions



Olga Perez

Planning Program Specialist (202) 962-3265 opelaez@mwcog.org

mwcog.org/tpb

Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments 777 North Capitol Street NE, Suite 300 Washington, DC 20002

