BULLETIN

pennsylvania
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
BUREAU OF AVIATION

Tom Wolf, Governor

Leslie S. Richards, Secretary

Bulletin 2   Spring 2016

Director's Insight:

PennDOT's Bureau of Aviation is aggressively executing grants to meet the current budget year's funding obligation deadline in order to take full advantage of this year's (fast-approaching) construction season. We greatly appreciate your efforts and cooperation with our project managers and the Multimodal Administration Division ensuring that all grant conditions are satisfied.

One of my goals for 2016 is to understand the business at your airport. What keeps you up at night or are current challenges? What accomplishments are you most proud of? What are your future goals? How can the Bureau improve on addressing your short term and long term needs? What went well with past projects and what were the challenges?

Tis the season to be flying! Starting in May, I will be making a conscious effort to visit three airports a month across the state. I want to gain an understanding of our airports' capital projects (past and future), current assets, future land development, and economic standing.

Now, let me bring you up to altitude with some ongoing efforts.

- DBE Compliance – I really appreciate the sponsors and consultants working with our regional project managers to report accurate Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) information in dotGrants for those grants that remain open or closed in 2014 FFY and 2015 FFY. This coming August and September, in order to improve our DBE reporting, the Bureau of Equal Opportunity, Multimodal Administration, and the Bureau of Aviation will provide DBE training to the sponsors and consultants. The training will review a new dotGrants DBE screen for input, DBE program expectations, and a process flow diagram that highlights the responsibilities of the department and sponsors.

- JACIP Re-engineering – Version 2.0 will be deployed in the summer of 2016. The new version will feature a more user-friendly environment and a simplified project submission process. Airports will be able to see all past, present, and future aviation projects. The bureau will also be hosting training webinars in June and July to introduce you to the new JACIP. These will be overviews of what to expect the first time you login and some of JACIP's new features. Expect a formal announcement in the coming weeks. One last item pertaining to JACIP. The bureau is interested in rebranding the name, JACIP, to something that is more directly related to the tool's functionality. We are currently accepting suggestions

from the airports on potential names. Please use the resource account, **PDBureauofAviation@pa.gov,** to submit your suggestion by June 10, 2016.

- Are we moving to paper grants, electronic grants, or some of both? – The Bureau's future direction is that all grants will be electronic in dotGrants.

- Aviation Council of Pennsylvania - To further entice participation at the Aviation Council of Pennsylvania, September conference in King of Prussia, PA, the Bureau is planning to conduct a training session pertaining to DBE Compliance, dotGrants and JACIP Re-engineering. I hope you will attend and take advantage of this opportunity to get up to date information on these topics and collaborate on various other aviation issues.

The rest of this bulletin highlights our pavement management system plan update, spring cleaning at airports and our new Airport Manager's Safety Handbook.

I wish you all the best for safety and success at your airports.

Anthony McCloskey, P.E., Director, PennDOT Bureau of Aviation

Airport Pavement Management System Plan Update
By Robin Sukley, P.E., Chief Airport Engineer & Planning Division, PennDOT Bureau of Aviation

The Pennsylvania Airport System accounts for a vast amount of pavement, such as runways, taxiways, and aprons. This pavement represents a huge investment by the airport owner, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) that must be properly managed and maintained. As part of the Bureau of Aviation's continuing airport pavement management efforts, federal and state funding was secured to conduct an updated evaluation of the existing pavement condition at 93 public use airports/heliports and to update our Airport Pavement Management System (APMS). The results of this project will be an update to the 2010 report and a new database used to help identify, prioritize, and schedule pavement maintenance and rehabilitation measures at the study airports.

The consultant selected for this update is Applied Pavement Technology (AP Tech), a national leader in the evaluation of airport pavement using PCI methodology. The Pavement Condition Index (PCI) procedure, which is the aviation industry standard, visually assesses the condition of pavement. During a PCI evaluation, inspectors traverse the pavement identifying visible signs of deterioration. Pavement defects are characterized in terms of type of distress, severity level of distress, and amount of distress. This information was used to develop a composite index (PCI number) that represents the overall condition of the pavement in numerical terms, ranging from 0 (failed) to 100 (excellent).

The PCI number provides an overall measure of the condition and level of maintenance or rehabilitation work that will be required to maintain or repair a pavement. The

individual distress information provides insight into what may be causing the pavement to deteriorate, which in turn can be used to select the appropriate maintenance or rehabilitation action to correct the problem. PCI data also serves as the basis for the APMS which is available on our website and should be updated by the end of July 2016. APMS is used to track pavement condition, identify pavement repair needs, and develop prioritized maintenance and rehabilitation programs with associated schedules and costs.

Airport Spring Cleaning
By John Melville, Aviation Specialist Supervisor, PennDOT Bureau of Aviation

Spring time is a good time to review the Airport's overall safety program and revitalize your accident response preparedness. All airports should have a well-documented and engaged safety program that is updated regularly. Review your airport's safety program with your staff (and any tenant organization) to assure procedures are in place and applicable to the activities occurring on the airport. Remember that tenant organizations should also have their own safety plan that supplements the overall airport safety program.

Now is a good time to plan for 'on-site' safety training with your local emergency responders. Schedule a date for their group to visit the airport to provide new members an orientation of the airport grounds and review emergency response actions. This would also be a great opportunity for airport staff to receive refresher training on first aid and handling fire extinguishers.

Remember, the safety attitude of airport staff, tenants, and local pilots will usually follow that of the airport sponsor. A stronger emphasis of safety will result in stronger adherence to accident prevention and safety diligence.

We hope you have safe, successful flying season.

Gettysburg Airport Closing Temporarily for Runway Project
*By John Melville, Aviation Specialist Supervisor, PennDOT Bureau of Aviation*

Susquehanna Area Regional Airport Authority (SARAA), announced that the Gettysburg Airport (W05) will be closed for 68 consecutive days for a runway project starting Tuesday, May 31. SARAA cannot post a NOTAM until three days prior to this event, which concerns them should someone fly in before the closing and then not be able to depart until after the runway reopens.

Therefore, as a favor to pilots in the region and SARAA, the bureau is asking if you can put some form of notification on your pilot bulletin board that the Gettysburg Airport will be closed from May 31, until August 8, 2016, in an effort to try to spread the word early.

Airport Managers Safety Handbook

By John Melville, Aviation Specialist Supervisor, PennDOT Bureau of Aviation

The bureau has completed a long-desired tool for Pennsylvania airport managers to assist in the understanding, preparation and execution of an Airport Safety Program. Airport managers can soon expect receipt of the new publication. The handbook is designed to provide quick reference guide of the standards and procedures associated with a sound airport safety program. Currently, the bureau is publishing one copy per airport, but additional copies may be available upon request. The handbook will also be available on the department website.
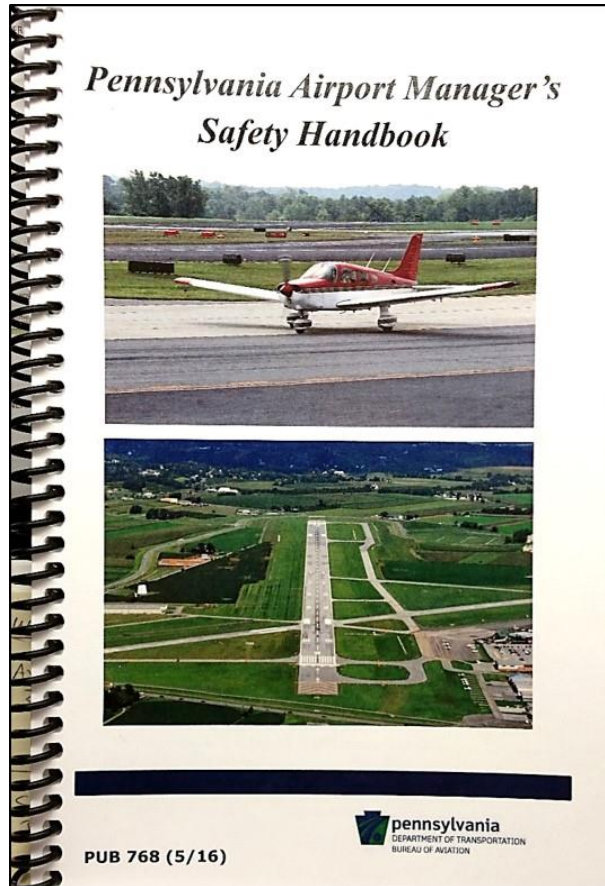
Questions/Comments: Email PDBureauofAviation@pa.gov

PennDOT's Bureau of Aviation is interested in what is new at your airport and how our organization can better serve the aviation community. Please use the email address above.