



ABOUT THE AIRPORT

- Non-commercial, general aviation airport that serves national and global markets with high activity levels of long range jet/transport aircraft.
- FAA designated "National Asset," one of only 86 airports of the 3,400 general aviation airports nationwide.
- Second busiest non-commercial airport in IL and WI; FAA designated "reliever" to Chicago O'Hare airport.
- Home base to dozens of corporate jets and scores of other aircraft that support Lake County businesses, military, medical, humanitarian, flight schools and emergency preparedness.
- Onsite U.S. Customs service enables daily international arrivals and departures.
- Proximity to UGN makes Lake County a desirable location for business leaders and corporations which bring jobs and tax revenue to the region and state.

The Waukegan National Airport needs critical, unavoidable infrastructure investments that would have a lasting positive impact on regional job growth and economic opportunities.

ISSUE

- The airport's 6,000-foot runway does not meet minimum FAA design and safety standards; the length and strength are inadequate for existing aircraft activity.
- The FAA concurs that the airport needs a new, modern 7,000-foot runway to meet FAA safety and design criteria to enable current and future aircraft to realize their full potential.
- If these issues go unaddressed, some area businesses will seek to relocate to airports that meet their needs. This loss of business would have a devastating impact on our regional economy and future growth of the airport.
- Reconstruction of the current runway is not feasible. It would require closing the airport for 2-3 construction seasons, cost nearly as much as constructing a replacement runway, and could potentially shorten the runway from its current 6,000-foot length.
- IDOT is moving forward with the widening of IL 131 Green Bay Road, which includes a depression of the roadway to accommodate the replacement runway over the top.

NEEDED INVESTMENT

The cost to replace the runway is \$142 million. The project will require multiple funding sources. State and federal funding could provide approximately 55-76% of the total project costs, leaving an estimated local match of \$34-\$64 million.

GROWING JOBS AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES IN OUR REGION



\$156.5 million
economic impact



723 jobs and
\$54 million in payroll



18,000 visitors
generate **\$2.9 million**
in direct spending



\$11+ million in
tax revenues to
state and local
governments



21,000 people
employed by
Lake County
corporations that
use the airport

**Annual impact to six county region*

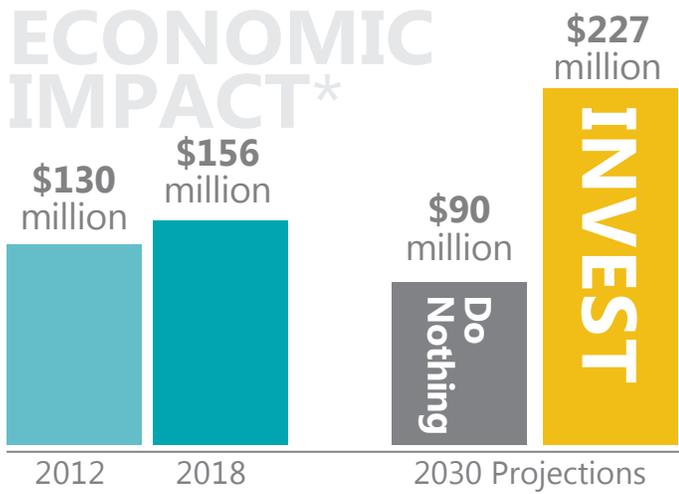
\$142 million total cost

\$34-\$64 million local match needed

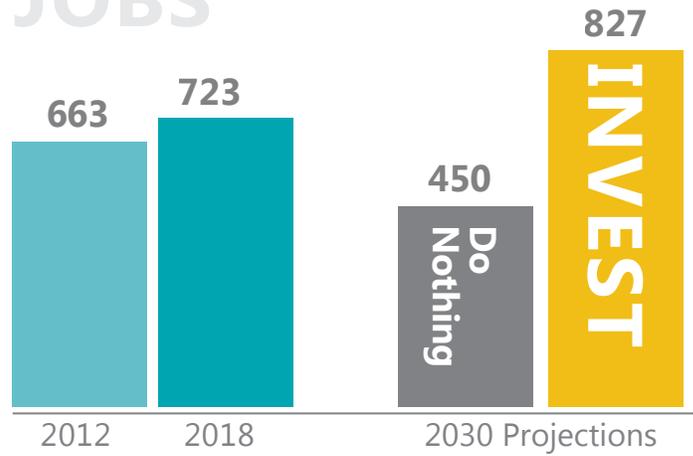
55%-76% state & federal funding eligible

Investing in the airport will spur economic growth and improve strategic position, while doing nothing will result in significant negative regional economic impacts including business and job loss.

ECONOMIC IMPACT*



JOBS*



*Annual impacts from the Waukegan National Airport (UGN) in the six-county region



"The airport is a key piece of Lake County's economic ecosystem and the activity here helps drive our economic vitality. These investments would be catalysts for economic growth that our region needs to stay competitive. Today's businesses demand speed, flexibility, efficiency and productivity— and that means close proximity to a capable airport that can support regional, national and global aircraft. Aviation is not for the elite, it's a competitive business requirement." -Kevin Considine, Lake County Partners CEO

THE LAKE COUNTY PORT INVESTMENT TASK FORCE

The Waukegan Port District (WPD), in collaboration with Lake County Partners and the Lake County Municipal League, initiated a collaborative process in fall 2019 to explore financing solutions and build consensus around a plan to fund the required capital improvements to the airport. The Task Force consists of WPD board members, local mayors and county board members, business representatives and users. The Task Force is continuing to meet in 2020 and will provide recommended solutions that ensure the long-term success of the airport.



THE WAUKEGAN PORT DISTRICT is a unit of government with seven members appointed by the Mayor of Waukegan and the Governor of Illinois. The WPD was created by Illinois Statute 65 years ago and it is responsible for governing the Waukegan National Airport, the Waukegan Commercial Port and the Waukegan Marina. Since its creation, the District has been financially self-sufficient funding operating expenses and capital improvements with user fees and federal grants. The District has limited taxing and bonding authority and has never levied a tax upon district residents or businesses. The needed infrastructure investment exceeds the Port District's financial capabilities.

For more information or to schedule a visit to the Waukegan National Airport, please contact:
Skip Goss, General Manager, Waukegan National Airport
sgoss@waukeganport.com
(847) 244-0055

Connect with the WPD!



waukeganport.com



@WaukeganNationalAirport