

# Airport Update for the Duluth Superior Metropolitan Interstate Council

A Delta airplane is parked at an airport gate at night. The aircraft is illuminated by ground lights, and the Delta logo is visible on the fuselage. The background shows airport infrastructure, including a building and a fence.

**Presented By: Tom Werner C.M.  
Executive Director  
Duluth Airport Authority**

# DULUTH AIRPORT AUTHORITY

- **Legislation:**

- Duluth Airport Authority Act of 1969

- **Composition:**

- **Seven Directors**

- Appointed by Mayor of Duluth
- Approved by City Council
- Three Year Terms

- **23 Employees**

- **Vision:** *Our vision is to be the region's center of aviation, supporting economic development by growing travel, cargo and business services for our customers and communities.*

- **Mission:** We are committed to providing our customers with superior services in a safe, secure, professional environment.



# DULUTH INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

The airport is an economic driver because the region has leveraged its infrastructure

## Airport Annual Economic Impact

Duluth International Airport

**\$760.6 Million**

**6,230 Jobs**

*(direct, indirect, induced)*

## Major Aviation Employers



148th Fighter Wing

Cirrus

Lake Superior College

Monaco Air

DLH Compared to Annual  
Statewide Impacts Minnesota's  
Public Airports (Non-MAC Airports)

- **76% of \$1.6 Billion** Annual Economic Activity
- **47% of 13,147 Jobs** (direct, indirect, induced)

Supports **483,000**

residents and major employers:

CN

maurices

ALLETE

Health care and

Enbridge

mining industries

# DULUTH INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

## Major Tenants and Buildings

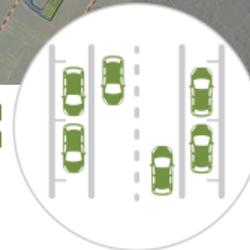


# DULUTH INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

*Air commerce doesn't thrive without adequate infrastructure*



**Airside paved  
infrastructure**



**75+ miles of  
City street**

# Vision 2040

## Duluth International Airport Master Plan



# DLH MASTER PLAN GOALS

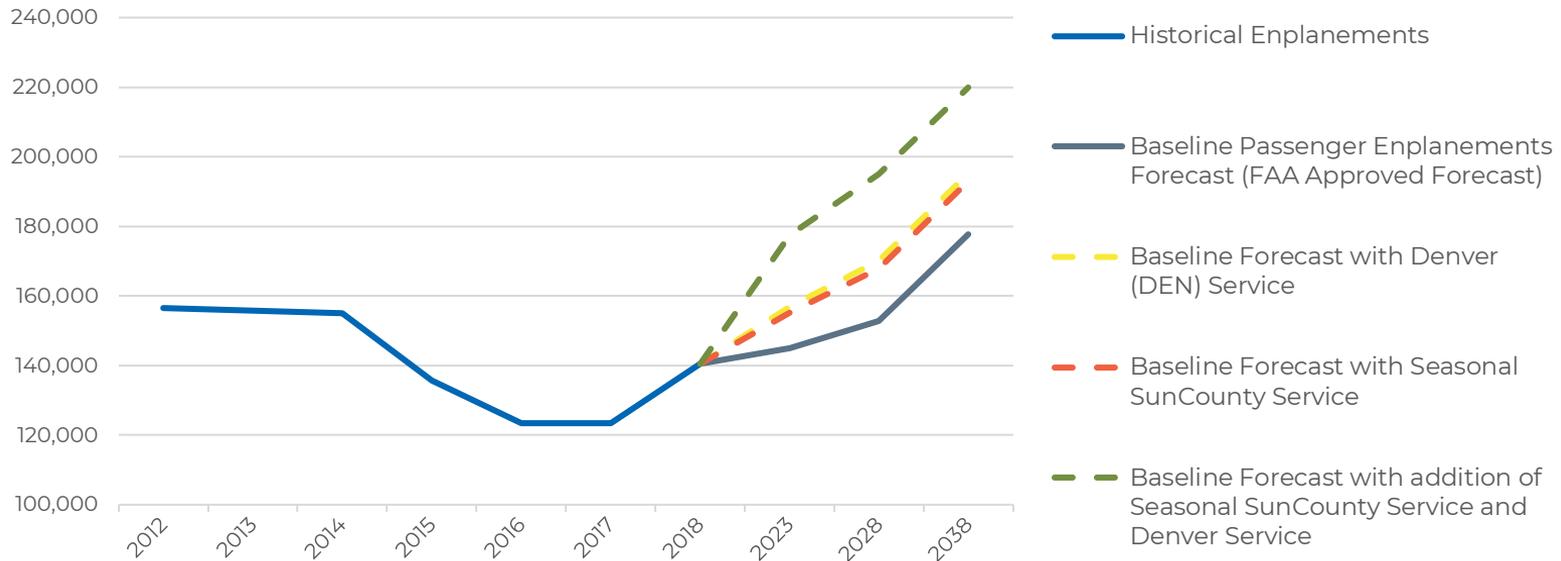
DLH Vision 2040 the Duluth Airport Authority (DAA) shall:

- Opportunities for Business Growth/Relocation
- Anticipate Evolving Demand for Air Service in Our Region
- Increase General Aviation Capacity
- Agile in Responding to Tomorrow's Opportunities/Challenges
- Complement Neighboring Communities
- Maintain the DAA's Financial Sustainability

# Aviation Activity Forecasts

## Enplanements

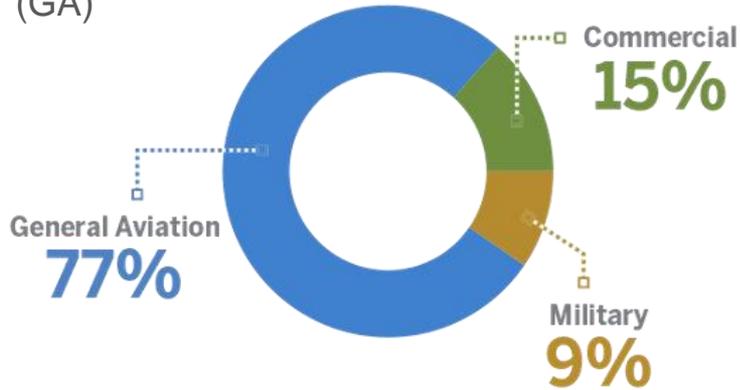
- **Stable growth forecasted going forward**
- Passenger Enplanements CAGRs: 3.4% (2023), 2.2% (2028) & 1.7% (2033)



# Aviation Activity Forecasts

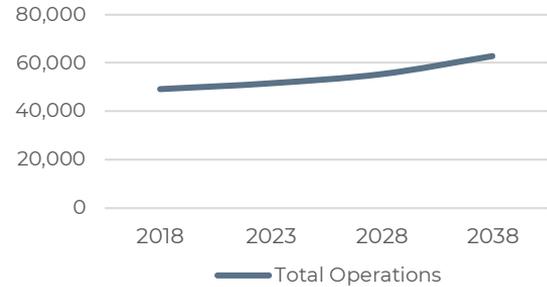
Aircraft Operations

- Aircraft Operations at DLH are mostly general aviation (GA)

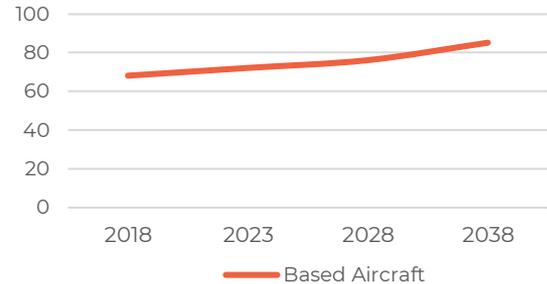


- **Total annual aircraft operations expect steady growth through the 20-year planning period**
- Based Aircraft have steady growth projected

Forecasted Annual Aircraft Operations



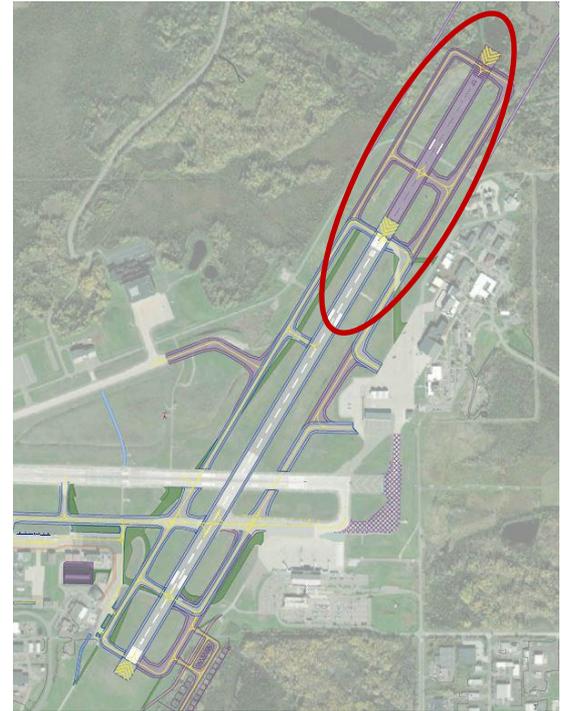
Forecasted Based Aircraft



# Extension of Runway 3/21

Approved through 2040

- Routine Maintenance of existing runway
  - Electrical/Lighting Replacement in 2022
  - Rehabilitation by 2027
  - Reconstruction around 2040
- Runway extension
  - **\$72+ million** total project cost
  - **34+ acres** of wetland impact
  - Because there is no identified funding source, the project is **not included in the 20-year CIP**



# TAXIWAY A

Future Layout and Phasing

**\$75+ million** total project cost  
**9 phases** over **9 years**  
Construction begins in **2022**

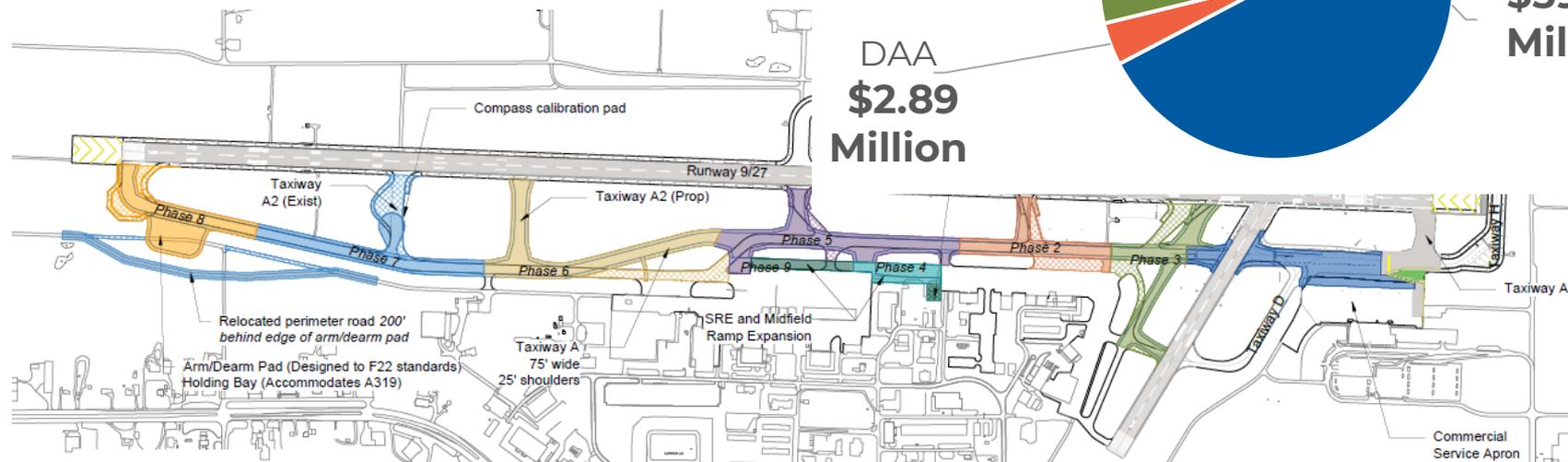
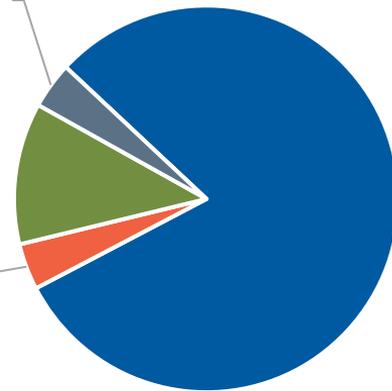
## Taxiway A Project Funding

MnDOT  
**\$2.89 Million**

148<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing  
**\$8.84 Million**

DAA  
**\$2.89 Million**

FAA  
**\$59.98 Million**

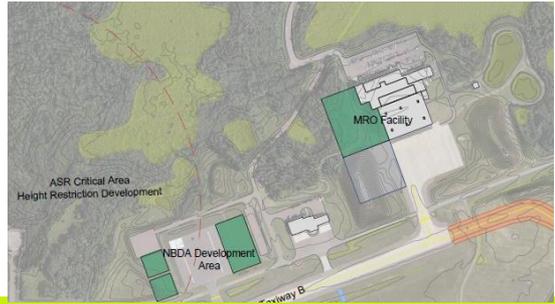
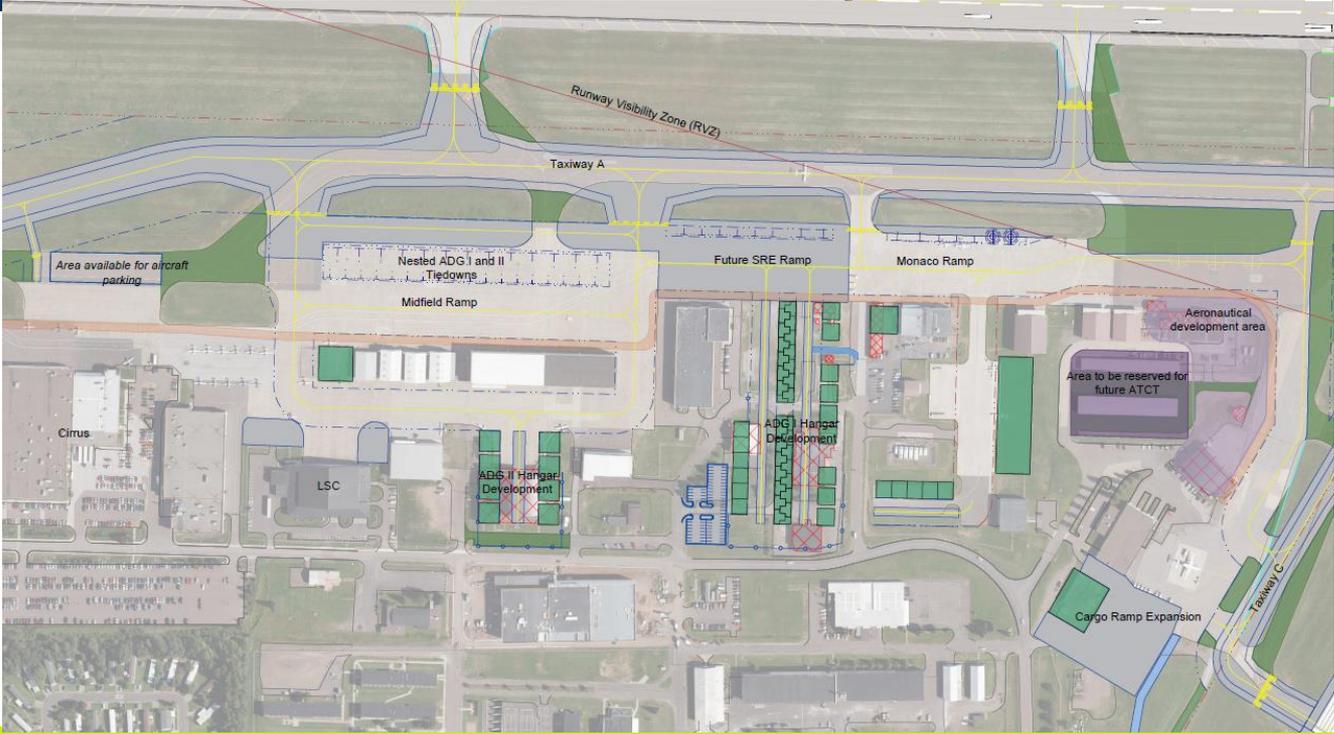


# Air Traffic Control Tower



- Owned and Maintained by the DAA
  - 70 Years Old, Constructed in the 1950's
  - Line-of-Sight Issues
  - \$500K in Life, Health and Safety Improvements Since 2015
- Awaiting a FAA Siting Study
  - \$568K
- **Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act** Included Funding Opportunity
  - Reconstruction of airport-owned air traffic control towers

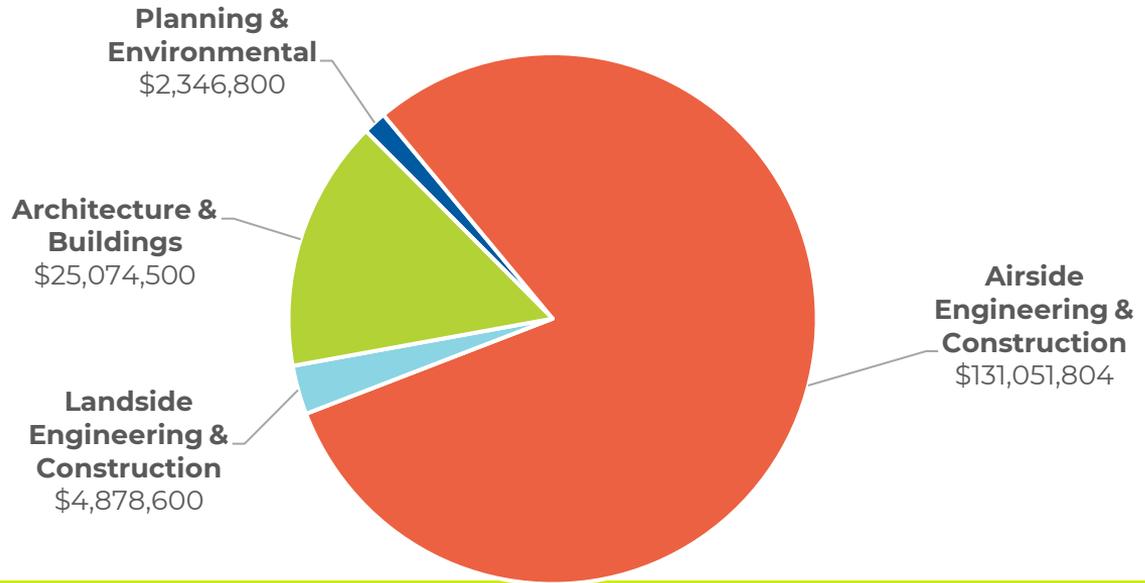
# OVERVIEW PROPOSED BUILDING AREAS



# FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION BREAKDOWN

## 20 Year Infrastructure Improvements

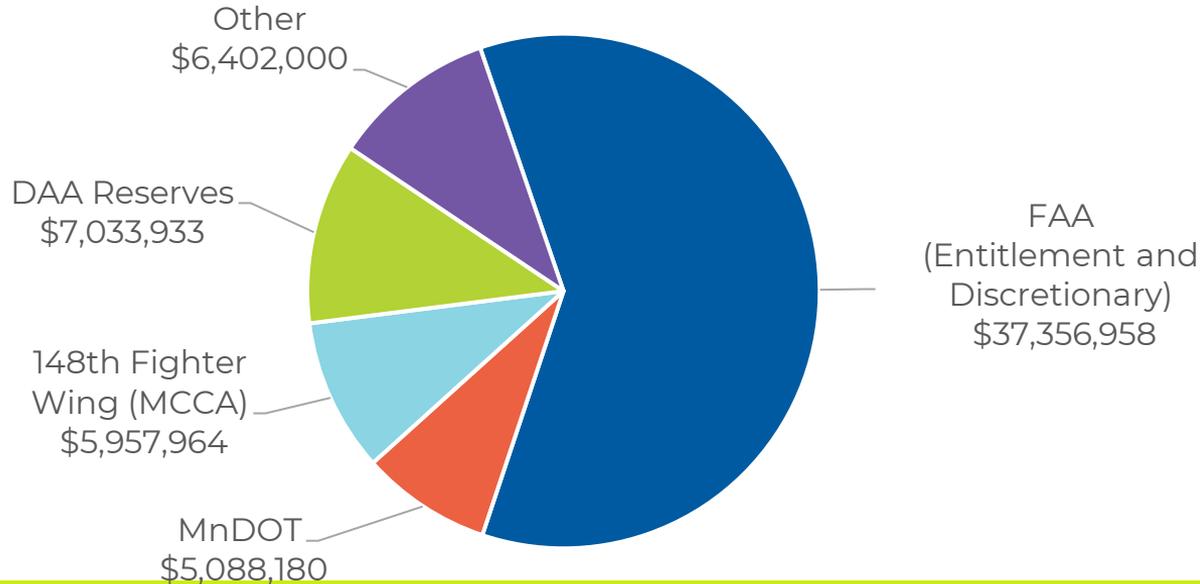
Approximately  
**\$163 Million**  
Infrastructure  
Investment  
Through 2040



# FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION BREAKDOWN

Approximately \$163,000,000 Investment Through 2040

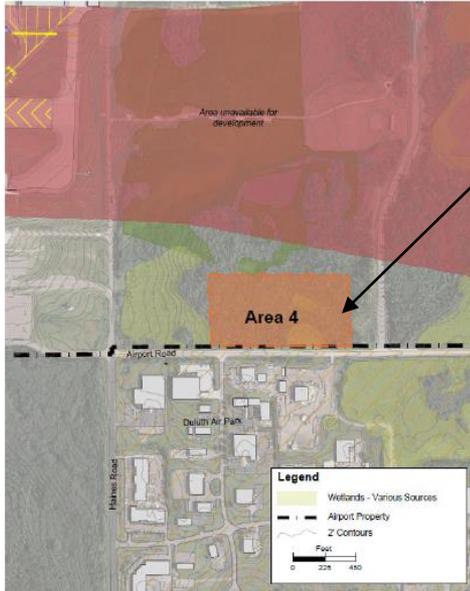
## Years 1-5 Anticipated Funding Sources



# Non-Aeronautical Development

## 163 acres and 4 sites

available for development



### Area 4



Approx. **10 acres**  
Zoned Rural Residential  
(City of Duluth)



**Opportunities**  
Road access  
Busy roadway  
Nearby utilities  
Minimal Wetland Impacts



Requires FAA Land Release

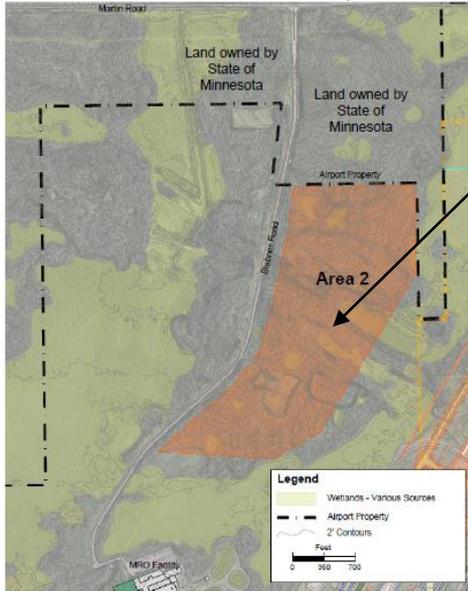


**Challenges**  
Tree clearing  
Utility connections  
Topography

# Non-Aeronautical Development

## 163 acres and 4 sites

available for development



## Area 2



Approx. **90 acres**  
Zoned Commercial  
(St. Louis County)



### Opportunities

Road access  
Large site  
Adjacent public land – Owned by  
State of Minnesota



Requires FAA Land Release



### Challenges

No existing utilities  
Tree clearing  
Wetlands – ability to avoid  
Topography



THANK YOU