

Chapter Four

Agency and Citizen Coordination

4.1 Introduction

FAA Order 1050.1F, Environmental Impacts: Policies and Procedures, states that: “NEPA and the CEQ Regulations, in describing the public involvement process, require Federal agencies to consider environmental information in their decision-making process; solicit appropriate information from the public; fully assess and disclose potential environmental impacts resulting from the proposed action and alternatives; and provide the public with this information and allow it to comment on these findings.”

4.2 Agency and Public Scoping

As an outcome of the Airport’s recently completed Master Plan process, two programs are being advanced to the environmental review stage: the West Airfield Program, which is evaluated in this EA and the Consolidated Terminal Program, which will be evaluated under a separate NEPA process. Although each program is being evaluated separately, the FAA determined that a combined scoping process was appropriate to be conducted due to the anticipated implementation timeframes of these two programs.

STL and the FAA completed governmental agency and public scoping activities to determine the range of issues to be analyzed and to what magnitude they were to be treated. Key governmental agencies were invited to participate in an agency scoping meeting to provide any information they wished to be considered in the EA. A copy of the scoping invitation letter and list of recipients is included in Appendix A.

The agency scoping meeting was conducted virtually at 10:00 a.m. on December 15, 2022. At this meeting, STLAA and the EA consultant team made a presentation about the Proposed Actions and the preliminary scope of environmental analyses to be included in the NEPA documents. There were 17 representatives of state and local agencies that participated in the agency scoping meeting.

In addition to the agency scoping meeting, a public scoping meeting was held for the West Airfield Program and the Consolidated Terminal Plan. The purpose of this meeting was to introduce the environmental review process and solicit feedback on issues or concerns to be evaluated during the NEPA processes. The meeting was held on Thursday, December 15, 2022, from 4:00-7:00 p.m. at St. Louis Lambert International Airport’s Terminal 1, Concourse B.

Several methods were used to notify the public of the public scoping meeting. Postcards announcing the meeting date, time, location and purpose were mailed to 14,110 residences and businesses within a one-mile radius of the airport. Email invitations were sent to 49 project stakeholders who were part of the Airport’s Master Planning process and to 101 individuals who registered for updates at a May 2022 Master Plan Open House. Airport officials placed six (6) social media posts and advertised on their FlySTL website. Both a media advisory and press release were distributed to local media outlets.

The Public Scoping Meeting involved an open house format as well as a formal presentation followed by audience questions. A total of 65 people were in attendance. Attendees viewed several display boards at their leisure. Airport and FAA officials, along with the project consultant team, were stationed around the room to explain the boards and to answer any questions. At the final station, meeting attendees could provide their feedback either by completing a survey online using their personal smart phone or an iPad on display or a paper survey.

Two times during the Public Scoping Meeting (at 4:45 p.m. and again at 5:45 p.m.), there was a formal presentation given by Airport officials and their consultants. The presentation focused on an overview of both the West Airfield Program and the Consolidated Terminal Program, and an explanation of the environmental review process. After the presentations, audience members were given the opportunity to ask questions. Following the meeting, a recording of the presentation was posted on the FlySTL website.⁵¹

In addition to completing an online comment form, agencies and the public could email or mail their comments to Airport Project Manager, Jay Christians, or FAA Project Manager Scott Tener during the scoping comment period (December 15, 2022 – January 16, 2023). Most comments received during the scoping process were in relation to the Consolidated Terminal Program. A link to the full STL scoping summary document, which includes the notices, presentation materials, and a summary of comments received during the scoping process, is available on the FlySTL website.⁵²

Comments submitted during the scoping process that were relevant to the West Airfield Program are summarized in Table 4.1 and the applicable pages from the scoping summary report are included in Appendix A.

Table 4-1: Scoping Comments Related to the West Airfield Program

Commenter	Comments	EA Section Where Addressed
Metropolitan St. Louis Sewer District	MSD review and permits required for construction, drainage and stormwater management, best management practices, floodplains/flood study, wetlands and waters of the U.S., Clean Water Act Section 401/404 permitting requirements, deicing facility locations and processes, maintenance access.	Chapter 3, Sections 3.14, 3.15, 3.16 and 3.17
Public	Proposed deicing locations and operations.	Chapter 2, Alternatives
Eastern Shawnee Tribe	NO Adverse Effect or endangerment to known sites of interest. Notification to Tribe and State agencies if archaeological site or object(s), are discovered.	Chapter 3, Section 3.12
Osage Nation Historic Preservation Office	Requested review of previous archaeological survey reports.	Chapter 3, Section 3.12

Source: CMT, 2023.

⁵¹ FlySTL Website: <https://www.flystl.com/about-us/stl-airport-layout-plan/environmental-review-process/airport-layout-plan-update-and-master-plan-stl-environmental-review-public-scoping-meeting>.

⁵² NEPA Agency and Public Scoping Meetings, Comment Summary, Vector Communications and WSP, September 2023, https://www.flystl.com/uploads/documents/airport-layout-plan-update-and-master-plan-stl-environmental-review-public-scoping-meeting/STL_NEPA-Scoping-Meeting-Comment-Summary_Sept-2023.pdf.

4.3 Summary of Public and Agency Coordination

The Draft EA was available for agency and public review from November 29 through December 29, 2023. A Notice of Opportunity for a Public Hearing and Notice of Availability for Public Comment (NOA) was posted on the Airport's website at <https://www.flystl.com/civil-rights/public-notice-and-reports> and in the St. Louis Post Dispatch on November 29, 2023. A copy of the affidavit of publication of the NOA is included in Appendix A. The Draft EA was available to the public for review online at the FlySTL website. Copies of the Draft EA were also made available for public review at the following libraries:

Bridgeton Trails Library Branch
3455 McKelvey Road
Bridgeton, MO 63044-2500

Rock Road Library Branch
10267 St. Charles Rock Road
St. Ann, MO 63074-1812

Oak Bend Branch (temporary St. Louis County Library headquarters)
842 S. Holmes Avenue
St. Louis, MO 63122-6507

The NOA with a link to the Draft EA was also sent to various governmental agencies having jurisdiction in the project area or reviewing/permitting authority over resources potentially affected by the Proposed Action. A copy of the email correspondence and list of agency recipients is included in Appendix A. Comments on the Draft EA were received from two agencies, the USACE and MSD. A copy of the comments and responses to these agency comments are included in Appendix A. The comments were considered during preparation of this Final EA. No requests for a public hearing or public comments were received during the public comment period.