

AIRPORT BEACON REPORT

Smith Reynolds Airport

October-December 2019



The Airport Beacon Report is published three times a year to improve the communication between the airport and its tenants with the community around it.

Construction begins on Forsyth Tech Aviation Lab

Ground was broken on Forsyth Technical Community College's new aviation lab at Smith Reynolds Airport on July 24.

Located at 2739 Aviation Drive, the Mazie S. Woodruff Aviation Technology Lab will be a two-story, 53,000 square foot building. At a cost of approximately \$16 million, it will have a 12,000 square foot

airframe lab that can house up to eight aircraft along with classrooms and components labs that include sheet metal, composite structures like fiberglass and carbon fiber,

avionics/electrical, paint, aircraft welding and piston/turbine engines. Students will be able to earn associate degrees in two programs of study: Aviation Systems Technology and Aviation Electronics (Avionics). The facility is expected to be complete by Fall 2020.

The lab is named after the late Mazie Woodruff who became the first African-American elected as a Forsyth



An artist rendering of Forsyth Tech's new Aviation Technology Lab.

County commissioner in 1976. She served for 14 years and was known for her dedication to education and social justice. Forsyth Tech's Mazie Woodruff Center, located on Lansing Drive, is also named in her honor.

"All of us at Forsyth Tech share her passion for public service and access to high quality public education for everyone," Forsyth Tech President Janet Spriggs told

attendees at the groundbreaking, who included many members of Woodruff's family.

The lab is funded by a \$65 million Forsyth Tech bond package voters overwhelmingly

approved in 2016 after county commissioners voted to place it on the ballot. The aviation lab will prepare students for jobs in Maintenance Overhaul and Repair (MRO) needed by aerospace companies at Smith Reynolds Airport and around the state. The county plans to partner with Carver High School to encourage students who live near the airport to enroll in the program.



Ground was broken on Forsyth Tech's Aviation Technology Lab on July 24.

2 - Aerotropolis update

Public meeting being held on airport development plan.

3 - Taxiway Q

A study is being conducted for the Taxiway Q project.

4 - Employment Opportunities

See who's hiring around Smith Reynolds Airport.



Public invited to Aerotropolis meeting

Since the Airport is such a vital asset to the community, in 2017 the Winston-Salem Chamber of Commerce hired a consultant group called Aerotropolis Business Concepts to develop a plan. The final report from the consultant included strategies and actions to leverage the Airport for Winston-Salem's business development and overall competitive advantage.

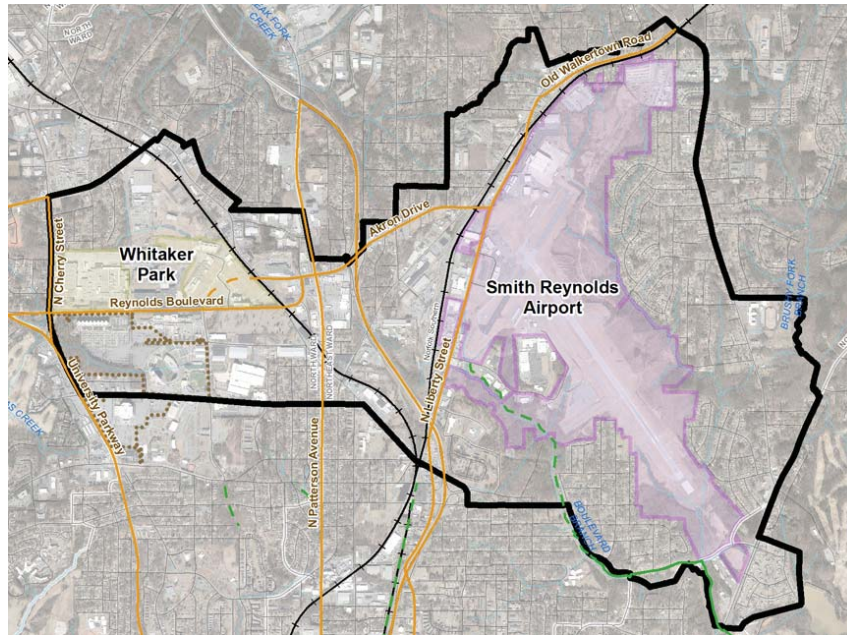
To further advance some of the concepts in the report, Mayor Allen Joines and Chairman of the Forsyth County Commissioners David Plyler developed an Aerotropolis Task Force, which included several leaders in the community such as Mayor Pro Tempore Vivian Burke, who represents the Northeast Ward on the City Council. The Task Force reviewed the findings from the report and took

action on several of the recommendations. One of the recommendations was to develop a Smith Reynolds Airport / Whitaker Park Strategic Area Plan with input from the

community. The plan will focus on economic development, design/appearance, and transportation recommendations for the entire area. The plan will not include land use or historic resources recommendations.

In order to solicit public comments for the plan, the Winston-Salem / Forsyth County Planning and Development Services Department will hold four public meetings. The first meeting will

be held at 6 p.m. on Oct. 17 at Carver High School, 3545 Carver School Road. To find out more, please visit <https://tinyurl.com/airport-plan> if you are interested in attending.



This map shows the area included in the Smith Reynolds Airport/Whitaker Park Strategic Area Plan.



Disaster drill to take place November 9

On November 9, 2019 you may see emergency vehicles at Smith Reynolds Airport - Don't be alarmed!

The Airport Department, in conjunction with several other agencies, will be conducting a full scale disaster drill. The exercise is part of the County's triennial FAR Part 139 certification that requires the airport to conduct a full scale disaster drill.

Airport Director, Mark Davidson, says the event tests mutual aid response with other agencies like the Winston-Salem

Police Department, Office of Emergency Management, Forsyth County Fire Department, local hospitals and other agencies.

"It's essential to practice and review what we discover during the drill. Communication between entities is important and we want everyone that is part of the drill to become familiar with the airport's emergency plan," Davidson said.



Project Update - Taxiway Q

As you may have heard in one of the public neighborhood meetings, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) has determined that the existing Taxiway A (Alpha) is too close to Runway 15-33 at Smith Reynolds Airport. To correct this safety concern, the FAA is in the process of approving a plan to construct a new Taxiway Q (Quebec), which is proposed to be located on the east side of the current runway. If everything is approved, there are 16 parcels that the Airport may need to purchase with FAA funding.



To comply with the FAA and to minimize the impact to the community, the Forsyth County Airport Department has begun planning and environmental studies for the construction of the new Parallel Taxiway Q. As the study progresses, project information will be made available and an advertised public meeting will be held to present information and any preliminary designs to keep you informed of the project's progress.

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This map shows the 16 parcels that could possibly be affected by the Taxiway Q project.

City Council approves changes to airport wildlife ordinance

The Winston-Salem City Council recently approved a change to the wildlife ordinance at Smith Reynolds Airport to help control the deer population there that poses a safety hazard to pilots and passengers.

The change will allow for the use of suppressed rifles by state and/or federal wildlife officers to harvest deer at the airport. Previously, it allowed the officers to only use shotguns and archery. This ordinance only applies to wildlife officers. Hunting by the general public is not allowed at the airport. The change will remain in effect until August 19, 2020.

Wildlife officers will be harvesting white tail deer within the perimeter fence of the airport using techniques that have proven safe and effective at other airports. All shots will be taken from the back of a truck at a downward angle. The ammo used is designed to break up when it hits to avoid ricochets. This will be done in safe

locations and not with any nearby neighborhood in the backdrop.

Aircraft experiencing close calls or striking deer has become an issue at the airport. Wildlife strikes can result in costly damage to aircraft and can put the safety of pilots and passengers at risk. When wildlife strikes occur, federal regulations require an airport to work with the U.S. Department of Agriculture - Wildlife Services, to come up with a plan to alleviate the wildlife hazards. Wildlife officers harvesting the deer is part of that plan, as is habitat management and repairing breaches in the fence the deer might be coming through. The airport has 5.9 miles of interior fence line.

Meat from the harvested deer will be donated to Samaritans Ministries, Second Harvest Food Bank, Catholic Social Services and Winston Salem Rescue Mission.



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A deer strike caused \$100,000 in damage to this aircraft.



Smith Reynolds Airport
3801 N. Liberty Street
Winston-Salem, NC 27105

Employment Opportunities

North State Aviation in Winston-Salem, NC is looking for experienced licensed **A&P Mechanics** and other positions. Please visit our website at nsamro.com for more details or email us at HR@nsamro.com.

EPES Transport is hiring truck drivers and other positions for regional opportunities. Visit epestransport.com for details.

Piedmont Propulsion in Winston-Salem, NC is looking for various positions. Please visit our website at piedmontpropulsion.com/careers/ for more details.

Love kids? Winston-Salem Forsyth County Schools is now hiring. **Full-time, Part-time & Substitute School Bus Drivers.** Visit wsfcs.k12.nc.us/Page/1188 for more info.

Takeoffs & Landings at Smith Reynolds

1 month

July 2019 4,054
July 2018 4,566

12 month

46,191
45,993

Learn to Fly

Contact Piedmont Flight Training

"Most Experienced Flight School in North Carolina"

Visit flypft.com or contact 336-776-6070 or info@FlyPFT.com

Other County Resources in Your Area

Carver School Road Branch Library, 4915 Lansing Drive, offers a variety of programs and resources. For more information, visit forsyth.cc/library/Carver.

N.C. Cooperative Extension Forsyth County Center, 1450 Fairchild Road, offers resources and workshops related to farming, gardening and the 4-H youth program. Visit forsyth.cc/CES/ for details.



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