



## **Reid Hillview Airport Master Plan**

### **Notice of Preparation (NOP) of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the Reid Hillview Airport Master Plan**

**DATE: April 29, 2011**

## **INTRODUCTION**

This document is a Notice of Preparation to inform the public that the County of Santa Clara plans to prepare an Environmental Impact Report (EIR), pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), to describe and evaluate environmental impacts that could result from implementation of the Reid Hillview (RHV) Airport Master Plan.

As described further below, the Reid Hillview Airport Master Plan includes both aviation related improvements at the airport (new taxiway, four new hangers) and non-aviation commercial development onsite.

The Reid Hillview Airport is a General Aviation (GA) Airport located at the northwest corner of Capitol Expressway and Tully Road, in San Jose, CA (shown in Figure 1: Location Map).

The County would like to obtain feedback from the members of the public on environmental impacts to be evaluated in the Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the Reid Hillview Airport Master Plan. This is to ensure that the identified concerns are properly studied and examined in the EIR.

## **PUBLIC SCOPING MEETINGS**

Two public scoping meetings are scheduled to obtain public input on environmental issues to be studied in the EIR. The location, dates, and time of these public meetings are listed below.

### **Thursday, May 19, 2011**

6:30 p.m.

Hillview Library,  
1600 Hopkins Drive,  
San Jose, CA - 95122.

### **Tuesday, May 24, 2011**

6:30 p.m.

Reid Hillview Airport,  
2500 Cunningham Avenue,  
San Jose, CA - 95148.

Feedback may be provided to County staff at these meetings and also provided in writing as described at the end of this Notice of Preparation.

A brief description of the Master Plan for Reid Hillview Airport, key environmental areas identified by County staff for evaluation in the EIR, and information for submitting written comments is outlined below.

## ***El Plan Maestro del Aeropuerto Reid Hillview***

Este documento es un aviso para informar al público que el Condado de Santa Clara tiene planes para preparar un Informe de Impacto Ambiental para describir y evaluar los impactos ambientales que podrían resultar de la implementación del Plan Maestro del Aeropuerto Reid Hillview (RHV).

El Plan Maestro del Aeropuerto Reid Hillview propone varios cambios en el aeropuerto de Reid Hillview incluyendo pequeñas modificaciones en las pistas del aeropuerto, una nueva calle de rodaje, y el nuevo desarrollo comercial en dos lugares en la propiedad del aeropuerto.

El Condado le gustaría obtener sus comentarios sobre los impactos ambientales a ser evaluados en el Informe de Impacto Ambiental a que se prepare para este plan.

El Condado también tendrán dos reuniones de la comunidad con respecto a la Informe de Impacto Ambiental para aceptar las observaciones del público.

Las reuniones públicas se llevarán a cabo en las siguientes fechas:

**Jueves, 19 de Mayo 2011**

6:30 pm  
Biblioteca Hillview  
1600 Hopkins Drive  
San Jose, CA - 95122.

**Martes, 24 de Mayo 2011**

6:30 pm  
Aeropuerto Reid Hillview  
2500 Cunningham Avenue  
San Jose, CA - 95148.

Si usted tiene preguntas o necesita más información en Español, por favor entre en contacto con Sylvia Ornelas en la Oficina de Planificación al (408) 299-5759.

## ***Chuong Trinh Cai To Phi Truong Reid Hillview***

Kem theo day la ban thong bao tuyen bo quan hat Santa Clara dang chuan bi mot ban bao cao ve nhung anh huong co the xay ra chung quanh khu vuc nay (Environmental Impact Report) ve du dinh cai tien tai phi truong Reid Hillview (Reid Hillview Airport Master Plan).

Chuong trinh cai tien gom co phan sua chua nho cho phi dao xay them mot duong bo moi cho may bay (taxiway) va mot khu ky nghe moi tai 2 dia diem trong phi truong nay.

Quan hat Santa Clara hoan nghinh su dong gop y kien cua quy vi ve nhung anh huong co the xay ra do su cai to nay. Nhung y kien cua quy vi se duoc ban thao, cuu xet va liet ke trong ban bao cao (Environmental Impact Report) noi tren.

De thau thap y kien cua cong dong va ban thao ve nhung van de anh huong den cong dong boi su cai to nay, quan hat Santa Clara se to chuc hai buoi hop cong dong vao hai ngay sau day:

**Thursday, May 19, 2011**

6:30 p.m.  
Hillview Library  
1600 Hopkins Drive  
San Jose, CA - 95122

**Tuesday, May 24, 2011**

6:30 p.m.  
Reid Hillview Airport  
2500 Cunningham Avenue  
San Jose, CA – 95148

Neu quy vi can biet them chi tiet hoac co cau hoi gi ve van de nay, xin lien lac co Mai Trinh o so dien thoai 408-299-5734.

## REID HILLVIEW AIRPORT (RHV)

### BACKGROUND

The Reid Hillview Airport has been in operation as a public airport since 1961. It currently has basing capacity for 726 planes and two 3,100 feet long runways (13R / 31L & 13L / 31R). It also contains several aviation related fixed based operators and related facilities.

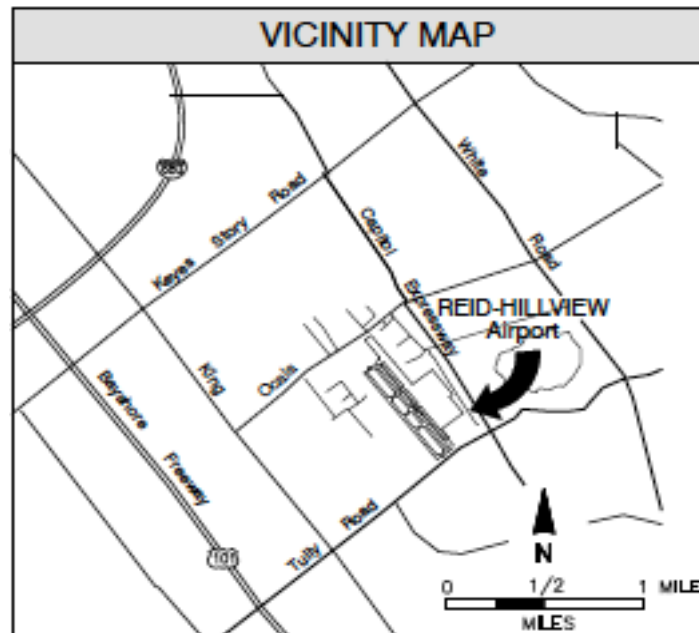


Figure 1: Location Map

### RHV MASTER PLAN

The purpose of the RHV Airport Master Plan, dated 2006, is to provide for operations and growth of the airport through 2022. The improvements proposed at the Reid Hillview Airport as per the RHV Master Plan include the following main components:

- Four new hangars in the southeast section of the airport to expand the basing capacity at the airport from 726 to 750 planes.
- Shifting of Runways (13L-31R & 13R-31L) northwest to provide for a runway protection zone.
- Making two currently operational helicopter landing pads permanent on the west side of the Airport.
- A new taxiway (Taxiway W) on the west side of Airport.
- Non-aviation – commercial development on the two following parcels currently located on RHV Airport property:
  - a. Parcel located at southeast corner of Tully Road and Capitol Expressway (8.0 acres).
  - b. Swift Avenue Parcel located on west side of Airport Property facing Swift access road (2.5 acres). This would also include making commercial use of the existing Swift Avenue Building (10,600 gross square feet), located on Swift Avenue, adjacent to the Swift Avenue parcel.

- Installation of a photovoltaic (PV) system on the west side of Airport Property near the terminus of Cunningham Avenue.
- Future above ground fuel storage tanks located fronting Swift Avenue.

## **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT**

Based on the improvements proposed at the RHV Airport, County staff has identified the following key areas to be discussed and evaluated in the Environmental Impact Report (EIR):

### **A. Traffic**

Both new commercial development and a small increase in overall airport capacity under the Master Plan would generate new traffic, which could affect traffic congestion and operation on local and regional roads. The EIR will include a traffic study to evaluate the impacts of increase in traffic.

### **B. Noise**

Noise associated with aircraft operations at Reid Hillview Airport has been of consistent concern to residents surrounding the Airport. Several proposed improvements at the airport under the Master Plan could potentially create noise impacts, including construction and use of a new Taxiway on the west side of the Airport, minor modifications in Runways, and any increase in traffic noise. The EIR will include a noise study that evaluates potential noise impacts from these activities.

### **C. Biology**

Reid Hillview Airport is located in an urban setting. It does not contain any important plant or wildlife habitat except for potential habitat for the Western Burrowing Owl. The Western Burrowing Owl is protected under California Environmental Quality Act as it is designated a California Species of Special Concern. The EIR will evaluate whether the Burrowing Owls and/or suitable breeding habitat for Burrowing Owls are present within the RHV Airport, and the impact from proposed airport improvements.

### **D. Air Quality**

Improvements proposed at the RHV Airport include expansion in basing capacity at the airport from 726 to 750 planes. This would result in generation of some new air traffic, in addition to increase in surface traffic described above, under the title 'Traffic'. The EIR will evaluate pollutants (including green house gases) released into the air (emissions) from these sources, and their impact on air quality based on the standards by the Bay Area Air Quality Management District.

### **E. Other issues**

*Hydrology* – Improvements proposed at the airport will result in the creation of new impervious (paved) surfaces. The EIR will include an analysis of the proposed improvements on hydrological factors such as stormwater runoff, and drainage from the site.

*Cultural Resources* – The subject site is not known to contain historical or archaeological resources. The development of the EIR will, however, include an analysis to determine if the site contains any archaeological resources that may not be known at this time.

*Hazards* – The EIR will evaluate the proposed non-aviation commercial development, relocation of runways, and above ground fuel tanks for consistency with the Airport Comprehensive Land Use Plan (CLUP) prepared for Reid Hillview Airport to identify any potential safety and noise risks to the commercial development associated with aircraft operations at the airport property.

The EIR will identify impacts that could be significant in the areas of concerns stated above, and other environmental issues that could occur, directly or indirectly, with the installation of improvements proposed in the RHV Airport Master Plan. For all potentially significant impacts, the EIR will identify mitigation measures, and recommend design solutions to minimize these impacts, where feasible, to a level where they are not significant.

The EIR will evaluate if the project will result in any significant growth inducing impacts or cumulative impacts, when considered together with past, present, and probable future projects.

The EIR will also describe a range of reasonable alternatives to the proposed project that, in addition to the No Project Alternative, may reduce any identified significant impacts.

## **SUBMITTING COMMENTS**

Written comments regarding the scope of the EIR are invited to ensure that the full range of environmental issues related to the proposed action are identified and evaluated. All comments received, including names and addresses, will become part of the official administrative record and will be made available to the public. Information, written comments, or questions related to the preparation of the EIR should be received on or before **May 31, 2011**. Written comments should be directed to the contact below:

Rob Eastwood, Senior Planner, AICP  
County of Santa Clara, Planning and Development  
70 West Hedding Street, East Wing, 7<sup>th</sup> Floor  
San Jose, CA 95110  
(408) 288-9198 fax  
rob.eastwood@pln.sccgov.org

For additional information regarding the Reid Hillview Master Plan, please visit the website: [www.sccplanning.org](http://www.sccplanning.org), and follow the links: Planning Studies > Reid Hillview EIR

## **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**

Persons needing reasonable accommodations to be able to attend and participate in the public meeting should contact Kim Rook at (408) 299-5790 as soon as possible. Please call no later than one week before the public meeting to allow for sufficient time to process requests.