

#### **Board Report:**

Signage Plan for Drone "No Fly Zones", New Airline Service at Cape & Island Airports and Aircraft Registration Program Update Monday March 23, 2020

> Presented to: Board of Directors

Presented by: ■ Aeronautics Division > Dr. Jeff DeCarlo

### Signage Plan for Drone "No Fly Zones"

- Aeronautics has initiated a "No Drone Zone" sign program to inform the general public where drones should not be flown
- FAA regulations prohibit drone operations within 5 miles of an airport without prior permission from the airport manager
- Drones are also prohibited from flying directly over people
- "No Drone Zone" signs will be installed at parks, playgrounds, and fields where drones are likely to be flown within a 2-mile radius of public use airports
- The MassDOT Sign Shop has manufactured 200 signs that are being distributed to airports throughout the Commonwealth





## Signage Plan for Drone "No Fly Zones"

- ArcGIS Pro software was used to complete a geospatial analysis detecting all parks, playgrounds, and fields within a 2-mile radius of public use general aviation airports
- The geo-location analysis identified 170 sites across Massachusetts where "No Drone Zone" signs may be warranted. Within a 5-mile radius of our airports, 870 signs would need to be installed
- Aeronautics staff are currently working with airport managers to refine locations for sign installation within the municipalities surrounding the airports







#### New Airline Service at Cape & Island Airports

- The commuter airline Southern Airways Express is scheduled to begin service at Barnstable Municipal Airport (HYA) on April 17<sup>th</sup>
- The route will operate with two daily roundtrips Friday thru Monday and increase to daily service on May 22<sup>nd</sup> to and from HYA and Nantucket (ACK) on a nine passenger Cessna Caravan
- Southern Airways Express will be the fourth passenger carrier to fly out of Hyannis
- Cape Air currently offers year-round service, Jet-Blue is seasonal, and Rectrix has paused for the winter but has indicated they will return with future flights from HYA to ACK





Southern Airways 9-Passenger Cessna Caravan

### New Airline Service at Cape & Island Airports

- American Airlines will fly new routes between Philadelphia and two Massachusetts destinations this summer (Martha's Vineyard & Nantucket)
- The direct flights to the two Islands will run on Saturdays between June 30<sup>th</sup> and September 5<sup>th</sup>
- On weekends during peak season, people living in the Philadelphia area make an average of 720 trips to Martha's Vineyard and Nantucket each weekend
- The top travel period is the second weekend in August, with 1,450 trips between Philadelphia and Nantucket in just 3 days
- Trips to Nantucket alone increased by 11% from 2017-2018 despite the lack of direct flights





WEEKDAY TRIPS BETWEEN PHILADELPHIA AND NANTUCKET, ALL MODES



# **Aircraft Registration Program**

#### **Program Information**



- All airworthy aircraft based in Massachusetts or temporarily located in Massachusetts for 60 or more days in a year must register with the MassDOT Aeronautics Division
- Annual fees are variable and based on the Maximum Certified Takeoff Weight of the aircraft. Fees range from a minimum of \$100 to a maximum of \$300 annually
- Aircraft Owners must ensure their aircraft is properly registered with the airport manager of their Massachusetts based airport
- In October, of each year, MassDOT Aeronautics Division mails an Aircraft Renewal Registration Form to all registered aircraft owners with a due date of January 1

#### **Registration and Revenue**

- Through February of 2020 MassDOT Aeronautics Division registered 1,746 aircraft which generated approximately \$304,000 in revenue
- Through February of the prior 3 fiscal years an average of 1,572 aircraft were registered which generated approximately \$270,000 in revenue