

Aeronautics Division Report to the MassDOT Board

February 28, 2024



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Nantucket Memorial Airport – Reconstruct Taxiway G

Reconstruction and shifting of Taxiway G to eliminate a non-standard condition

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- Taxiway G was shifted to meet the current FAA compliance standards for taxiway separation and to enhance safety
- The shift corrected a wingtip clearance issue and alleviated restrictions for the current commercial service aircraft operating at the airport
- Mass Natural Heritage coordination was required to mitigate for the impact of increased pavement in the area

Gardner Municipal Airport – Ribbon Cutting Ceremony

Gardner Municipal Airport celebrates the reopening of Runway 18-36

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- Runway 18-36 was last reconstructed in 1993 and in need of full depth reconstruction to meet current FAA standards
- The total project cost was \$5.4M and included 90% federal, 7% state and 3% local funding shares
- The new infrastructure will extend the useful service life of the runway by another 20 years and improve the safety and operational efficiency of the airport

Plymouth Municipal Airport – NEPA EA & MEPA EIR

Permitting required for 351 – ft extension of the Runway 6 End, Taxiway A and Taxiway E

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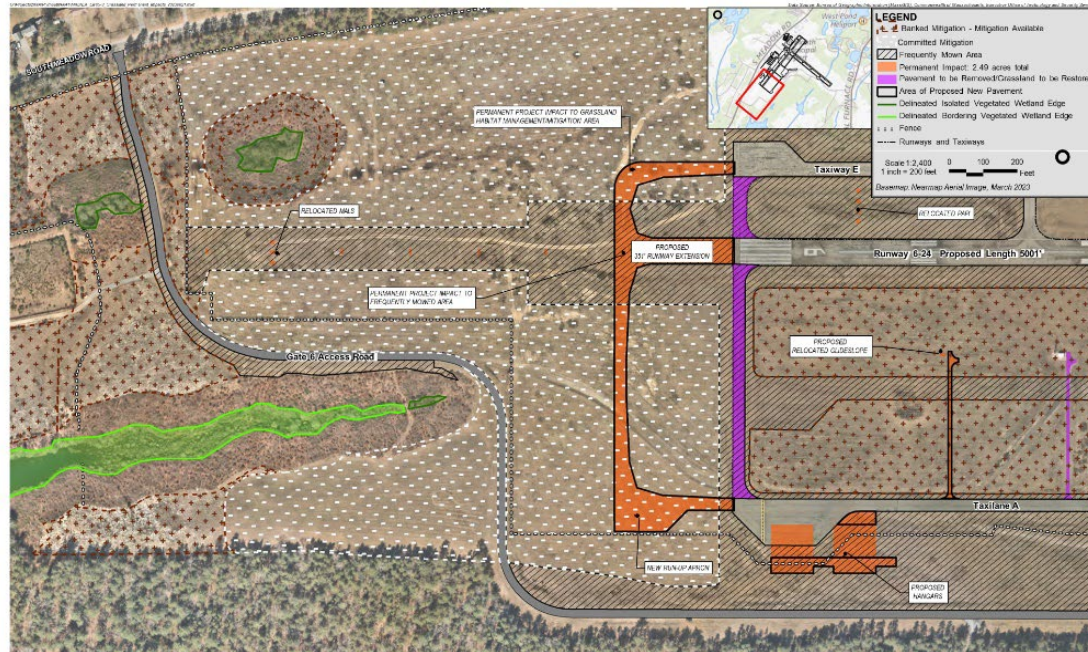


Figure 5-3
Permanent Impact Map

- National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) is a federal action requiring an environmental assessment (EA) when a project has the potential to cause significant environmental impacts
- On the state level, projects located in a protected grassland habitat are subject to an environmental impact review (EIR) by the Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act (MEPA) and the MassWildlife Natural Heritage Program
- The runway and taxiway extensions in Plymouth will trigger the thresholds for NEPA, MEPA and National Heritage

Initiating a “Drone Medical Delivery” Project

Developing a “highway in the sky” approach to support medical needs

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LOCAL

Mass General Brigham to use drones to deliver medical equipment, medicines to patient homes



By Maria Papadopoulos, Boston 25 News

January 17, 2024 at 2:37 pm EST



(Draganfly Inc.)

BOSTON — Mass General Brigham will begin using drones to deliver medical equipment and medicines to patient homes, according to a statement released Wednesday.

The Boston hospital has entered into an agreement with Draganfly Inc. to provide drone delivery services for Home Hospital patients, Draganfly said in a statement.

- Aeronautics has been collaborating with Mass General Brigham to study the use of drones for medical delivery
- Opportunities exist to transport small items to health care teams supporting home-based health care in disadvantaged communities
- Aeronautics is exploring how this effort could be paired with its existing FAA waiver to fly drones “beyond visual line of sight” over rail lines that could be expanded to use the airspace for delivery flights

Thank You

