

Aeronautics Report

Acting Administrator Denise Garcia

September 17, 2025



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FY27 – FY31 Capital Planning Meetings Underway

MassDOT is Meeting with Public Use Airports to Rollout the 5-Year Capital Improvement Plan

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- Aeronautics meets with the FAA, and public use airports annually to discuss the capital improvement needs for the statewide airport system
- Annual Capital Improvement Program (CIP) meetings are currently underway and will run through mid-October
- CIP meetings focus on addressing safety, environmental, and design standard deficiencies for each airport
- 22 of the 34 airports that Aeronautics oversees are eligible for federal funding through the FAA Airport Improvement Program (AIP)
- AIP eligible projects receive 90% federal funding. MassDOT and the airport sponsors each provide 5% of the remaining project shares
- In FY2025, the CIP planning process leveraged \$52.7M in federal funding for Massachusetts airports – overseen by Aeronautics
- The Commonwealth's privately-owned public use airports are eligible for state funding under the Commonwealth's Airport Safety & Maintenance Program (ASMP)



Sturdy Memorial Hospital Temporary Helipad

Aeronautics Engineering, Operations, and Drone Team Inspects Temporary Helipad

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- Aeronautics conducted an inspection of the temporary helipad at Sturdy Memorial Hospital
- Design comments were provided for the proposed helipad as well as the temporarily displaced helipad
- Aeronautics will inspect the new helipad when construction is completed next year



Knowledge Corridor Long-range Drone Flights

Expanding geographic reach of Beyond Visual Line of Site (BVLOS) operations

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- Aeronautics has been collecting drone imagery of rail lines across the Commonwealth on behalf of the Rail & Transit Division
- More efficient data collection is enabled by flying drones longer distances from the drone pilot by operating under an FAA BVLOS waiver
- MassDOT procured the Censys Sentaero 5 long-range drone to collect imagery for mapping and to collect LiDAR point clouds after a thorough test and evaluation period
- Aeronautics has begun flying this drone along the Knowledge Corridor rail line, between Deerfield and Northampton
- Aeronautics flight team successfully conducted a flight over 20 miles – capturing imagery of 10 miles of rail (out and back) in a single flight



Aviation Education Outreach Events

Girls Inc. and Organization of Black Aerospace Professionals (OBAP) Aviation Career Education (ACE) Academy

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OBAP ACE Academy

Hosted 20 students at the Lynn Test Site for a MassDOT drone demo, industry insights, hands-on flights, and building drones from a kit

Girls Inc.

Engaged 70 students in Lynn with hands-on tutorials on drones, data, soldering, and their real-world uses in transportation

Thank You

