



About the Strategic Development Plan

The San Antonio Airport System started a Strategic Development Plan in 2018 to examine whether the existing airport location could accommodate expected long-term growth and expansion needs; and, depending on the findings of the first phase of the data-driven study, to then either plan a new airport site or create a master plan for the existing airport's next 20 years.

Phase 1 of the Strategic Development Plan (SDP) determined in late 2018 that the existing San Antonio International Airport can accommodate the region's long-term aviation needs by demonstrating that various aggressive 50-year potential expansion possibilities could be made to fit at the current location.

Phase 2 of the SDP will plan to accommodate demand for a 20-year period by evaluating a range of potential policy and development alternatives, and by producing a preferred airport development plan for the airfield, terminal, and airport access. Phase 2 will also preserve airspace and land use flexibility for the next 50 years.

Once the 20-year plan is selected, the Capital Improvements Plan (CIP) will be developed to identify immediate short-term (six years) new improvements, along with routine/ongoing replacements, renewals, and maintenance required at the airport.

Toward the end of Phase 2, a related but separate effort will take place: the update to the Noise Exposure Map (NEM), an FAA-guided effort to improve the compatibility of the airport with the surrounding communities by updating the current airport noise exposure map and developing a new five-year noise exposure map.

Community engagement is a major part of the Phase 2 process, and includes popup meetings, coffee klatches, webpage, social media, eblasts, surveys, advisory groups, public open houses, and involvement in existing community events.

Helpful to know...

20-year planning. A full range of development and policy alternatives for meeting the region's 20-year aviation needs at SAT will be identified, evaluated, and reduced to a short list. The FAA-approved final 20-year development plan will depict airfield, terminal, landside access, support, and tenant facilities, and will include a financing and phasing plan.

50-year possibility. A general 50-year possibility will also be depicted to prevent conflicts that could limit future flexibility and interfere with the airport's ability to have access to the airfield, airspace, and landside options needed to stay in the current location beyond 20 years.

6-year planning. The six-year CIP plan is a short-range plan that identifies capital projects, financing options, and timetable.

Approvals and regulations. Development projects on the 20-year plan are subject to environmental, financial, and potential other approval steps before they can be implemented.

Current projects. Separate from the SDP, the San Antonio Airport System (SAAS) continues to maintain its facilities as well as to make necessary improvements.