

ADOT AERONAUTICS



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2024 Airport of the Year

Show Low Regional Airport in Show Low, Arizona has been named the 2024 ADOT Airport of the Year, marking this its second win, with the first being in 2007. This accolade is a testament to its ongoing commitment to enhancing aviation operational efficiency, safety, and community service. In 2023, the airport launched a Focused Planning Study to explore the feasibility of constructing a new crosswind runway to replace the existing crosswind runway, aimed at boosting safety and efficiency. Scheduled for completion in 2024, this study will facilitate an Environmental Assessment and potentially lead to the construction of the new runway proposed to be funded by the FAA, tailored to improve overall wind coverage with a two runway system.

Despite its modest size, Show Low Regional Airport (SOW) operates with remarkable efficiency, supported by just four full-time Airport Linemen and an Airport Manager. Managed by the City of Show Low, the airport's fixed base operator (FBO) provides comprehensive services every day of the year.

As a commercial service airport providing Essential Air Service with Southern Airways Express, Show Low Regional Airport serves as a vital gateway to the White Mountains. The airport significantly enhances local tourism and the economy. Infrastructure improvements and superior service not only facilitate smoother travel but also attract business investments, driving economic growth and job creation in the community.

The airport's dedication to customer service ensures efficient and friendly interactions for pilots and passengers alike, contributing to its esteemed reputation. Show Low Regional Airport's second recognition as Airport of the Year highlights its exemplary performance in operations and community engagement, underscoring its crucial role as a regional connection to the US's overall airport system. Continuing to expand and enhance its facilities, Show Low Regional Airport remains a vital asset to its community, poised to meet future challenges and sustain its trajectory of success.

ADOT Welcomes Carmen Rose to Aeronautics

The Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) Aeronautics Group is thrilled to welcome Carmen Rose as the new State Airport Engineer. Carmen brings almost 20 years of experience in airport engineering and project management to this key leadership role.

Carmen holds a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering from Arizona State University (ASU) and a Master's in Transportation Engineering from ASU. She began working in the aviation industry as an intern in 2006, gaining experience in pavement and drainage designs for airport projects across Arizona during college.

After graduating college, Carmen worked for three different firms, transitioning from Engineer-In-Training to Project Engineer to Project Manager, with a 90% focus on airport development projects across the Southwest US. At her previous firm, Dibble, she led a team of professionals dedicated to airport projects, serving as a client service manager, project manager, and business development leader. In addition, Carmen holds a Professional Engineer (P.E.) license in three states: Arizona, Nevada and New Mexico.

In her new position, Carmen will oversee the design, and construction of airport improvement projects across Arizona. She will work closely with the FAA, local airport sponsors to ensure the state's airports meet the highest safety and efficiency standards.

Please join us in welcoming Carmen to the ADOT Aeronautics Group. We look forward to the many contributions she will make in her new role as State Airport Engineer.



Carmen Rose
ADOT Aeronautics
State Airport Engineer

Safford Regional Airport - 1LT Duane Spalsbury Field



On Saturday May 11th, ADOT staff attended the renaming ceremony at Safford Regional Airport, now designated Safford Regional Airport-1LT Duane Spalsbury Field. The event, highlighted by a speech from Senator Wendy Rogers as the guest speaker, paid tribute to 1LT Duane Spalsbury, a distinguished World War II fighter pilot and devoted community leader.

Renowned for his wartime service and local contributions, including founding the Bulldog Booster Club and chairing the Mount Graham Regional Medical Center, Spalsbury's legacy continues to influence the community. The renaming symbolizes not only his enduring impact but also the airport's evolving role in enhancing regional connectivity and community spirit. This dedication reaffirms the community's commitment to honoring its heroes and building a future that reflects their values and sacrifices.



Matthew Munden
ADOT Aeronautics
Group Manager

Aeronautics Group Manager's Report

It was a pleasure to see so many familiar and new faces at the recent Spring AzAA conference. The energy and engagement at the event were truly inspiring, reflecting our collective commitment to advancing Arizona's aviation landscape. Thank you all for your active participation and for the insightful conversations that took place.

As we continue to forge ahead, it's important to address the economic challenges that may impact our sector. While we are currently facing a potential reduction in the State Aviation Fund, our resolve to support our airport partners remains strong.

Despite these fiscal adjustments, ADOT Aeronautics is dedicated to maximizing every resource available to ensure the continued progress of airport projects across Arizona. We understand the importance of these projects not only to our airports but also to the economic vitality of the regions they serve.

Thank you once again for your engagement and dedication to Arizona's aviation community. We look forward to continuing this journey together, overcoming challenges, and celebrating successes. Your partnership is invaluable, and together, we will keep Arizona flying high. Should you have any questions or require further discussion, please do not hesitate to reach out.

Upcoming Schedule

- Joint FAA/ADOT ACIP meetings: May 6 to Jun 30, 2024
- ACIP submittal deadline: July 31st, 2024
- ADOT ACIP Portal training: July 15, 2024 2:00PM, July 17, 2024 9:00AM, & July 18, 2024 11:30AM
- Next quarterly based aircraft report submittal deadline: Jul 15, 2024
- State Transportation Board approval and publishing of 2025-2029 CIP: July 1, 2024

Contact Information Updates:

Please note some important updates regarding the Aeronautics Group's contact information. In our continuous effort to streamline communications and enhance connectivity, we are updating some of the contact numbers for our staff members. The following phone numbers will be the only numbers for each staff member. This change will take effect on June 1st, 2024. Please note, all email addresses will remain the same.

Matthew Munden	Aeronautics Group Manager	602-501-3152
Carmen Rose	State Airport Engineer	602-851-5295
Sonia Pizano	Airport Grants Manager	480-952-8107
Margie Cerda	Airport Grants Manager	480-993-9967
Jeff Webbe	Airport Grants Manager	520-683-5024

Recent Aviation Events throughout Arizona

- Casa Grande Municipal Airport Cactus Fly-In: March 2nd, 2024, Casa Grande, AZ
- Laughlin/Bullhead International Airport Air Show: April 6th, 2024, Laughlin, AZ
- Sedona Airport Fly-In: May 4th, 2024, Sedona, AZ
- Safford Regional Airport Dedication: May 11th, 2024, Safford, AZ

If you have an aviation event you'd like mentioned or featured in our newsletter, please send details to aeronautics@azdot.gov.

ADOT Aeronautics Processes

In light of our ongoing efforts to enhance collaboration and efficiency within our grant processes, ADOT Aeronautics is working on introducing a refined communication and project involvement plan. These updates will be designed to streamline every stage of grant administration—from initial submission to project closeout—ensuring that all involved parties, including airport managers, directors, and consultants, will be consistently informed and engaged. Our revised procedures will emphasize timely updates, clear approvals, and structured project milestones to align with our commitment to transparency and standardization. As we implement these changes in the near future, detailed information will be provided, helping everyone adapt smoothly to the new processes.