

# ADOT AERONAUTICS



## ADOT Group Manager's Update

**Matthew Munden**

ADOT Aeronautics Group Manager



It was a pleasure to see everyone at the 2025 Spring AzAA Conference. ACIP season for FY2027-FY2031 is underway and I look forward to connecting with many of you during the ACIP meetings. As mentioned at the AzAA conference, there is no state/local program for FY2026, however we are programming matching grants as well as APMS grants for FY2026. The airport cap for FY2026 is \$3.4M and the airport cap for FY2027 is 2.3M. As a reminder, the airport cap is a combination of the state share of an FSL, SL, and APMS grants. Some other pertinent dates:

- The Land Use Manual is completed, with more information below.
- Change orders remain available from FY23-FY25.
- The SASP update is on track for completion in Summer 2026.
- The Triennial Study is underway. Completion est. January 2026.
- (Upcoming) The Economic Impact Study is expected to be out for RFP by the end of CY2025.

Lastly, the Aeronautics Airport Development Guidelines remain available on the Aeronautics website and provides a generous amount of useful information for your use.

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**Pictured above:** Short final towards  
2025 Airport of the Year, Sedona  
Municipal Airport

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

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# ADOT 2025 Airport of the Year – Sedona

**Raising the Bar in Safety, Sustainability,  
and Community Connection**



ADOT Aeronautics is proud to recognize Sedona Airport as the 2025 Airport of the Year. From fire suppression improvements to sustainability initiatives and community engagement, Sedona Airport exemplifies what it means to be a forward-thinking and community-centered public-use airport.

Under the leadership of General Manager Ed Rose, Sedona Airport has taken bold steps to improve safety, including the development of a formal Airport Emergency Plan and providing first responder aircraft training—a first for many of the participating agencies. Fire suppression system upgrades are underway, including a 250,000-gallon water tank, standby generator, and new water lines.

In the realm of sustainability, Sedona became the second airport in Arizona to offer Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF), helping reduce aircraft emissions. The airport also implemented key recommendations from an ASU Energy Audit, replacing outdated propane systems with energy-efficient heat pumps and upgrading all hangar lighting to LED.

Technology and infrastructure improvements continued with the replacement of the AWOS and the addition of an EarthCam system for real-time airfield visibility. Completing necessary infrastructure improvement and maintenance projects like crack sealing, infield drainage improvements, and a taxiway rehabilitation ensure operational safety on the airfield.

Sedona Airport is also a leader in community outreach—hosting events like the Great Sedona Fly-In and Wings & Wheels, supporting local trail maintenance, partnering with organizations like Civil Air Patrol, and welcoming new aviation businesses. In 2024, operations at the airport increased by 9%, a testament to the airport's growing role in regional connectivity and economic development.

Congratulations to Sedona Airport and the Sedona-Oak Creek Airport Authority for earning this well-deserved honor!



## Manager Spotlight

**James McEvoy**

ADOT Aeronautics Grants Manager

James joined ADOT Aeronautics in February 2025 as an Airport Grants Manager. In this role, he helps facilitate funding for airport projects across Arizona and supports sponsors in staying compliant with their grant requirements. While initially drawn to the role for a better work/life balance, James quickly found inspiration in the passionate airport community and is proud to contribute to the development of Arizona's airports.

Outside of work, James has a musical past—he played guitar in a ska punk band during the late 2000s and early 2010s, performing backyard shows and traveling to venues across the state from Casa Grande to Yuma and Flagstaff. A devoted Lord of the Rings fan, James appreciates both the epic scope of the films and the literary legacy of the books. At home, he enjoys time with his two dogs: Django, a 13-year-old Aussie/Golden mix who prefers the couch these days, and Rosco, a 10-year-old Aussie who still lives for a good game of fetch.

***“What I find most rewarding is knowing that the work we do directly benefits communities across Arizona.”***



## Engineer's Corner



**Carmen Rose**  
ADOT Aeronautics  
State Airport Engineer

It was great to see everyone at the Spring AzAA Conference in Show Low. We greatly appreciate your cooperation as we continue to increase our coordination and communication in order to help Airport Sponsors stay in compliance with their grant agreements. If you have any follow-up questions that have come to mind since my presentation, please feel free to reach out anytime.

As you know, the FAA is gearing up to issue FY 2025 grants which, as stated in Matthew's update, we DO anticipate providing match grants for from our FY 2026 program. Remember to send ADOT a copy of your fully executed grant applications once you have bids in hand for your construction projects. We'll use those to confirm we're prepared to quickly issue the match grants, once you send us a copy of the executed FAA grant.

Airport Grant Managers will be reaching out to Sponsors in order to schedule recurring meetings to discuss project updates. If you don't have something scheduled before the end of June 2025, please reach out to us and we will make sure to put something on the calendar. Note, we will be using your ACIP meeting as a way to catch up on active ADOT Grants.

### Reminders:

- ADOT Aeronautics is establishing formal protocol for grant cancellation for inactive grants with non-responsive Sponsors. Staying in regular communication with your assigned Grant Manager while supplying the required documentation in a timely manner will help ensure grant compliance. "Communication is Compliance"
- Remember to reach out to the Phoenix ADO to schedule your ACIP meetings. If there is anything you'd like to discuss regarding your ACIP prior to the formal ACIP meeting, please reach out to me directly.
- As projects move into the construction phase - remember to send ADOT your weekly construction reports and keep us included on invites to pre-construction meetings, weekly construction meetings, and substantial completion walkthroughs. We may not attend, however, it helps us keep track of project progress.
- If it appears that an email has been lingering a bit long and has not been responded to in a timely manner, please do not hesitate to send a follow-up. We try to stay on top of everything, however some items do get lost in the workflow and we don't want to unnecessarily hold up a project schedule.

## ADOT Environmental Review Process

The ADOT Environmental Review process has not changed. This is simply a reminder that ADOT does still require environmental approval prior to design progressing past 30 percent. If the project requires a federal environmental review and approval, please send ADOT a copy of your final environmental documentation and a copy of the FAA environmental approval letter or email. If a project does not trigger a federal action such as a state funded design or construction project that involves airfield electrical or pavement rehabilitation then the environmental review is completed internally by the ADOT Environmental Planning team.

When going through the ADOT Environmental Review process please include the following documentation with your 30% design submission:

- ADOT Environmental Checklist
- Exhibit detailing the project limits
- This is not always required but is always helpful: Any environmental studies that have been completed in the project area (cultural, biological, historical, etc.).

When in doubt - please include ADOT on the invite list for your project kick-off and/or scoping meetings so that we can discuss the project requirements.

Note: ADOT funded design projects may not proceed beyond 30% design until environmental clearance is received. For FAA funded projects, please submit an environmental status update with the 30% design submission documents.

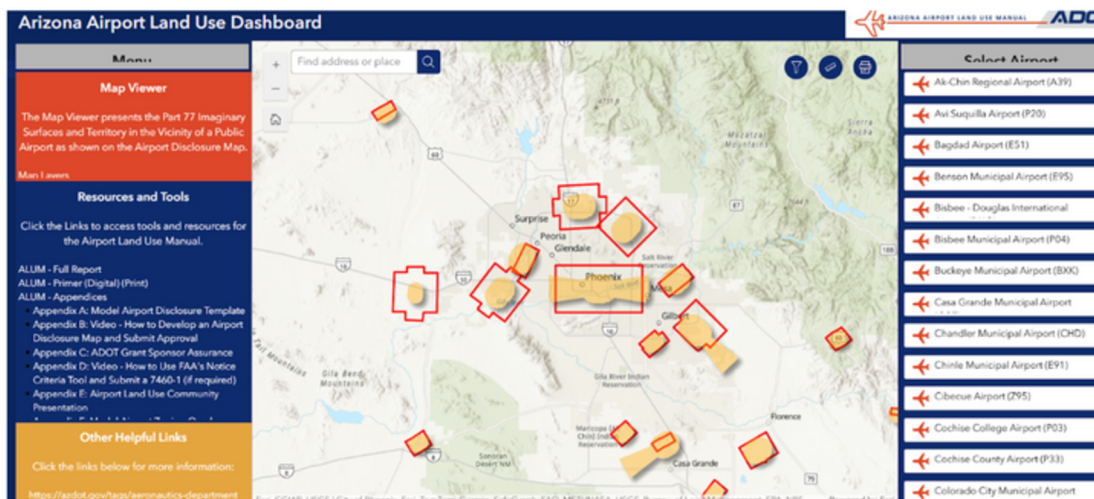
# Land Use Manual — NOW AVAILABLE ONLINE

[READ NOW](#)


We're excited to share that the *Land Use Manual* is now complete and available on the ADOT website:

[azdot.gov/planning/airport-development/links-and-resources-airport-development](https://azdot.gov/planning/airport-development/links-and-resources-airport-development)

This comprehensive resource is designed to support sponsors and consultants alike. In addition to the manual itself—which is packed with valuable guidance—you'll find training videos, downloadable templates, and a powerful interactive Dashboard (pictured) featuring all Arizona public-use airports. Whether you're just starting a land use



project or looking for tools to support your efforts, this site has you covered! If at any point you notice inaccurate information about your airport, please reach out to us as soon as possible so that we can develop a plan to rectify the issue.

## Regulatory Roundup: Have You Looked at Your Schedules Lately?

Those often-overlooked final three pages of your grant agreement—your schedules—are more important than you might think. They outline your funding breakdown, cash flow projection and project timeline, and they must be kept current at all times. Reviewing them should be routine and frequent, especially when submitting a GRR, 30% or 100% design review documents, or when you're providing any project update.

Outdated schedules can lead to compliance issues and even audit findings. If your project changes, your schedules should reflect those changes. When in doubt, reach out to your Grant Manager to ensure everything is accurate and up to date. This is your friendly reminder: take a minute to check your schedules today—before the auditors do!

