

**U.S. Department of Transportation  
Federal Aviation Administration**

**Monroe County, Florida  
Florida Keys Marathon International Airport**

**Draft Environmental Assessment for  
Runway and Parallel Taxiway Separation Improvements**

**NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT,  
PUBLIC WORKSHOP AND PUBLIC HEARING**

**Notice of Impacts to Wetlands and Floodplains in Accordance with Section 2(a)(4) of Executive Order (E.O) 11988, Floodplain Management; Section 2(b) of E.O. 11990, Protection of Wetlands; and Section 7 DOT Order 5650.2, Floodplain Management and Protection**

Pursuant to Title 49, United States Code, Section (§) 47106(c)(1)(A), notice is hereby given that Monroe County, Florida, proposes to implement the Runway and Parallel Taxiway Separation Improvements project at the Florida Keys Marathon International Airport located in the City of Marathon, Monroe County, Florida (the Proposed Action). The purpose of the Proposed Action is to:

- Bring the Airport into compliance with FAA runway-to-taxiway separation standards for the B-II category of aircraft.
- Eliminate existing operational restrictions.
- Improve the pavement condition of the runway.

The Proposed Action includes the following actions: shift Runway 7-25 to the northwest 40 feet to provide a runway-to-taxiway centerline separation distance of 240 feet; reconstruct 35 feet by 5,008 feet of existing runway pavement to provide a 75-foot wide runway; remove 65 feet of excess runway pavement on the south side of the existing runway; remove excess runway shoulder pavement; construct new blast pads at relocated runway ends; demolish existing excess pavement on Taxiway B; demolish existing Taxiway C and reconstruct it west of its existing location; demolish existing Taxiway D and reconstruct it perpendicular to relocated runway; demolish existing excess pavement on Taxiway E; construct new Taxiway F; grade the Runway Safety Area (RSA); clear a 40-foot wide by 5,608-foot long strip of vegetation on the north side of the shifted runway within the Runway Object Free Area (ROFA); trim or remove select trees to clear the relocated runway Threshold Siting Surface; and associated lighting, marking, drainage and navigational aide improvements. No fill or excavation would occur in the area to be cleared. A Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) of the economic, social, and environmental impacts of the Proposed Action and its alternatives (including the No Action Alternative) has been prepared.

The Draft EA evaluates the potential environmental effects of the Proposed Action described above and its alternatives and has been prepared pursuant to the requirements of Section 102(2)(c) of the *National Environmental Policy Act of 1969* (NEPA), and Section 509(b)(5) of the *Airport and Airway Improvement Act of 1982*, as amended. The FAA is the lead federal agency to ensure compliance with NEPA for airport development actions. The Draft EA has also been prepared in accordance with FAA Order 1050.1F, *Environmental Impacts: Policies and Procedures*, and FAA Order 5050.4B, *National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Implementing Instructions for Airport Actions*. Pursuant to the federal Endangered Species Act, Clean Water Act, Clean Air Act, and National Historic Preservation Act, the Draft EA includes an analysis of prudent or feasible alternatives, potential impacts, and mitigation measures, as appropriate. This Notice also serves to notify the public that this EA process will satisfy the public notice and comment requirements of Executive Order 11990, Protection of

Wetlands; DOT Order 5660.1A, Preservation of the Nation's Wetlands; Executive Order 11988, Floodplain Management; and DOT Order 5650.2, Floodplain Management and Protection.

The Proposed Action would involve the clearing of an approximate 40-foot strip of land resulting in disturbance to 0.22 acres of Mangrove Swamp (FLUCFCS 612), of which 0.18 acres are tidally influenced mangrove wetland and 0.04 acres are isolated mangrove wetland. The wetlands proposed for clearing are considered Waters of the United States under the jurisdiction of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE). Mitigation for these impacts is proposed in the Draft EA. Consultation would be required with the USACE for a Clean Water Act Section 404 permit for potential discharges, with the South Florida Water Management District for an Environmental Resources Permit, and with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection for the accompanying Clean Water Act Section 401 permit related to water quality.

Beginning on October 11, 2019, the Draft EA will be available for public review on the Airport's website at <http://eyw.com/page/airport-public-notice> and in the following locations during normal business hours, through November 25, 2019:

- Federal Aviation Administration, Orlando Airports District Office, 8427 South Park Circle, Suite 524, Orlando, FL 32819
- Florida Keys Marathon International Airport, 9400 Overseas Highway, Suite 200, Marathon, FL 33050
- Monroe County Public Library, 3251 Overseas Highway, Marathon, FL 33050

A Public Workshop on the Draft EA will be held on Wednesday, November 13, 2019, from 5:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., local time, immediately followed by a Public Hearing from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. local time in the Florida Keys Marathon International Airport Passenger Terminal, 9400 Overseas Highway, Marathon FL, 33050. Oral and written comments will be accepted at the Public Hearing.

If you are a person with a disability who needs special accommodation in order to participate in this meeting, please contact the County Administrator's Office by calling (305) 292-4441, between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., no later than five (5) calendar days prior to the scheduled meeting; if you are hearing- or voice-impaired, call 711.

Comments must be received by **5:00 p.m. local time on Monday, November 25, 2019**. Please ensure adequate time for mailing. Comments can only be accepted with the full name and address of the individual commenting.

Written comments on the adequacy of the information disclosed in the Draft EA may be submitted online at **MTHEA@ricondo.com** or by mail to:

Lisa Reznar  
Ricondo & Associates, Inc.  
20 North Clark Street, Suite 1500  
Chicago, Illinois 60602

**Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, be advised that your entire comment – including your personal identifying information – may be made publicly available at any time.** While you can ask the FAA in your comment to withhold from public review your personal identifying information, the FAA cannot guarantee that it will be able to do so. Comments received on the Draft EA and the responses to those comments will be disclosed in the Final EA.