



# Mankato Regional Airport runway expansion and improvement project Fact Sheet



## The purpose

The development of the Mankato Regional Airport, 3030 Airport Road, provides improvements to the airport runway 15-33 to meet existing and future transportation demands as well as to meet Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) guidelines and policies. Mankato's new runway will now accommodate airplanes as large as a 757.

## The need

The runway length (5,400') limited aircraft operations during adverse weather conditions. Pilots that were interviewed noted that they had to reduce the amount of fuel and cargo that they normally carried. In addition, lengthening the runway would increase jet activity 10-15 percent per year and allow mid-sized and larger jets to use the Mankato Regional Airport, possibly allowing for future commercial air services.

## The studies

Studies followed the FAA rules and criteria for evaluating runway expansions.

### Focus on alternatives

Two alternatives were considered--to lengthen the north or to the south of runway 15/33. Ultimately, the runway was expanded to the north.

### Focus on impacts

Several studies were done evaluating the impacts to fish and wildlife, flood plains, farmlands, air quality, noise quality, light emissions and visual impacts, natural resources, water quality and wetlands and the cumulative effects. Since no negative impacts were found, the project was able to move forward.

## The cost

The project cost is \$12 million. It's estimated that 80 percent of the project will be funded through federal and state dollars.

## Construction notes

- ◆ Nearly 160,000 cubic yards of excavation
- ◆ Nearly 40,000 tons of material brought in
- ◆ More than 7,500 tons of recycled concrete material
- ◆ Nearly one mile of chain link fencing
- ◆ More than six and a half miles of underdrain piping
- ◆ Nearly 53 acres of seeding
- ◆ More than 14 miles of wiring for lighting
- ◆ More than 7,000 tons of bituminous pavement
- ◆ More than nine miles of sawed joints in the concrete pavement
- ◆ Nearly 180,000 square feet of painting and striping (4.1 acres)





*Mankato Regional Airport...Runway 15-33 is extended from 5,400 to 6,600 feet, which will now accommodate airplanes as large as a 757.*