



Fiscal Year 2023 Annual Report

Michigan Aeronautics Commission
Michigan Department of Transportation
Office of Aeronautics

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MICHIGAN AERONAUTICS COMMISSION

Meet the Commissioners

In accordance with the Aeronautics Code of the State of Michigan, the Michigan Aeronautics Commission (MAC, or Commission) is responsible for the general supervision of aeronautics within the state. The Commission is comprised of five governor appointed members and four statutory members representing the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT), Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR), Michigan State Police (MSP), and the Michigan Department of Military and Veterans Affairs (DMVA). Additionally, the executive administrator for the MDOT Office of Aeronautics (Aero) is designated as director of the Commission. Pictured below are the Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 MAC members.



Kelly Burris
Chair
(October 2022 - November 2023)
Owner of Burris Law, PLLC
Detroit, MI



Laura Mester
Designee Commissioner
Representing Director Brad Wieferich
Department of Transportation
Lansing, MI



Dr. Brian Smith
Vice Chair
Adjunct Professor, Wayne County
Community College
President, Tuskegee Airmen
Museum
Detroit, MI



Flight Lt. Greg Setla
Designee Commissioner
Representing Col. James F. Grady II
Michigan State Police
Lansing, MI



Ben Carter
Commissioner
Chief Operating Officer
Trinity Health
Farmington Hills, MI



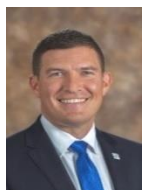
Maj. Gen. Bryan Teff
Designee Commissioner
Representing Maj. Gen. Paul Rogers
Department of Military and
Veterans Affairs
Lansing, MI



Rick Fiddler
Commissioner
Vice-President (Retired), Amway
Aviation
Rick Fiddler Aviation Consulting, LLC
Grand Rapids, MI



Kevin Jacobs
Designee Commissioner
Representing Scott Bowen
Department of Natural Resources
Roscommon, MI



Russ Kavalhuna
Commissioner
President, Henry Ford Community
College
Dearborn, MI



Mike Trout
Director
Executive Director, MDOT Office of
Aeronautics
Lansing, MI

❖ Bryan Budds, Commission Advisor

❖ Alicia Morrison, Commission Analyst



Goals and Priorities

The MAC serves the flying public of the state of Michigan. Its primary goals and priorities are to:

- ❖ Preserve critical airport infrastructure, including pavements and navigation aids.
- ❖ Leverage state resources to maximize federal funds.
- ❖ Promote job creation and economic development.
- ❖ Contribute to statewide efficiency and innovation.
- ❖ Eliminate unnecessary/burdensome processes and regulations.
- ❖ Have a positive influence on state and national issues.

Meeting Locations

To connect with airport communities, the MAC took their meetings on the road in 2023 visiting a diverse group of airports across the state, hearing from each what makes them unique to aviation in Michigan. The MAC “Road Show” was very well received. The commissioners appreciated meeting the pilots, aviation staff and traveling public who use Michigan’s airports every day. The locations visited are listed below.

- Nov. 16, 2022 - Lansing
Host: MDOT Office of Aeronautics
- Jan. 26, 2023 - Air Zoo, Portage
Host: **Kalamazoo/Battle Creek International Airport (AZO)**
- March 22, 2023 - Midland
Host: **Midland Jack Barstow Airport (IKW)**
- May 24, 2023 - Gaylord
Host: **Gaylord Regional Airport (GLR)**
- July 19, 2023 - Marquette
Host: **Marquette Sawyer Regional Airport (SAW)**
- Sept. 13, 2023 - Muskegon
Host: Michigan Association of Airport Executives Airport Conference



Business of the Commission

FY 2023 saw a record number of grant awards, allowing the MAC to transfer hundreds of millions of dollars to Michigan airports. Total transfer amounts for FY 2023 are:

- \$ 200,647,635 in federal funding
- \$ 4,799,042 in state funding
- \$ 32,487,899 in local funding

This amounted to a total of **\$237,934,576** to **76 individual airports** across the state.

Special Committees

Executive Committee

The Executive Committee is comprised of the current MAC chair, current vice chair, and immediate past chair. For FY 2023, those positions were held by **Chair Kelly Burris**, **Vice Chair Dr. Brian Smith**, and immediate past **Chair Russ Kavalhuna**. This committee reviews each meeting agenda for accuracy and provides guidance to the Commission as needed.

MAC Aviation Career Pipeline Committee

To address the need for increased staffing in nearly all aspects of the aviation workforce, the MAC designated a committee to discuss opportunities to attract young people to the field. The focus is to educate students at all ages on the aviation careers available, especially women and minorities who are traditionally the most underrepresented in the industry. The Committee was led by **Chair Kelly Burris** and focused on creating a blueprint for airports to use to engage their communities and local educational institutions.

Automated Weather Observation System Task Group

In response to the recommendations provided by the MAC Automated Weather Observation System (AWOS) Task Group formed in 2022, the Michigan Legislature approved a one-time appropriation of \$3 million for AWOS upgrades at 41 non-federal AWOS stations across the state.



MDOT OFFICE OF AERONAUTICS

Mission Statement

"To Develop and Preserve a Safe, High-Quality, Statewide Air Transportation System"

The Office of Aeronautics has 48 appropriated full-time employees (FTEs) supporting two sections and the MAC. You can find updated information on all MDOT Office of Aeronautics happenings at www.Michigan.gov/Aero.

Airport Planning and Development Section

The Airport Planning and Development Section is comprised of four units: Finance and Operations, Airport Planning and Environmental, Airport Development, and Project Management. This section supports airport project management, planning and environmental clearances, and financial and operational responsibilities for the Office of Aeronautics. Staff provide project support relative to airport master planning, environmental reviews, zoning assistance, real estate project management, and oversight of disadvantaged business enterprises (DBE) at Michigan airports. This section also administers the federal and state Airport Capital Improvement Programs (ACIP), which provide programming and project accounting for capital improvements. Financial operations, budget tracking and accountability for funds used for the operation of the Office of Aeronautics, as well as other administrative responsibilities, are also housed in this section.



Aviation Services Section

The Aviation Services Section is comprised of four units: Inspection and Licensing, Airspace and Emerging Aviation, Electronic Facilities, and Air Transport. This section maintains responsibility for inspecting flight schools, heliports and airports, allowing for important safety oversight of these facilities and ensuring adherence to federal and state safety standards. This section also handles aircraft registration, airport manager testing, and creation of the airport directory. Maintaining pilot information systems and AWOS at nearly 50 airports, along with the maintenance and operation of state aircraft utilized for transporting state personnel on official business both fall under this section as well. The Airspace and Emerging Aviation Unit maintains and operates uncrewed aerial systems (UAS, or drones), manages advanced aerial mobility (AAM) initiatives, and completes all airspace reviews and tall structure permitting.

In FY 2023, Aero welcomed new employees into the following positions:

- ❖ Aviation Services Section Manager
- ❖ Engineer/Project Manager
- ❖ Environmental Specialist
- ❖ Aviation Specialist/Inspector
- ❖ Aircraft Registrar Analyst
- ❖ Airport Development Analyst
- ❖ Contract and Grant Analyst

LEGISLATION

Find current Michigan transportation-related legislative news [online](#).

State Bills

The following aviation-related state legislative bills were introduced in FY 2023.

- [HB 6361](#) Aeronautics Code Updates, Rep. Jeff Yaroch
Proposing updates and changes to the Michigan Aeronautics Code. Adjourned without action, expected to be reintroduced.
- [HB 6123/SB 22](#) Airport Firearm Changes, Rep. Scott VanSingel and Sen. John Damoose
Updates federal statute regarding firearms in airport sterile areas. Passed by both House and Senate. Enacted as Public Act (PA) 219 of 2023.
- [HB 6172/SB 1071](#) Potential Tax Policy and State Aeronautics Fund Revenue Changes, Rep. Scott VanSingel and Sen. Wayne Schmidt
Earmarks an amount equal to collections of 4 percent sales tax for the State Aeronautics Fund (SAF). Adjourned without action.
- [HB 4915-4917](#) Peer-to-Peer Car Sharing, Rep. Michele Hoitenga
Requires agreement with airports for shared vehicles operations at airports. Adjourned without action, expected to be reintroduced.
- [HB 4618](#) Publicly Funded Health Insurance Contribution Act Changes, Rep. Jim Haadsma
Allows airport authorities to be included in the publicly funded health insurance contribution act. Passed by both the House and Senate. Enacted as PA 145 of 2022.
- [HB 4610](#) Tax Exempt Aviation Purchases, Rep. Pauline Wendzel
Makes certain aviation purchases tax exempt in line with other Midwest states. Adjourned without action, expected to be reintroduced.
- [SB 0447](#) Sustainable Fuel Credits, Sam Sen. Singh
Introduces the possibility for a credit to those using sustainable fuel alternatives. Adjourned without action.



Federal Reauthorization

[HR 3935](#) Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Reauthorization Bill to reauthorize funding for the FAA was introduced but has not yet passed as of the time of this writing. A continuing resolution is funding the FAA beyond expiration of the fiscal year.



FINANCIALS

State Aeronautics Fund

PA 1119 of 2023 appropriates funds to the MDOT Office of Aeronautics for the undertaking of aviation programs and services. Appropriations are supported by revenues received during the fiscal year. The total amount of capital outlay awarded is identified in the Airport Improvement Program (AIP) portion of this report. Note that Airport Parking Tax revenue is dedicated to payment of debt service costs, with any remaining funds being used solely for AIP.

The table below depicts actual revenues, including capital outlay, for FY 2023.

| | Actual Revenue |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Aviation Fuel Tax | \$ 4,470,269.92 |
| Interest, Common Cash | \$ 380,275.49 |
| Sales Tax to Aeronautics | \$ 4,455,562.00 |
| Services | \$ 276,878.90 |
| Licenses and Permits | \$ 430,007.22 |
| Miscellaneous | \$ 371,459.44 |
| Airport Parking Tax | \$ 6,000,000.00 |
| Total Actual Revenue/Resources | \$ 16,384,452.97 |

The table below depicts actual expenditures, including capital outlay, for FY 2023.

| | Actual Expenditures |
|--|----------------------------|
| Debt Service | |
| Airport Safety and Protection Plan | \$ 2,274,794.84 |
| Interdepartmental Grants | |
| Attorney General | \$ 191,800.00 |
| Civil Service Commission | \$ 107,516.00 |
| Department of Technology, Management, and Budget | \$ 31,700.00 |
| Legislative Auditor General | \$ 33,800.00 |
| Departmental Administration and Support | |
| Unclassified Salaries | \$ 12,153.19 |
| Business Support Services | \$ 10,043.98 |
| Finance, Contracts and Support Services | \$ 630,500.00 |
| Information Technology | |
| Information Technology Services and Projects | \$ 122,730.92 |
| Aeronautics Services | |
| Aviation Services | \$ 7,695,918.04 |
| Air Services Program | \$ 36,646.84 |
| Airport Improvement Programs | |
| Airport Safety, Protection, and Improvement | \$ 5,552,166.56 |
| Total Year-to-Date Actual Expenditures | \$ 16,699,770.37 |
| FY 2023 Estimated Unreserved Fund Balance | \$ (344,617.40) |

Qualified Airport Fund

Money is deposited into the Qualified Airport Fund (QAF) as directed under section 25 of the General Sales Tax Act, 1933 PA 167, and section 21 of the Use Tax Act, 1937 PA 94. The QAF is distributed, on a quarterly basis, among the designated large hub airports. Currently, **Detroit Metropolitan Wayne County Airport (DTW)** is the only large hub airport in the state. The QAF is used solely to pay the next scheduled payments for revenue bonds issued by the operator of the qualified airport pursuant to an ordinance under the Revenue Bond Act of 1933 to finance capital improvements to landing areas at the qualified airport and/or to defray the costs of capital improvements to landing areas of the qualified airport.

Aviation Fuel Revenue (Excise Tax) *

*As reported by Michigan Department of Treasury

The aviation excise tax rate for FY 2023 is \$0.03/gallon, \$0.015 for interstate carriers.

| FY 2023 | Total Gallons | Rebated Gallons | Tax Paid |
|----------------|----------------------|------------------------|--------------------|
| October | 22,362,676 | 14,968,497 | \$446,352 |
| November | 21,886,852 | 15,106,453 | \$430,009 |
| December | 24,027,693 | 15,226,812 | \$492,429 |
| January | 25,100,569 | 15,661,353 | \$518,097 |
| February | 23,983,507 | 16,499,411 | \$472,014 |
| March | 19,549,049 | 12,917,225 | \$392,713 |
| April | 21,625,699 | 13,395,363 | \$447,840 |
| May | 20,782,366 | 13,583,240 | \$419,722 |
| June | 22,929,520 | 15,694,161 | \$452,473 |
| July | 23,611,054 | 15,567,195 | \$474,824 |
| August | 23,695,437 | 15,986,174 | \$471,071 |
| September | 24,817,711 | 15,235,974 | \$515,992 |
| Total | 274,372,133 | 179,841,858 | \$5,533,535 |

Gallons Tax Paid (Sales Tax) *

*As reported by Michigan Department of Treasury

A portion of the state fuel sales tax is dedicated to aviation. This amount is equal to approximately one-third of the 6 percent tax. As an example, at \$7/gallon, the user pays \$0.45/gallon, with only \$0.16/gallon being dedicated to aviation purposes. The following table shows the amounts dedicated to both the QAF and the SAF.

| FY 2023 | Total Sales | Total 2% Aviation Portion | Amount to QAF | Amount to SAF |
|--------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| October - December | \$ 27,162,642 | \$ 2,532,814 | \$ 1,646,329 | \$ 886,485 |
| January - March | \$ 160,902,461 | \$ 3,172,930 | \$ 2,062,404 | \$ 1,110,525 |
| April - June | \$ 110,107,796 | \$ 2,206,739 | \$ 1,434,381 | \$ 772,359 |
| July - September | \$ 153,914,133 | \$ 3,070,552 | \$ 1,995,859 | \$ 1,074,693 |
| Total | \$ 452,087,032 | \$ 10,983,035 | \$ 7,138,973 | \$ 3,844,062 |

Conversation around sustainable fuel sources for aviation are occurring at the state and national levels. Discussion on how to appropriately incentivize using such alternative fuels is also occurring. This sparks a new initiative to develop alternative revenue sources as fuel taxes change and alternative fuel use becomes more widespread.



AIRPORT IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (AIP)

The FAA Airport Improvement Program (AIP) enables projects to be undertaken at Michigan airports to improve aviation safety, preserve or improve the existing infrastructure, enable purchase of airfield equipment, improve or construct new facilities at airports, and support local economic growth by increasing the capacity of airport facilities.

Subject to appropriation of federal, state and local funds, Michigan's AIP averages \$100 million annually. The National Plan of Integrated Airport Systems (NPIAS) federal regulations, guidelines and priorities; the Michigan Aviation System Plan (MASP) Aviation Investment Strategy; MDOT's 2023-2027 Five-Year Transportation Program; and local needs are considered when airport projects are identified for potential funding.

Airports that are part of the NPIAS qualify for federal funding. Michigan currently has 94 NPIAS airports; 15 are primary, having more than 10,000 enplanements per year.

Types of AIP Funding

Primary Airports

Entitlements: Determined by formula; minimum of \$1 million with additional funding based on the number of enplanements.

Discretionary: Allocated at the FAA's discretion.

Supplemental Appropriation: Allocated at the FAA's discretion.

State Block Grant Airports

Entitlements: \$150,000.

Federal State Apportionment: Federal funding allocated at the state's discretion.

Discretionary: Allocated at the FAA's discretion.

Supplemental Appropriation: Allocated at the FAA's discretion.

Grants are typically 90 percent federal, 5 percent state, and 5 percent local funding. For economically distressed communities, grants are typically 95 percent federal. There is a maximum of \$1 million in state matching funds allotted to any one airport in any fiscal year. All airports are required to follow AIP guidelines and requirements for all types of funding noted above.

AIP Grants

- **FY 2023: 24 grants totaling \$139,321,922**
 - **\$120,730,975 in federal funds**
 - **\$5,463,098 in state funds (including non-Aeronautics state funds)**
 - **\$14,839,450 in local funds**
- **FY 2022: 26 grants awarded, totaling \$105,319,118**
- **FY 2021: 17 grants awarded, totaling \$114,580,995**

Project Highlights

South Haven Area Regional Airport, South Haven (LWA)

LWA conducted obstruction removal on 16 acres of land off the end of Runway 5. The consultant on the project was Mead and Hunt and the overall project cost was \$132,846. The airport is now working on a plan to plant native grasses on the cleared parcels to minimize future obstructions and clearing projects.



Oscoda County Dennis Kauffman Memorial Airport, Mio (51M)

This project involved acquiring necessary snow removal equipment, specifically a tractor with loader, for the airport. The project cost was \$124,689 and was procured using MIDeal to find the equipment. Local funding was also contributed to purchase a cutter, snow blower and broom. A great example of financial collaboration to ensure the best outcome.

Tuscola Area Airport, Caro (CFS)

CFS installed a Runway Vertical/Visual Guide System, Runway 6/24 PAPI's and rehabilitated Runway 6/24. The contractor was Ace Saginaw Paving and the total project cost was \$1,364,992. This project spanned three Aero project managers (Amanda Hopper, Paul Nicastri, and Paige Luft) with the final inspection performed on June 6, 2023.

Oscoda-Wurtsmith Airport, Oscoda (OSC)

This project was to rehabilitate Taxiway A parallel to Runway 7-25. The consultant was Mead and Hunt, the contractor was Reith-Riley, and the Aero project manager was Paige Luft. The total project budget was \$7,436,731. Paving was completed on more than 15,548 feet of taxiway.



Aero's Project Management and Airport Development units are staffed with engineers, supervisors and analysts all working to provide the highest customer satisfaction to the airport and consultant communities.

BIPARTISAN INFRASTRUCTURE LAW (BIL)

<https://www.faa.gov/bil>

The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL), also known as the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA), is intended as a once-in-a-generation investment in America's transportation network. It will modernize infrastructure, increase equity in transportation, help fight climate change, strengthen the supply chain, and create jobs. BIL provides \$550 billion for FY 2022 - 2026 in new federal investment in infrastructure, including roads, bridges, mass transit, water infrastructure, and broadband.

The FAA will invest BIL funding at eligible NPIAS airports through the following programs:

Airport Infrastructure (\$15 billion)

This money can be invested in runways, taxiways, safety, and sustainability projects, as well as terminal, airport-transit connections and roadway projects.



Airport Infrastructure Grants (AIG)

Allocations are determined by formula annually and will have the traditional AIP match. Airports can carry over and use several years' worth of funding for a single project. Grants will be project-specific.

For FY 2023, 90 Michigan airports were eligible for a total announced allocation of \$71,461,058, including \$1,941,515 in matching state funds.

Federal Contract Tower (FCT) Program

These competitive grants will provide \$20 million annually for airport-owned airport traffic control tower projects that address the aging infrastructure of the nation's airports.

The FAA announced 2023 FCT Competitive Grant final selections, including two Michigan airports for a total of \$1,511,000 in federal funding.

- ❖ **Jackson County Airport - Reynolds Field (JXN)**
- ❖ **Battle Creek Executive Airport at Kellogg Field (BTL)**



Airport Terminals Program (\$5 billion)

These competitive grants will fund safe, sustainable and accessible airport terminals on airport rail access projects and airport-owned airport traffic control towers. The match is 95 percent federal and 5 percent sponsor; large hubs (DTW) are 80 percent federal and 20 percent sponsor match.



The FAA announced FY 2023 Airport Terminal Program Final Selections, including three Michigan airports for a total of \$13,725,000 in federal funds and \$209,319 in matching state funds.

- ❖ **Detroit Metropolitan Wayne County Airport (DTW)** - \$6,000,000
- ❖ **Hillsdale Municipal Airport (JYM)** - \$2,500,000
- ❖ **Cherry Capital Airport Traverse City (TVC)** - \$5,225,000

Air Traffic Facilities (\$5 billion)

This program provides \$1 billion annually to fund upgrading the foundation of the FAA's air traffic control system. This project can be thought of as a down payment to reduce the backlog of maintenance, updates, upgrades, and replacement of critical buildings and equipment needed to operate our nation's airspace safely.



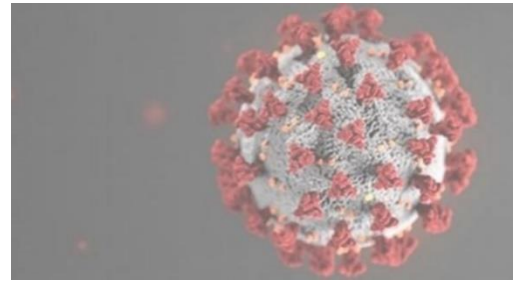
The **Coleman A. Young International Airport (DET)** Detroit Airport Traffic Control Tower (ATCT) has been identified as a candidate for FY 2023 BIL ATCT replacement funding.



COVID RELIEF FUNDING

Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act

The [CARES Act \(H.R. 748, Public Law 116-136\)](#), signed into law on March 27, 2020, included \$10 billion in funds awarded as economic relief to eligible U.S. airports affected by the prevention of, preparation for, and response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The CARES Act provided funds to increase the federal share to 100 percent for AIP and supplemental discretionary grants already planned for FY 2020 and FY 2021. Traditionally, AIP grant recipients contribute a matching percentage of the project costs. Providing the additional funding and eliminating the local share allowed critical safety and capacity projects to continue as planned regardless of the airport sponsor's current financial circumstances. Additionally, the CARES Act provided new funds distributed by various formulas for all NPIAS airports. This includes all commercial service airports, all reliever airports, and some public-owned general aviation airports.



CARES Act Grants [2020 CARES Act Grants | Federal Aviation Administration \(faa.gov\)](#)

These grants were awarded in spring/summer 2020 and have a four-year Period of Performance, expiring next fiscal year (FY 2024). CARES funds were made available to keep airports reliable and in safe operation to serve the aviation industry, the traveling public and support the economy; keep aviation workers employed; and keep airport credit ratings stable.

In Michigan, 94 airports were eligible for the program, with an announced total of \$256,958,769. At the end of FY 2023, 89 percent of this total has been paid to 92 airports.

CARES funding can be converted to capital projects with a CARES Development Addendum. In FY 2023, three airports converted a combined \$27,163,473 in funding.

- ❖ **Alpena County Regional Airport (APN)**
- ❖ **Kalamazoo/Battle Creek International Airport (AZO)**
- ❖ **Sawyer Marquette Regional Airport (SAW)**

Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriation (CRRSA) Act

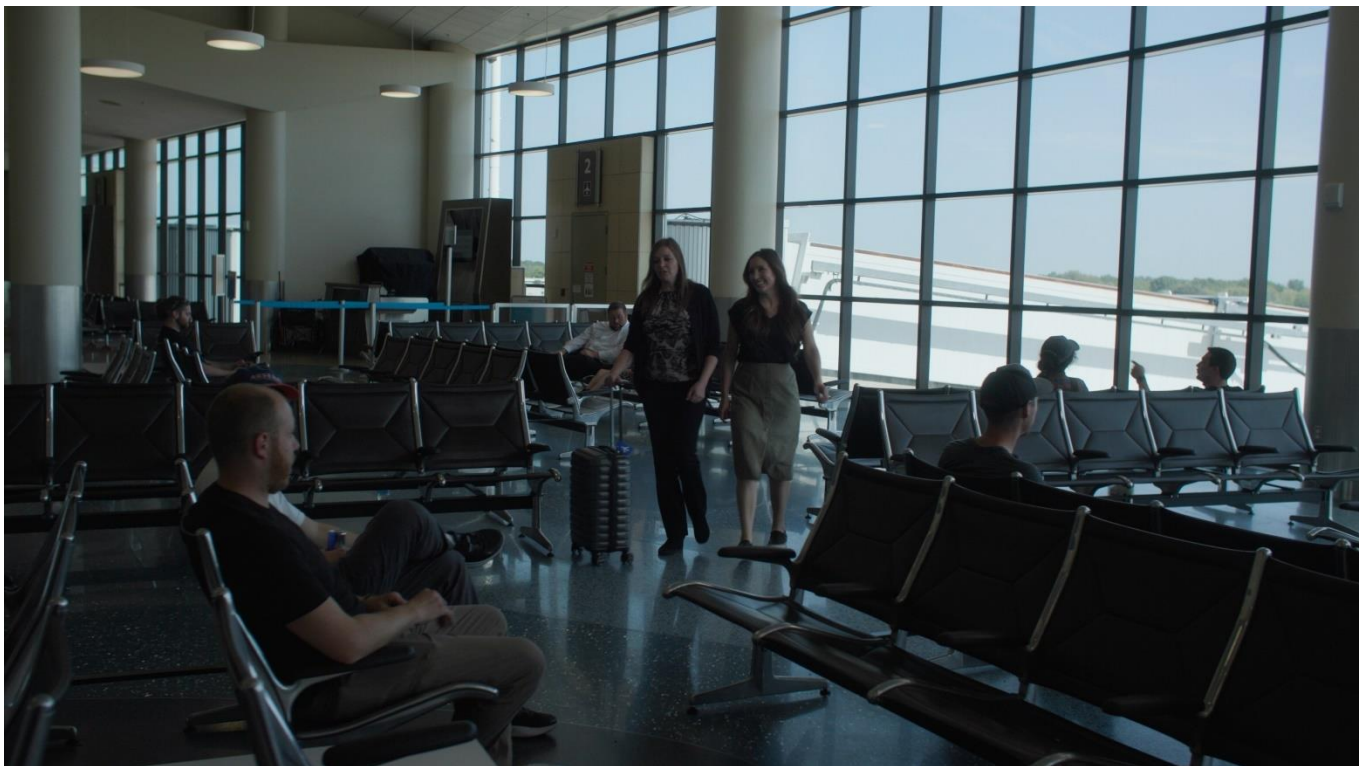
The [CRRSAA \(Public Law 116-260\)](#), signed into law on Dec. 27, 2020, included nearly \$2 billion in funds awarded as economic relief to eligible U.S. airports and eligible concessions at those airports to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the COVID-19 pandemic. To distribute these funds, the FAA established the [Airport Coronavirus Response Grant Program \(ACRGP\)](#). The FAA is facilitating these grants to all commercial service airports, all reliever airports, and some public-owned general aviation airports. CRRSAA grants were awarded in spring/summer 2021 and have a four-year Period of Performance expiring in FY 2025.

In Michigan, 92 airports are eligible for the funding, with the announced total of \$55,841,581. At the end of FY 2023, 95 percent of the funding total had been paid to 82 airports.

American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) of 2021

[ARPA \(H.R. 1319, Public Law 117-2\)](#), signed into law on March 11, 2021, included \$8 billion in funds awarded as economic assistance to eligible U.S. airports to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the COVID-19 pandemic. To distribute these funds, the FAA established the [Airport Rescue Grants](#) program. The FAA is facilitating these grants to all NPIAS airports, including all commercial service airports, all reliever airports, and some public-owned general aviation airports. Grants were awarded in winter 2022 and have a four-year Period of Performance expiring in FY 2026.

In Michigan, 92 airports are eligible for the funding, with the announced total of \$169,677,474. At the end of FY 2023, 39 percent of the funding total had been paid to 32 airports.



AIRPORT LOAN PROGRAM

The Airport Loan Program allows a publicly owned airport to borrow up to \$100,000 for airport-related projects. Established annually by the Michigan Department of Treasury, the interest rate on new loans in 2023 was 4.0 percent. Repayment is scheduled in yearly installments over a maximum 10-year period. Loans are often used by sponsors for their local match obligation in capital improvement projects. However, a loan may not exceed 90 percent of the sponsor’s match of the overall project cost.

Status of Projects

Information on all current outstanding loan contracts funded under the program is provided on the chart below. All loans remain in good standing.

Loans Outstanding

At the beginning of FY 2023, outstanding loans amounted to \$166,072.91. Interest received on outstanding loans totaled \$3,885.78. No new loans were disbursed in FY 2023. The outstanding loan balance was \$59,299.09 at the end of FY 2023.

| Status of Active Airport Loan Agreements as of Dec. 28, 2023 | | | | | |
|--|------|--------------|------------------|------------------|---------------------|
| Airport | FY | Loan Amount | Amount Dispersed | Principal Repaid | Principal Remaining |
| Beaver Island Airport (SJX) | 2013 | \$100,000.00 | \$100,000.00 | \$87,885.88 | \$12,114.12 |
| Branch County Memorial Airport (OEB) | 2019 | \$100,000.00 | \$62,711.35 | \$15,526.38 | \$11,165.26 |
| | | \$200,000.00 | \$162,711.35 | \$103,412.26 | |
| Total Loans Outstanding | | | | | \$59,299.09 |



AIR SERVICE PROGRAM

The Michigan Air Service Program was developed in 1987 to address the loss and decline of commercial air service in many Michigan communities. The program helped stabilize and expand commercial air service by undertaking activities aimed at promoting the increased use of services available at local airports. Utilizing the Michigan Air Service Program Guidelines established by the MAC, the program typically consists of four categories:

- 1) Aircraft Rescue and Firefighting (ARFF) Training,
- 2) Airport Awareness,
- 3) Capital Improvement and Equipment, and
- 4) Air Carrier Recruitment and Retention.

In FY 2023, the MAC approved grants to airport sponsors under the Air Service Program totaling \$30,000 in state funds, as shown in the table below. All grants require a local funding share between 10 and 50 percent. The first-round grants issued were all used to fund ARFF training. A second call was held for the remaining \$16,000. Aero's Air Service Committee reviewed the submittals for those remaining funds and dispersed accordingly, as noted in the tables below.

Air Service First Round Grant Totals

| City | | State Funds | Local Funds | Total | Funding Rate |
|--------------------|-----|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|--------------|
| Detroit Willow Run | YIP | \$2,000 | \$223 | \$2,223 | 90/10 |
| Escanaba* | ESC | \$2,000 | \$223 | \$2,223 | 90/10 |
| Flint | FNT | \$2,000 | \$2,000 | \$4,000 | 50/50 |
| Grand Rapids | GRR | \$2,000 | \$2,000 | \$4,000 | 50/50 |
| Hancock | CMX | \$2,000 | \$223 | \$2,223 | 90/10 |
| Iron Mountain | IMT | \$2,000 | \$223 | \$2,223 | 90/10 |
| Ironwood | IWD | \$2,000 | \$223 | \$2,223 | 90/10 |
| Kalamazoo | AZO | \$2,000 | \$2,000 | \$4,000 | 50/50 |
| Lansing | LAN | \$2,000 | \$2,000 | \$4,000 | 50/50 |
| Manistee | MBL | \$2,000 | \$223 | \$2,223 | 90/10 |
| Marquette* | MQT | \$2,000 | \$223 | \$2,223 | 90/10 |
| Muskegon | MKG | \$2,000 | \$223 | \$2,223 | 90/10 |
| Pellston | PLN | \$2,000 | \$223 | \$2,223 | 90/10 |
| Pontiac | PTK | \$2,000 | \$2,000 | \$4,000 | 50/50 |
| Saginaw | MBS | \$2,000 | \$2,000 | \$4,000 | 50/50 |
| Sault Ste. Marie | CIU | \$2,000 | \$223 | \$2,223 | 90/10 |
| Traverse City | TVC | \$2,000 | \$2,000 | \$4,000 | 50/50 |
| TOTALS | | \$34,000 | \$16,230 | \$50,230 | |

*Used existing ARFF contract

Air Service Second Round Grant Totals

| Airport | City | ID | Program Category | Project | State | Local | Total |
|----------------------|-----------|-----|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Delta County | Escanaba | ESC | Airport Awareness | Marketing, Community Awareness | \$6,000 | \$667 | \$6,667 |
| Sawyer International | Marquette | SAW | Capital Improvement and Equipment | Install Three Security Cameras | \$5,000 | \$556 | \$5,556 |
| MBS International | Saginaw | MBS | Capital Improvement and Equipment | Replace Six Security Cameras | \$5,000 | \$5,000 | \$10,000 |
| | | | | Totals | \$16,000 | \$6,222 | \$22,222 |

It is worth noting that in FY 2024, a significant one-time increase of \$5,000,000 to the Air Service Program has been allocated. This funding is intended to help restore air service, bring back enplanements, and increase aviation fuel sales to pre-Covid-19 pandemic levels. It also intends to help address the loss and decline of commercial air service to Michigan communities. MDOT looks forward to reporting on the success of this program in the FY 2024 Annual Report.



CRACK SEALING AND PAINT MARKING PROGRAMS

The Office of Aeronautics spearheads design, letting, and inspection of statewide crack sealing and paint marking projects. Non-NPIAS airports can participate in the program with the cost split 50 percent state and 50 percent local. NPIAS airports can participate using their AIP funding if they meet the economic necessity requirement (unable to fund maintenance under their own resources). However, they do not have to be part of the statewide project to use their AIP funding for crack sealing or paint marking. There is an annual call for projects in the fall.

| 2023 Paint Marking Program | |
|----------------------------|-------------------|
| 15 airports | |
| Federal funds: | \$ 339,467 |
| State funds: | \$ 22,722 |
| Local funds: | \$ 22,047 |
| Total funding: | \$ 384,236 |

| 2023 Crack Sealing Program | |
|----------------------------|-------------------|
| 15 airports | |
| Federal funds: | \$ 240,906 |
| State funds: | \$ 37,967 |
| Local funds: | \$ 34,444 |
| Total funding: | \$ 313,317 |



ALL WEATHER AIRPORT ACCESS PROGRAM

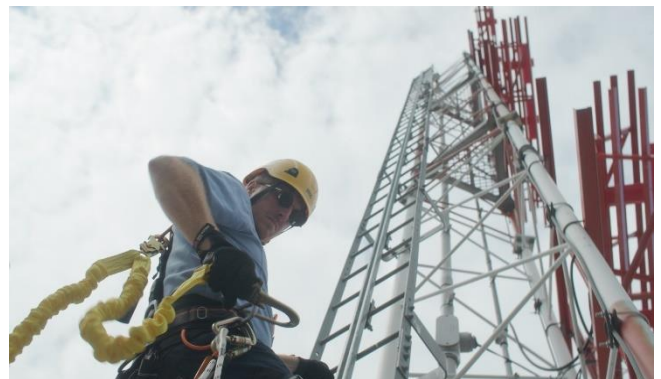
Aero's All Weather Airport Access Program (AWAAP), created under the umbrella of the MASP, calls for weather observation and data dissemination at each eligible airport in Michigan. This program includes three components:

- 1) An AWOS,
- 2) A data collection system for collection of AWOS data and dissemination to the FAA network, and
- 3) Access to current weather products available through the Internet.

There are 41 installed AWOS and nine Weather Briefing Systems (WBS) statewide, maintained by the Office of Aeronautics, in cooperation with local communities. For each community's airport, Aero enters in a contract with a local sponsor that spells out the responsibilities for the shared operation and maintenance of the weather system.

In FY 2023, the following AWOS contracts were renewed:

- **Grosse Ile Municipal Airport, Grosse Ile (ONZ)**
- **Livingston County Spencer J. Hardy Airport, Howell (OZW)**
- **Gratiot Community Airport, Alma (AMN)**
- **Dupont Lapeer Airport, Lapeer (D95)**
- **Wexford County Airport, Cadillac (CAD)**
- **Jack Barstow Airport, Midland (IKW)**
- **Antrim County Airport, Bellaire (ACB)**
- **Roben-Hood Airport, Big Rapids (RQB)**
- **Charlevoix Municipal Airport, Charlevoix (CVX)**
- **Mason Jewett Airport, Mason (TEW)**
- **Mt. Pleasant Municipal Airport, Mt. Pleasant (MOP)**
- **Luce County Airport, Newberry (ERY)**
- **Schoolcraft County Airport, Manistique (ISQ)**
- **Hillsdale Municipal Airport, Hillsdale (JYM)**
- **Monroe Custer Field, Monroe (TTF)**
- **Kirsch Municipal Airport, Sturgis (IRS)**
- **Dow Memorial Airport, Frankfort (FKS)**
- **West Branch Community Airport, West Branch (Y31)**
- **Branch County Memorial Airport, Coldwater (OEB)**
- **Owosso Community Airport, Owosso (RNP)**
- **Harry W. Browne Airport, Saginaw (HYX)**



In addition to the AWOS sites listed above, several other airports with federally supported weather equipment wanted to participate in Aero's WBS program. Like the AWOS program, the costs are shared with the local sponsors. In FY 2023, the following WBS contracts were renewed:

- **Pellston Regional Airport of Emmet County, Pellston (PLN)**
- **Ann Arbor Municipal Airport, Ann Arbor (ARB)**

The AWAAP is currently under review to ensure it reflects the policies contained within the MASP and effectively supports the needs of its users. A map of systems maintained by the Office of Aeronautics can be viewed at www.Michigan.gov/Aero under the Pilot Resources and UAS tab.



In FY 2021, the MAC convened the AWOS Task Group (comprised of two MAC commissioners, four Aero staff and two airport managers) to examine the long-term viability of Michigan’s aging AWOS system. The AWOS Task Force recommended the MAC support ongoing efforts at Aero to educate, retain and preserve the dedicated staff needed to maintain the network, and that the Michigan Legislature consider a one-time appropriation of \$4 million to support a phased upgrade of the existing AWOS systems over the next five years. In response to this recommendation, the Legislature did appropriate \$3.9 million for these upgrades. In FY 2023, Aero worked through the procurement and contracting process for this major project, with work slated to being in FY 2024.



AIR TRANSPORT

The Air Transport Unit (ATU) provides transportation to employees in all branches of state government, including the Governor’s Office, Michigan Economic Development Corp. (MEDC), Department of Natural Resources, Department of Education, Department of Health and Human Services, Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity, Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs, MDOT, and Department of Corrections.



The ATU maintains and operates a fleet of four department-owned airplanes:

- One Beechcraft King Air 200
- Two Beechcraft Baron 58s
- One Cessna 206

Keeping our aircraft in top shape, Aero mechanics upgraded the Baron’s avionics to a Garmin 5, which provides an electronic display giving better situational awareness for the pilot. Installed on the other Baron was an Aspen Pro system that works with the aircrafts’ autopilot to provide seamless hands-off navigation, and Bose noise-cancelling headsets for the comfort of the passengers. LED wing strobe and navigation lights were also installed, which will be brighter, longer lasting, lighter weight, and more reliable.

In FY 2023, Aero moved 435 passengers and flew 470 flight hours, generating \$235,242.74 in revenue. These flights also resulted in \$168,445.75 in savings to the state by flying versus driving.

Flight hours:

- FY 2023: 470
- FY 2022: 488
- FY 2021: 183
- FY 2020: 353

ATU staff participated in a new passenger safety information video. This video is intended to provide important flight details and expectations for our flying customers. Scheduled for full release in December 2023, the video will enhance awareness of MDOT's flight procedures.



EMERGING AVIATION

The Office of Aeronautics Airspace and Emerging Aviation Systems Unit continued its exponential growth in integrating AAM and UAS across Michigan, including using drone technology in a variety of new ways within Aero for UAS-aided airport inspections, across the department for UAS-aided bridge inspections and surveys, and across state government for environmental and security use cases.



MDOT UAS Fleet and Operations

MDOT owns and operates a fleet of more than 30 drones with more than 50 UAS-trained pilots covering a variety of MDOT areas. Aerial survey, vegetation management, construction management, and photography/videography are a few uses, in addition to aeronautical inspections.

UAS Inspection Flights

The Office of Aeronautics completed 28 airport UAS inspection flights and 25 obstruction evaluation reports from UAS-flown missions. UAS-aided flights provide airports with more detailed obstruction information than traditional boots on the ground inspections and can even predict potential future obstructions. UAS data is streamlined and results in airports getting more accurate inspection information faster.

UAS Task Force

The UAS Task Force last met on Oct. 19, 2023. Made up of a variety of industry representatives appointed by the governor, the task force was initially established in 2017 to provide guidance and executive recommendations. This goal was accomplished, and the task force is now realigning itself with current industry needs.

Projects and Partnerships

UAS Corridor Feasibility Study

MDOT Office of Aeronautics, with support from MEDC, explored the initial deployment of small UAS, where they can be flown beyond visual line of sight (BVLOS), and the real-world use cases that may exist. These use cases include just-in-time delivery, medical transport, and last mile logistics. The study focused on three key areas: an urban setting, a cross-border setting and a rural/island setting. The final report was issued in January 2023 and can be found at www.Michigan.gov/Aero. The next steps are to deploy the physical and digital infrastructure needed to successfully fly BVLOS in a real-world environment. This study was named third in the top five MEDC/Office of Future Mobility and Electrification (OFME) Mobility Innovation Highlights for the year.

Ford Launchpad for Innovative Technologies and Entrepreneurship (FLITE)

In another example of collaboration with MEDC, **Gerald R. Ford International Airport (GRR)** launched FLITE, where technology is tested in real world airport environments and has proved to be a success, with plans to continue into FY 2024.

Michigan UAS Leadership Summit

In fall 2023, Office of Aeronautics leadership attended an industry summit in Detroit to collaborate and provide government perspective on the advancement of aviation. Attendees came from across the state to collaborate and share ideas on the next steps for UAS in Michigan.

Advanced Air Mobility (AAM)

The advancement of aviation technology and the introduction of electric aircraft, electric vertical take-off, and landing (eVTOL), and UAS requires a new perspective on the aviation system across the state and nation. Anticipating the need for additional UAS programs, MDOT applied for Strengthening Mobility and Revolutionizing Transportation (SMART) Grant funding for furthering UAS initiatives. MDOT also prepared comments for the FAA on a unified framework for AAM integration across the nation, again proving Michigan to be a leader in the field.

Media and News Coverage

While there is no way to accurately capture the number of articles or media coverage given to UAS and AAM in the past year, the following are just a small sample of highlights to show the interest in this new aviation sector.

- [Gov. Whitmer announces air mobility corridor development in Michigan and Ontario](#)
- [Traverse City Is a Study Site of Potential Drone Corridors in Michigan | The Ticker \(traverseticker.com\)](#)
- [Drones help Holt High Students earn Aviation certificates – WLNS 6 News](#)
- One of Aero's own employees is featured on the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) UAS and AAM Information Sheet, crediting that Michigan is a pioneer in this industry. [AASHTO UAS and Advanced Air Mobility \(AAM\) Information Sheet](#)

Aero continues leading efforts to safely integrate advanced UAS operations and emerging aviation in Michigan. Continuously collaborating with the MAC, industry partners and pilots, there is much enthusiasm about where this industry is headed for the future.

EDUCATION, TRAINING AND OUTREACH

Michigan Association of Airport Executives Training Grant

On Jan. 26, 2023, the MAC approved a contract providing \$30,000 to the Michigan Association of Airport Executives (MAAE) to conduct workshops, training programs, seminars, and conferences that support the education and training of airport managers and aviation staff throughout Michigan. This grant supports student scholarships for those pursuing an aviation-related education by enhancing the existing scholarship program available through MAAE and promoting internships at airports. MAAE provided a \$23,000 match, bringing the total funds available for training efforts through this partnership in FY 2023 to \$53,000.



Michigan Airport Conferences

Education and training efforts supported by the MAC and the Office of Aeronautics include the bi-annual Michigan Airport Conferences. Co-sponsored by MDOT and MAAE, the 2023 February conference was cancelled after a tragedy on the Michigan State Campus where the conference was to be held. The September conference went on in spectacular fashion. Held at the Muskegon Convention Center on the shores of Lake Michigan, more than 200 attendees heard presentations on alternative fuels and electrification; AWOS upgrades; the future of airports and emerging aviation; and perspectives on diversity, inclusion, equity, and acceptance. Aero and the FAA also provided informative updates on happenings in each agency. The keynote lunch speaker was Erin Miller, granddaughter of Elaine Danforth Harmon, a member of the Women Airforce Service Pilots during World War II. MAAE and MDOT are thankful to the vendors and sponsors who promote and attend these events each year as well.



Michigan Aviation Professionals Training Course (formerly Airports 101)

The annual Michigan Aviation Professionals Training Course, formerly known as Airports 101, was held in Howell on May 8-9, 2023. Supported by the MDOT/MAAE Training Grant mentioned previously and in coordination with airport consultant Mead and Hunt, this course provides in-depth instruction on airport functions and operations for those working in the aviation industry. 2023 saw a record number of attendees and an expanded two-day format. This new format included time for additional maintenance and operations training, requested by the airport communities.

Outreach

From visiting the Upper Peninsula's Sault Ste. Marie **Chippewa International Airport (CIU)** terminal grand opening to attending a ceremony with Detroit Mayor Duggan at **Coleman A. Young Memorial Airport (DET)** in Detroit, Aero staff traversed the state in 2023 in support of our customers and airport projects. Volunteering their own time, a few dedicated employees became mock "victims" at **Gerald R. Ford International Airport's (GRR)** triennial full-scale disaster preparation exercise. The 2023 Oshkosh event held in neighboring Wisconsin allowed our staff to bring our knowledge to the FAA Drone Symposium and AAM Summit, collaborating on exciting upcoming initiatives in the world of AAM.

Conferences

As part of our continued training and outreach, staff at all levels attended conferences to enrich their work. Below is a list of the important knowledge sharing events attended throughout the year.

- American Council of Engineering Companies Conference
- County Road Association Conference
- Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Conference
- Michigan Airport Conferences
- Michigan Infrastructure and Transportation Association Conference
- Michigan Safety Conference
- MDOT's TranspoCon
- NASAO Annual Conference
- NASAO Washington Briefing
- Transportation Research Board Conference
- Xponential 2023 - Association for Uncrewed Vehicle Systems International

National Association of State Airport Officials

Aero leadership attended the 2023 NASAO Washington, D.C. Briefing Feb. 23 - March 3, 2023. Speakers included FAA Acting Administrator Honorable Billy

Nolen, Ranking Member House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure Honorable Rick Larsen, and FAA Associate Administrator for Airports Shannetta Griffin. The focus and priority of discussion was the FAA Reauthorization Bill. In support of furthering Michigan as a national leader in aviation, Aero and MAC Director Mike Trout was named regional director of the NASAO Great Lakes Region for 2022-2023. Bryan Budds was named co-chair of the NASAO Emerging Technology Committee.



AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

MAC Awards

The MAC Awards of Excellence are given each year by the Commission's outgoing chair to an individual and organization that embody the values of the Commission. This year's awards were presented by past Chair Kelly Burris on behalf of the Commission and MDOT Office of Aeronautics at the November MAC meeting in Detroit. This year's awardees were the Tuskegee Airmen National Museum and the Honorable Mayor Mike Duggan.



Tuskegee Airmen National Museum

"In recognition of outstanding contribution to Michigan aeronautics through continuous support of aviation education and workforce development. Creating a pipeline for underrepresented youth to explore future career options with the Aviation Career Education (ACE) Academy and allowing new generations to experience flight with the Young Eagles are just two of many examples of excellence the Tuskegee Airmen National Museum provide."

The Honorable Mayor Mike Duggan

"In recognition of outstanding contributions to the State of Michigan as the Mayor of the City of Detroit, and the valuable leadership provided to ensure the safety, viability, and long-term stability of the Coleman A. Young International Airport. The dedication to ensure the airport remains a vital element of the Michigan Aviation System has had a significant economic impact in Detroit and will promote continued revitalization of the area and attract economic investment well into the future. You have been a leader and strong partner in the aviation community with your firm business approach, positively benefiting both the Coleman A. Young International Airport and the aviation industry in Michigan as a whole."



Past Chair Kelly Burris also gave a special appreciation award to the **Aviator Cookie Co.** in Midland for the delicious cookies provided to MAC meetings and for their support of Michigan aviation in a unique way.

MAC Chair Kelly Burris

"In recognition of the accomplishments as chairperson of the MAC for 2022-2023. Under Chair Burris's leadership, the MAC transferred hundreds of millions of dollars in federal funding for airport infrastructure projects; established the MAC Aviation Career Pipeline; collaborated with bipartisan legislative and

government figures in support of Michigan airports; developed the MAC Road Show taking the 2023 meetings to airports across the state; and provided outstanding hands-on leadership of the MAC.”

Annual Aviation Awards

At the annual Michigan Airport Conference, a variety of airports and aviation professionals are recognized by the MDOT Office of Aeronautics for their outstanding work throughout the year in various categories. Due to the February conference being cancelled on short notice, this year’s awards were presented at the fall conference in Muskegon by Office of Aeronautics Executive Administrator Mike Trout.

Aviation Professional of the Year: Kelly J. Jost, P.E.

“In recognition of distinguished service in supporting aviation education, recruitment, and retention in the state of Michigan. Your efforts and dedication have resulted in national recognition as a member of the FAA Women in Aviation Advisory Board, promotion to Greck Lakes Service Group Manager for C&S Companies, and as a member of the Michigan Association of Airport Executives Board of Directors. Your passion for promoting women and minorities in aviation sparked the idea for the Michigan Aeronautics Commission Aviation Career Pipeline Committee, whose mission is to promote aeronautic careers to previously underserved populations. We sincerely appreciate the important work you have done that has enhanced aviation education and career readiness for the state and national aviation systems.”

Robert G. Peckham” Consultant of the Year: LimnoTech

“This award is presented in recognition of your outstanding consultant work addressing PFAS on behalf of Michigan

airports. As a Michigan-based company, LimnoTech is leading efforts in the state’s response to the emerging PFAS contaminant. Experts on the LimnoTech team have continuously provided the highest quality environmental insight in a time of continually evolving science and regulation. LimnoTech has been an example across the nation, not only in providing superior technical analysis to aviation clients, but also in advocating nationally for a better understanding of PFAS issues at airports across the country.”



Commercial Airport of the Year: Chippewa International Airport (CIU)

“This award is presented as recognition for proactively pursuing airport grant funding and opportunities which benefit the airport, region, and community. Your hard work in securing supplemental discretionary funds from the FAA, allowed work on a beautiful, new, multi-million-dollar terminal which opened in fall of 2022. The entire region has benefited economically and gained a real asset that will solidify partnerships in aviation and improve access to the rest of the world. The MDOT Office of Aeronautics commends you for your leadership in pioneering new funding processes and providing exceptional aviation service in Michigan.”



Aviator of the Year: Virgil Williams

“This award is presented as recognition for your outstanding contributions to aviation safety at the Plainwell Municipal Airport. You garnered community support to remove numerous obstructions and reclaimed several hundred feet of landing distance for Runway 27, which created safer operating conditions for the airport, the general aviation community, and local student pilots. Over your 50-year career in aviation, you have received numerous awards and were a key founder of the Michigan Business Aviation Association and the Plainwell Aviation STEM Academy. The MDOT Office of Aeronautics commends you for promoting aviation safety and education for the State of Michigan.”

Aviation Community Involvement Award: Sarah Pagano

“This award is presented in recognition of distinguished service in supporting aviation education and community awareness at the Jack Barstow Airport in Midland. Your efforts and dedication have been recognized by both MDOT Office of Aeronautics and the City of Midland in bringing positive attention and focus to aviation-related initiatives at the airport. Supporting local food trucks during ‘Food Truck Friday’, as well as partnering with the local library for monthly story hours and with the local EAA for ‘Aviation Career Night’ have strengthened airport awareness and created a positive impact in the community. The fun and educational opportunities you offer at the airport promote a friendly atmosphere and create an interest in aviation for all members of the community that will leave positive impacts well into the future.”



General Aviation Airport of the Year: Harry W. Browne Airport

“This award is presented as recognition for the attentive care and commitment to airport management and operations by H.W. Browne Airport staff. Your dedication to excellence in maintenance and safety at the airport by supporting state-of-the-art LED lighting at runway edges and approach paths contribute greatly to the safe and efficient operation of the airport. The superior customer care and aviation services provided serve the community and flying public of Michigan well. The MDOT Office of Aeronautics honors the airport staff for a job well done.”

Service Awards

Throughout the year, various individuals are recognized for their service to aviation in Michigan. The Service Award recipients for this year are Phil Johnson, Matt Barresi, and Brian Rochon. Each was presented with their award at a 2023 MAC meeting.

Phillip E. Johnson, AAE

“For recognition of your 45+ years working in the aviation industry, over 30 of which was here in the State of Michigan. Your time serving as Senior Vice President and Chief Operating Officer at Gerald R. Ford

International Airport in Grand Rapids, combined with your years at Prein and Newhof and serving as the Michigan Association of Airport Executives President, have impacted Michigan's aviation industry in many positive ways. Your experience in aviation business management and attentiveness to the flying public have brought about many critical improvements to Michigan airports during your tenure. On behalf of the Michigan Aeronautics Commission and the Michigan Department of Transportation Office of Aeronautics, it is a privilege and honor to present you with this service award."

Matthew Barresi

"For recognition of your contributions as Gaylord Regional Airport Manager. For over 14 years, you served with pride taking the airport to new heights. You coordinated airport roundtables at the Michigan Airport Conference, serving as a champion for general aviation airports. You involved the community in events such as the Gaylord Airshow, Big Band Night, and Veterans Coffee Hour. And when a tornado struck the Gaylord area in May 2022, you and the airport staff were key in supporting rescue, recovery, and clean-up efforts. The MDOT Office of Aeronautics and the Michigan Aeronautics Commission thank you for your support and service to aviation in Michigan."



Brian Rochon

"For recognition of your years of service with the Michigan Department of Transportation Office of Aeronautics. Your time service as inspector and Upper Peninsula pilot impacted Michigan's aviation industry in many positive ways including providing flight service to state employees working in northern rural areas of the state. On behalf of the MAC and the MDOT Office of Aeronautics, it is an honor to present you with this service award."

Simply Super Service Awards

Multiple Office of Aeronautics staff members were recognized by their MDOT peers with Simply Super Service Awards, which recognize outstanding customer service.

- **Steve Houtteman, Laura Wise, and Barb Diou-Roig** were awarded for their work on per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) grants.
- **Alicia Morrison, Zach Tecson, Zach Bormet, Ryan Panlener, Michael Soper, Linn Smith, and David Mellino** were recognized for providing technical support to customers using the Aero Auditorium.



2023 NASAO Art Contest: “Air Sports and the Environment”

The following students were Michigan’s winners and were sent on to the national contest.

- ❖ 1st place Group 1, Junior Category: Fiona Lai, Ann Arbor
- ❖ 1st place Group 2, Intermediate Category: Paityn Lawson, Mendon
- ❖ 1st place Group 3, Senior Category: Jane Hu, Ann Arbor

Vanguard Award

Aero **Deputy Director Bryan Budds** was nominated for the AASHTO Transportation Vanguard Award for his work on PFAS in Michigan.



Office of Aeronautics Employees of the Year

For the first time, Aero staff nominated both an employee and a supervisor of the year in recognition of their outstanding work. For FY 2023, the chosen employee was **Nikki Moore, Analyst Finance and Operations Unit**, and the chosen supervisor was **Paul Bruder, Aircraft Mechanic Supervisor Air Transport Unit**. Both show exemplary work ethic and dedication, and were chosen by their peers for this important recognition.

STATISTICS AND DATA

State of Michigan Aviation Overview

- ❖ 216 licensed public-use airports
- ❖ 17 supporting scheduled air carrier service
- ❖ 5 licensed public-use heliports
- ❖ 60 licensed flight schools
- ❖ 4,717 registered aircraft
- ❖ 39 million passengers
- ❖ 601 million pounds of air cargo
- ❖ \$22 billion annual economic statewide impact

Airport Planning and Development Section

- 146 airport construction projects
- 23 crack sealing and paint marking projects
- 50 new FAA grants
- 24 FAA closeouts
- 17 ALP updates
- 3 land acquisition projects
- 59 environmental clearances
- 189 DBE Goals added
- 247 contracts drafted
- 212 contracts executed
- 1,653 SIGMA documents created/processed



Aviation Services Section

- 65 airport inspections
- 53 hospital heliport/helistop inspections
- 20 flight school inspections
- 62 provisional airport licenses
- 470 flight hours
- 435 passengers transported by Aero
- \$235,232 in revenue generated by Aero flights
- \$168,446 in savings from state employees flying versus driving
- 27 UAS aided airport inspections
- 26 obstruction reports
- 6,991 air space reviews





The MDOT Office of Aeronautics and Michigan Aeronautics Commission are proud to serve the flying public and provide safe, high-quality air transportation to the people of Michigan.

