

FUNDING AN AIRPORT LAND USE COMPATIBILITY PLAN

By Kevin Ryan

Airport land use compatibility is a priority issue for the Division of Aeronautics. One of our more important goals is to protect the State airport's system and the communities that surround airports from incompatible land use decisions, while preserving prior airport investments. Airport Land Use Compatibility Plans (ALUCP), formerly known as Comprehensive Land Use Plans (CLUP), are the most effective method to that end.

ALUCPs are eligible projects under the California Aid to Airports Program. Using an Acquisition and Development (A&D) Grant, which provides 90 percent State funds, amounts to as little as a 10 percent local match for non-revenue generating safety projects, such as ALUCPs. However, in order to be eligible for State funding, an ALUCP project request must first be entered into the State Capital Improvement Plan (CIP). A&D projects from the CIP are selected on a California Transportation Commission (CTC) approved priority matrix, based first on safety. ALUCPs must be 30 percent of the overall A&D program and are considered a priority Rank One project.

From the CIP, the Aeronautics Program (Program) is developed and approved by the CTC. The CIP is developed every odd year, and the Program is developed every even year. The next CIP will be compiled by the summer of 2013; consequently, the new three-year Program (Fiscal Years [FY] 2014, 2015, and 2016) should be approved by the CTC as early as spring 2014.

Due to a State budget shortfall, the FY 2012 Program delivery is on hold. However, some projects may go forward as funding becomes available, since the Aeronautics Account is continuously funded. It is highly recommended that sponsors have their Airport Improvement Plans (AIP) or State A&D projects in our 2013-23 CIP in order to receive future State grants. The 2013 CIP process will begin accepting projects this fall (2012), and all Airport Land Use Commissions and airport sponsors will be notified by mail.

For more information on the process to request a State grant, California Aid to Airports Program eligibility, and CIP project data entry procedures, please review the information available on our web site under Grants and Loans at: <http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/planning/aeronaut/#>

