



CITY OF NEWPORT
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Newport, OR 97366
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November 1, 2021

Subject: Newport Municipal Airport Obstruction Removal Project Public Meeting

Dear Interested Party

There were some technical difficulties surrounding the public meeting the City held on September 28, 2021, regarding the proposed obstruction removal project for the Newport Municipal Airport, so we will be holding another virtual public meeting on **November 12, 2021, from 1-2 pm**. The virtual meeting will be held on Zoom. To join the Zoom Meeting, please see the information below.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86028659107>

Meeting ID: 860 2865 9107

One tap mobile

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Meeting ID: 860 2865 9107

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kxgfZVJzV>

If you are unable to attend the meeting, the meeting will be recorded and posted at: [City of Newport, OR:: Airport - Projects \(newportoregon.gov\)](http://City of Newport, OR:: Airport - Projects (newportoregon.gov))

Airports are required by FAA to maintain airspace, on and off airport property, free of obstructions for approaching and departing aircraft. Airspace consists of imaginary surfaces that are established to protect planes that are either landing or taking off. The airspace that needs to be maintained is established based on several variables such as type of aircraft using the runway and if the runway uses instrument or visual approach.

During the first phase of the project conducted in 2018-2019, existing and future obstructions that intruded into all of the airspace surfaces were identified. The number of trees and property owners affected was significant. It was determined that removing all of these trees was not feasible. As a result,

the City and FAA evaluated the Federal Aviation Regulations to determine the airspace requirements that need to be met. Additionally, the City and FAA looked at what was reasonable from a cost perspective.

The City and FAA have mutually agreed that obstructions should be removed in order to maintain:

- The precision instrument approach for Runway end 16,
- The non-precision instrument approach for Runway end 34, and
- The visual approach for Runway end 20.

Focusing on these approach surfaces has greatly reduced the number of trees that would need to be removed on private property.

- For Runway end 16, only one tree is proposed to be removed that is on private property, the rest is on City owned property.
- For Runway end 34, the majority of the tree removal would occur on City property. However, trees identified as obstructions that need to be removed are also located on five private properties.
- For Runway 20 end, trees would be removed from City property and from one private property.

The City will be reaching out to these individual property owners to discuss tree removal on their property. We are currently starting the phase of the project that evaluates the potential environmental impacts from the tree removal as required under the National Environmental Policy Act. This evaluation will be presented in an Environmental Assessment document that will be made available to the public to review and provide comments on during a public comment period. During that public comment period, we will also be holding another public meeting to discuss the results of the assessment. At this time, we expect to have the assessment completed and available to the public in April 2022.

From our previous outreach on the project, we have heard concerns regarding:

- Noise,
- Visual impacts,
- Erosion, and
- Colonization of invasive plant species like Scotchbroom

These topics will be evaluated and measures to address them included in assessment. Additionally, we will be working with the regulatory agencies to address their issues and concerns and ensure that we are in compliance with local, state and federal regulations.

We hope you will be able to attend the meeting on November 12, 2021 from 1-2 pm.

Sincerely,



Lance Vanderbeck
Airport Director
City of Newport