Glossary

A-Weighted Sound Level (also referred to as dBA) - The sound pressure level which has been filtered or weighted to reduce the influence of the low and high frequency noise; designed to approximate the manner in which the human ear responds to sounds.

Advisory Circular (AC) - A document published by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) giving guidance on aviation issues, and which becomes binding on those airports receiving federal grant funding.

Acoustical - Relating to the deadening or absorbing of sound.

Aeronautical Study - A study performed pursuant to FAR Part 77 "Objects Affecting Navigable Airspace" concerning the effect of proposed construction or alternation on the use of air navigation facilities or navigable airspace by aircraft. The conclusion of each study is normally a determination as to whether the specific proposal studied would be a hazard to air navigation and/or a determination for marking and/or lighting.

Aircraft Operation - An aircraft arrival or departure from an airport. There are two types of operations: local and itinerant.

Air Traffic Control - Control of the airspace by an appropriate authority to promote the safe, orderly and expeditious movement of terminal air traffic.

Airport – Any area of land or water, within or without this state, that is used, or intended for use, for the landing and take-off of aircraft, and any appurtenant areas that are used, or intended for use, for airport buildings or other airport facilities or rights of way, together with all airport buildings and facilities located thereon.

Airport Approach Safety Zone - An element of either an Airport Impact Zone or an Airport Overlay Zone which consists of a portion of the Airport Approach surface as defined in FAR Part 77. The actual boundaries and land use provisions are determined by the local jurisdiction.

Airport Development Zone - A zone which replaces the existing zoning for the airport property encompassing the land presently owned by the airport and, if feasible, areas identified for future purchase, clear zones and areas with noise levels greater than DNL 70.

Airport Elevation - The highest point on an airports usable runway(s) expressed in feet above mean sea level.

Airport Environs - The land use and people in the areas surrounding an airport which can be directly affected by the operation of the airport.

Airport Hazard - Any structure or object of man-made or natural growth located on or near the airport, or any use of land near the airport that obstructs the airspace required for the flight of aircraft in landing or taking off, or is otherwise hazardous to such landing and taking off.

Airport Impact Zones - A zone used to place land use conditions on land impacted by airport operations. It establishes a new zone and provisions which replaces an existing zone and standards.

Airport Improvement Program - (AIP) - The AIP is authorized by the Airport and Airway Improvement Act of 1982 (P.L. 97-248, as amended). The Act's broad objective is to assist in the development of a nationwide system of publicuse airports adequate to meet the current and projected growth of civil aviation. The Act provides funding for airport planning and development projects at airports included in the National Plan of Integrated Airport Systems. The Act also authorizes funds for noise compatibility planning and to carry out noise compatibility programs as set forth in the Aviation Safety and Noise Abatement Act of 1979 (P.L. 96-143).

Airport Layout Plan (ALP) - A scaled drawing of existing and proposed airside and landside facilities necessary for the operation and development of the airport. The ALP shows (1) boundaries and proposed additions to areas owned or controlled by the sponsor, (2) the location and nature of existing and proposed airport facilities and structures and (3) the location on the airport of existing and proposed non-aviation areas and improvements. The ALP may also depict those properties adjacent to the airport ownership that may have legal access to the airport.

Airport Layout Plan Set – This document typically contains a set of drawings which illustrate the existing and future development of the airport. An ALP set may often contain the following: (1) Airport Layout Drawing (Plan), (2) Airport Airspace Drawing, (3) Inner Portion of the Approach Surface Drawing, (4) Terminal Area Drawing, (5) Land Use Drawing and (6) Airport Property Map. The drawings depict existing and proposed airport facilities, land uses, approach zones and other defined areas of airspace, and environmental features that may influence airport usage and expansion capabilities.

Airport Manager - The person authorized by the airport sponsor to exercise administrative control of the airport.

Airport Master Plan - Long-term development plan for the airport adopted by the airport proprietor and local jurisdictions.

Airport Noise Abatement Program - A program designed to reduce noise around an airport through changes in the manner in which aircraft are flown, or changes in the operation or layout of the airport. (Compatible land use planning).

Airport Noise and Capacity Act of 1990 - This act required the establishment of a National Noise Policy and a requirement to eliminate Stage 2 aircraft weighing 75,000 pounds or greater operating in the contiguous United States by the year 2000.

Airport Obstruction Zoning Ordinance - A local height restriction ordinance which follows FAR Part 77, implements a local community's comprehensive plan and provides specific height standards for the area beneath the airport Imaginary Surface.

Airport Owner - Any person or authority having the operational control of an airport as defined in the ASNA Act. (See OAR 660-113)

Airport Overlay Zone - A zone intended to place additional land use conditions on land impacted by the airport while retaining the existing underlying zone.

Airport Reference Code (ARC) - The ARC is a FAA coding system used to relate airport design criteria to the operational and physical characteristics of the airplanes intended to operate at the airport.

Airport Reference Point - The latitude and longitude of the approximate center of the airport, based upon the runway facilities.

Airport Sponsor – The airport owner or tax-supported organization such as an airport authority, that is authorized to own and operate, to obtain property interests, to obtain funds, and to legally, financially and otherwise able to meet all applicable requirements of current laws and regulations related to the operation of an airport. (See OAR 660-13)

Airside - That portion of the airport facility where aircraft movements take place, airline operations areas, and areas that directly serve the aircraft, such as taxiway, runway, maintenance and fueling areas.

Airspace - Space above the ground in which aircraft travel. Often airspace is divided into corridors, routes and restricted zones.

Ambient Noise - All encompassing noise associated with a given environment, being usually a composite of sounds from many sources near and far.

Approach and Runway Protection Zone Map - The approach and Runway Protection Zone Map is compiled from the criteria in FAR Part 77, Objects Affecting Navigable Airspace. It shows the area affected by the Airport Obstructions Zoning Ordinance, and includes layout of runways, airport boundary, elevations and area topography. Applicable height limitation areas are shown in detail.

Approach Slopes - The rations of horizontal to vertical distance indicating the degree of inclination of the Approach Surface. The various rations include:

- 20:1 For all utility and visual runways extended from the primary surface a distance of 5,000 feet.
- 34:1 For all non-precision instrument runways extended from the primary surface for a distance of 10,000 feet.

50:1/40:1 - For all precision instrument runways extending from the primary surface for a distance of 10,000 feet at an approach slope of 50:1 and an additional 40,000 feet beyond this at a 40:1 Approach Slope.

Approach Surface - A surface defined by FAR Part 77 "Objects Affecting Navigable Airspace, " that is longitudinally centered on the runway centerline and extends outward and upward from each end of the primary surface. An approach surface is applied to each end of each runway based on the type of approach available or planned for that runway end.

Attainment Area - An area in which the federal or state standards for ambient air quality are being achieved.

Attenuation - The lessening of the magnitude.

ASNA Act - The Aviation Safety and Noise Abatement Act of 1979, as amended (49 U.S.C. 2101 et seq.).

Average Sound Level - The level in decibels, of the mean square, A-weighted sound pressure during a specified period, with reference to the square of the standard reference sound pressure of 20 micropascals.

Average Day-Night Sound Level (DNL) - Average day-night sound level (DNL) is the FAA standard metric for determining the cumulative exposure of individuals to noise. DNL is the equivalent of noise levels produced by aircraft operations during a 24-hour period, with a ten decibel penalty applied to the level measured during nighttime hours (10:00 pm to 7:00 am).

Avigation Easement - A grant of a property interest in land over which a right of unobstructed flight in the airspace is established and which prohibits any structures, growth or other obstructions from penetrating the approach surface and provides a right of entry to remove, mark or light any structure or any such obstruction.

Based Aircraft - An aircraft permanently stationed at an airport by agreement between the aircraft owner and the airport management.

Building Codes - Codes, either local or state, that control the functional and structural aspects of buildings and/or structures. Local ordinances typically require proposed buildings to comply with zoning requirements before building permits can be issued under the building codes.

Commercial Service Airport - A public airport that has at least 2,500 passenger boardings each year and is receiving scheduled passenger aircraft service.

Compatibility - The degree to which land uses or types of development can coexist or integrate.

Compatible Land Use - As defined in FAR 150: The use of land (e.g. commercial, industrial, agricultural) that is normally compatible with aircraft and airport operations, or sound insulated land uses (e.g. sound insulated homes, schools, nursing homes, hospitals, libraries) that would otherwise be considered incompatible with aircraft and airports operations.

Comprehensive Plan - Similar to a Master Plan, the comprehensive plan is a governmental entity's official statement of its plans and policies for long-term development. The plan includes maps, graphics and written proposals, which indicate the general location for streets, parks, schools, public buildings, airports and other physical development of the jurisdiction.

Conditional Zoning - The imposition or exaction of conditions or promises upon the grant of zoning by the zoning authority.

Conformity (Air Quality) - No department, agency or instrumentality of the federal government shall engage in, support in any way or provide financial assistance for, license, or permit, or approve, any activity which does not conform to a State Implementation Plan (SIP). There are two types of Air Quality Conformity: General Conformity and Transportation Conformity:

General Conformity - All federal actions (except those involving highways and transit projects) within non-attainment and maintenance areas that result in a net increase in emissions above specified levels.

Transportation Conformity - Federally funded or approved highway or transit projects; (and regionally significant non-federal highway and transit projects) within non-attainment and maintenance areas.

Decibel (dB) - A unit for describing the intensity or level of sound, equal to 20 times the logarithm to the base 10 of the ratio of the pressure of the sound measured to a standard reference pressure.

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Easement - A grant of one or more of the property rights by the property owner to and/or for the use by the public, a corporation or another person or entity.

Enplanement - A passenger boarding of a commercial flight.

Environmental Assessment (EA) - A concise document that assesses the environmental impacts of a proposed federal action. The EA discusses the need for and environmental impacts of the proposed action and alternative actions. An EA should provide sufficient evidence and analysis for a federal determination whether to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement or a Finding of No Significant Impact.

Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) - A document that provides full and fair discussion of the significant environmental impacts that would occur as a result of a proposed project and informs decision makers and the public of the reasonable alternatives that would avoid or minimize adverse impacts.

Euclidean Zoning - A traditional legislative method or device for controlling land use by establishing districts with boundaries and providing for specific uniform regulations as to type of permitted land use, height, bulk and lot coverage of structure, setback and similar building restrictions. (Reference from 1929 U.S. Supreme Court landmark decision upholding zoning as a means of land use control in "City of Euclid, Ohio v. Ambler Realty:)

Federal Aviation Administration - A federal agency charged with regulating air commerce to promote its safety and development, encouraging and developing civil aviation, air traffic control and air navigation and promoting the development of a national system of airports.

Federal Aviation Regulations (FAR) - Regulations established and administered by the FAA that govern civil aviation and aviation-related activities.

FAR Part 36 - Regulation establishing noise standards for the civil aviation fleet.

FAR Part 91 - Regulation pertaining to Air Traffic and General Operating Rules, including operating noise limits.

FAR Part 150 - Regulation pertaining to Airport Noise Compatibility Planning.

FAR Part 161 - Regulation pertaining to notice and approval of airport noise and access restrictions.

Federal Aviation Regulations Part 77 - Objects Affecting Navigable Airspace" - Part 77 (a) establishes standards for determining obstructions in navigable airspace; (b) defines the requirements for notice to the FAA Administrator of certain proposed construction or alteration; (c) provides for aeronautical studies of obstructions to air navigation to determine their effect on the safe and efficient use of airspace; (d) provides for public hearings on the hazardous effect of proposed construction or alteration on air navigation; and (e) provides for establishing antenna farm areas.

Federal Grant Assurance - The terms and conditions of accepting Airport Improvement Program (AIP) grants from the Federal Aviation Administration for carrying out the provisions of Title 49 United State Code. The terms and conditions become applicable when the airport sponsor accepts a grant offer from the FAA.

General Aviation - Refers to all civil aircraft and operations that are not classified as air carrier, commuter or regional. The types of aircraft used in general aviation activities cover a wide spectrum from corporate multi-engine jet aircraft piloted by professional crews to amateur-built single engine piston acrobatic planes, balloons and dirigibles.

Hold Harmless Agreement - An agreement which holds airport sponsors or jurisdictions harmless for alleged damages resulting from airport operations. Such agreements are recorded in deeds or permits as a condition of approval of a regulatory land use decision.

Hubbing - A method of airline scheduling that times the arrival and departure of several aircraft in a close time period to allow the transfer of passengers between different flights of the same airline. Several airlines may conduct hubbing operations at an airport.

Housing Codes - The codes that usually apply to both existing and future living units. The codes include minimum standards of occupancy, and usually govern spatial, ventilation, wiring, plumbing, structural and heating requirements.

Imaginary Surfaces - Those areas established in relation to the airport and to each runway consistent with FAR Part 77 in which any object extending above these imaginary surfaces, by definition, is an obstruction.

Incompatible Land Use - The use of land, which is defined in Appendix A, Table 1 of FAR Part 150, which is normally incompatible with the aircraft and airport operations (such as homes, schools, nursing homes, hospitals and libraries).

Infrastructure - A community's built elements that establish the community's foundation for maintaining existing populations, activities, future growth and development. Infrastructure elements include airports, roads and highways, bridges, water and sewer systems, waste disposal facilities, utilities and telecommunications systems, schools, and governmental and community facilities.

Instrument Approach - A series of predetermined maneuvers for the orderly transfer of an aircraft under instrument flight conditions from the beginning of the initial approach to a landing or to a point from which a landing may be made visually.

Instrument Flight Rules - (IFR) - Rules by which aircraft are operated without visual reference to the ground; in effect when cloud ceilings are equal to or less than 1,000 feet, or visibility is less than 3 miles.

Instrument Landing System - ILS - The instrument landing system is designed to provide electronic instrument guidance to the pilot to permit exact alignment and angle of descent of a properly equipped aircraft on final approach for landing.

Integrated Noise Model (INM) - FAA's computer model used by the civilian aviation community for evaluating aircraft noise impacts near airports. The INM uses a standard database of aircraft characteristics and applies them to an airport's average operational day to produce noise contours.

Itinerant Operation - Any aircraft arrival and/or departure other than a local operation.

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Land Banking - The purchase of property by the government to be held for future use and development either by the government or for resale for the development of compatible uses.

Land Use Compatibility - The coexistence of land uses surrounding the airport with airport-related activities.

Land Use Controls - Measures established by state or local government that are designed to carry out land use planning. The controls include among other measures: zoning, subdivision regulations, planned acquisition, easements, covenants or conditions in building codes and capital improvement programs, such as establishment of sewer, water, utilities or their service facilities.

Land Use Management Measures - Land use management techniques that consist of both remedial and preventive measures. Remedial, or corrective, measures typically include sound insulation or land acquisition. Preventive measures typically involve land use controls that emend or update the local zoning ordinance, comprehensive plan, subdivision regulations and building code.

Landside - That part of an airport uses for activities other than the movement of aircraft, such as vehicular access roads and parking.

Lighting and Marking of Hazards to Air Navigation - Installation of appropriate lighting fixtures, painted markings or other devices to such objects or structures that constitute hazards to air navigation.

Limited Avigation Easement - An easement which provides right of flight above approach slope surfaces, prohibits any obstruction penetrating the approach slope surface, and provides right of entry to remove any structure or growth penetrating the approach slope surface.

Local Operation - Any operation performed by an aircraft that (a) operations in the local traffic pattern or within sight of the tower or airport, or (b) is known to be departing for, or arriving from, flight in local practice areas located within a 20-mile radius of the control tower or airport, or (c) executes a simulated instrument approach or low pass at the airport.

Maintenance Area - a geographical area which was once designated as nonattainment, but the pollution levels have met the National Ambient Air Quality standards for two consecutive y ears and has an approved maintenance plan which outlines how the geographical area will continue to meet these standards.

Mediation - The use of a mediator or co-mediators to facilitate open discussion between disputants and assist them to negotiate a mutually agreeable resolution. Mediation is a method of alternative dispute resolution that provides an initial forum to informally settle disputes prior to regulatory intervention on the part of the FAA.

Mitigation - The avoidance, minimization, reduction, elimination or compensation for adverse environmental effects of a proposed action.

Mitigation Measure - An action taken to alleviate adverse impacts.

National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) - The original legislation establishing the environmental review process.

National Plan of Integrated Airport Systems (NPIAS) - A primary purpose of the NPIAS is to identify the airports that are important to national transportation and, therefore, eligible to receive grants under the Airport Improvement Program (AIP). The NPIAS is composed of all commercial service airports, all reliever airports, and selected general aviation airports.

Nautical Mile - A measure of distance equal to one minute of arc on the earth's surface, which is approximately 6,080 feet.

Navigation Aids (NAVAIDS) - Any facility used by an aircraft for guiding or controlling flight in the air or the landing or take-off of an aircraft.

Noise - Defined subjectively as unwanted sound, the measurement of noise evaluates three characteristics of sound: intensity, frequency and duration.

Noise Abatement Procedures - Changes in runway usage, flight approach and departure routes and procedures, and vehicle movement, such as ground maneuvers or other air traffic procedures that shift aviation impacts away from noise sensitive areas.

Noise Compatibility Plan (NCP) - The NCP consists of an optimum combination of preferred noise abatement and land use management measures, and a plan for implementation of the measures. For planning purposes, the implementation plan also includes the estimated cost for each of the recommended measures to the airport sponsor, the FAA, airport users, and the local units of government.

Noise Compatibility Program - See "Part 150 Study"

Noise Exposure Contours – Lines drawn about a noise source indicating constant energy levels of noise exposure. DNL is the measure used to describe community exposure to noise.

Noise Exposure Map (NEM) - The NEM is a scaled map of the airport, its noise contours and surrounding land uses. The NEM depicts the levels of noise exposure around the airport, both for the existing conditions and forecasts for the five-year planning period. The area of noise exposure is designated using the DNL (Day-Night Average Sound Level) noise metric.

Noise Impact - A condition that exists when the noise levels that occur in an area exceed a level identified as appropriate for the activities in that area.

Noise Level Reduction (NLR) - The amount of noise level reduction in decibels achieved through incorporation of noise attenuation (between outdoor and indoor levels) in the design and construction of a structure.

Noise-Sensitive Area - Areas where aircraft noise may interfere with existing or planned use of the land. Whether noise interferes with a particular use depends upon the level of noise exposure and the types of activities that are involved. Residential neighborhoods, educational, health, and religious structures and sites, outdoor recreational, cultural and historic sites may be noise sensitive areas.

Non-attainment - Areas that exceeded the national ambient air quality standards for any of six pollutants (ozone, or smog; carbon monoxide; lead; particulate matter; or PM-10; or nitrogen dioxide).

Non-conforming Use - Any pre-existing structure, tree, or use of land that is inconsistent with the provisions of the local land use or airport master plans.

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Non-precision Instrument Runway - A runway having an existing or planned instrument approach that is essentially aligned with the runway centerline and has horizontal information for guidance of the aircraft on course and relays altimeter and intermediate fixes for descent to the touchdown point on the runway.

Off-Airport Property - Property that is beyond the boundary of land owned by the airport sponsor.

Official Map - A legally adopted map that conclusively shows the locations and width of proposed streets, public facilities, public areas and drainage rights-ofway.

On-Airport Property - Property that is within the boundary of land owned by the airport sponsor.

Overlay Zone - A mapped zone that imposes a set of requirements in addition to those of the underlying zoning district.

Part 150 Study - Part 150 is the abbreviated name for the airport noise compatibility planning process outlined in Part 150 of the Federal Aviation Regulation (FAR) that allows airport owners to voluntarily submit noise exposure maps and noise compatibility programs to the FAA for review and approval. See "Noise Compatibility Plan."

Passenger Facility Charge (PFC) Program - The PFC Program, first authorized by the Aviation Safety and Capacity Expansion Act of 1990 and now codified under Section 40117 of Title 49 U.S.C., provides a source of additional capital to improve, expand and repair the nation's airport infrastructure. The legislation allows public agencies controlling commercial service airports to charge enplaning passengers using the airport a facility charge. The FAA must approve any facility charges imposed on enplaning passengers.

Performance Standards - Minimum acceptable levels of performance, imposed by zoning that must be met by each land use.

Precision Instrument Runway - A runway having an existing or planned instrument approach that is essential aligned with the runway centerline and has horizontal information for guidance of the descent of the aircraft to the touchdown point of the runway.

Primary Surface - A primary surface is longitudinally centered on a runway. When the runway has a specially prepared hard surface, the primary surface extends 200 feet beyond each end of that runway. When the runway has no specially prepared hard surface, or planned hard surface, the primary surface terminates at each end of the runway. The width of a primary surface ranges from 250 feet to 1,000 feet, depending on the existing or planned approach system. The elevation of any point on the primary surface is the same as the elevation of the nearest point on the runway centerline.

Primary Runway - The runway used for the majority of airport operations. Large, high-activity airports may operate two or more parallel primary runways.

Proponent - Any person who proposes to erect or construct any object or structure that exceeds certain minimum altitudes that may be a potential hazard to air navigation and who may be responsible for lighting and marking such object or structure.

Public Use Airport - A publicly or privately owned airport that offers the use of its facilities to the public without prior notice or special invitation or clearance.

Reliever Airport - An airport that meets certain FAA criteria and relieves the aeronautical demand on a busier air carrier airport.

Runway Protection Zone (RPZ) - A trapezoidal-shaped area centered about the extended runway centerline that is used to enhance the protection of people and property on the ground. It begins 200 feet beyond the end of the runway or area usable for takeoff or landing. The RPZ dimensions are functions of the design aircraft, type of operation and visibility minimums.

Sound Attenuation - Acoustical phenomenon whereby a reduction of sound energy is experienced between the noise source and the receiver. This energy loss can be attributed to atmospheric conditions, terrain, vegetation, constructed features (e.g., sound insulation) and natural features.

Sound Exposure Level (SEL) - A measure of the physical energy of the noise event that takes into account both intensity and duration. By definition SEL values are referenced to a duration of one second. SEL is higher than the average and the maximum noise levels as long as the event is longer than one second. Sound exposure level is expressed in decibels (dB). People do not hear SEL.

Sound Transmission Class (STC) - A number rating of the sound that indicates the amount of noise attenuation in tested acoustical materials.

Special Exceptions - Land uses that are not specifically permitted as a matter of right, but can be permitted in accordance with performance standards and other local criteria. Also known as "conditional uses."

Stage 2 Aircraft - Aircraft that meet the noise levels prescribed by FAR Part 36 and are less stringent than noise levels established for the quieter designation State 3 aircraft. The Airport Noise and Capacity Act requires the phase-out of all State 2 aircraft by December 31, 1999, with case-by-case exceptions through the year 2003.

Stage 3 Aircraft - Aircraft that meet the most stringent noise levels set forth in FAR Part 36.

State Implementation Plan (SIP) - A detailed description of the programs a state will use to carry out its responsibilities under the Clean Air Act. State Implementation Plans are collections of the regulations used by a state to reduce air pollution.

Statute Mile - A measure of distance equal to 5,280 feet.

Terminal Area - A general term used to describe airspace in which airport traffic control or approach control service is provided.

Transfer of Development Rights (TDR) - The removal of the right to develop or build, expressed in dwelling units per acre, from land in one location to land in another location where such transfer is permitted.

Transitional Surface - An element of the Imaginary Surfaces extending outward and upward at right angles to the runway centerline and runway centerline

extended at a slope of 7:1 from the sides of the primary and approach surfaces to where they intersect the horizontal and conical surfaces.

Turbojet Aircraft - Aircraft operated by jet engines incorporating a turbine-driven air compressor to take in and compress the air for the combustion of fuel, the gases of combustion (or the heated air) being used both to rotate the turbine and to create a thrust-producing jet.

Turboprop Aircraft - Aircraft in which the main propulsive force is supplied by a gas turbine driven conventional propeller. Additional propulsive force may be supplied from the discharged turbine exhaust gas.

Urbanized Land - Lands within the urban growth boundary which are: (a) determined to be necessary and suitable for future urban areas; (b) served by urban services and facilities; and (c) needed for the expansion of an urban area.

Variance - An authorization for the construction or maintenance of a building or structure, or for the establishment or maintenance of a use of land that is prohibited by a zoning ordinance. A lawful exception from specific zoning ordinance standards and regulations predicated on the practical difficulties and/or unnecessary hardships on the petitioner being required to comply with those regulations and standards from which an exemption or exception is sought.

Visual Approach - An approach to an airport conducted with visual reference to the terrain.

Visual Approach Runway - A runway intended for visual approaches only, with no straight-in instrument approach procedure either existing or planned for that runway.

Visual Flight Rules (VFR) - FAA rules that govern procedures for flight under visual conditions.

Wetland Mitigation Banking - involves consolidating fragmented wetland mitigation projects into one large contiguous site. Unites of restored, created enhanced or preserved wetlands are expressed as "credits" which may be withdrawn to offset "debits" incurred at a project development site.

Yearly Day-Night Average Sound Level (YDNL) - The 365-day average, in decibels, day-night average sound level. The symbol for YDNL is also Ldn.

Zoning - The partitioning of land parcels in a community by ordinance into zones and the establishment of regulations in the ordinance to govern the land use and the location, height, use and land coverages of buildings within each zone. The zoning ordinance usually consists of text and zoning map.

Zoning Ordinance - Primarily a legal document that allows a local government effective and legal regulation of uses of property while protecting and promoting the public interest.

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