



## Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC) Meeting Minutes

The PDK Master Plan Citizen Advisory Committee met on Wednesday, November 7, 2018 at 6:00 PM at the Chamblee Public Library.

### **The Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC)**

*CAC members are appointed by the Mayors of Brookhaven, Chamblee, Doraville, and Dunwoody and relevant County Commissioners.*

### **CAC Meeting #1 Goals and Objectives:**

- Inform committee of master planning process
- Define roles and responsibilities
- Begin discussion of vision for PDK master plan

**Members Present:** Cailey Ryckman (Brookhaven 2), Betty Prather (District 3), Lori Gray (Brookhaven 1), Jamie Dutro (District 2), Trudy Dean (District 7), Neil O. Campbell (District 5), Larry Scheinpflug (District 1), Chris Lee (Chamblee 2), Christopher Richard (District 4), Jordon Fox (District 2), Mike Reeves (District 4), Larry Foster, Dan Zanger (Chamblee 1)

**Members Absent:** Todd Rehm (District 1), Casey Cochran (District 3), Andrew Heaton (District 6)

**Others Present:** Airport Director Mario Evans, Noise and Environmental Analyst Nate Schattner, Jim Duguay of Michael Baker, Fola Shelton of Michael Baker, Mackenna Perkins of Michael Baker, Katie Cash of Smartegies, Erika Dorland of Smartegies, and Regan Radakovich of Smartegies.

The CAC meeting began at 6:15 PM (delayed due to weather and traffic).

- I. Mario Evans from PDK Airport welcomed the committee to the meeting.
- II. Katie Cash from Smartegies informed the committee of the goals and objectives of the meeting: inform the committee of master planning process, define roles and responsibilities, and begin discussion of vision for PDK master plan.
- III. Jim Duguay from Michael Baker International informed the committee of his role on the project and spoke about the following topics:
  - a. Objectives for today's meeting
  - b. About PDK Airport
  - c. What is an Airport Master Plan?
  - d. The Master Planning Process
  - e. Airport Facility Inspection
  - f. Forecasts for Aeronautical Activity



- g. Project Timeline
- IV. Katie Cash spoke about the following topics:
  - a. Purpose of Public Involvement
  - b. Public Involvement Program
  - c. Citizens Advisory Committee
  - d. Technical Advisory Committee
  - e. Intergovernmental Coordinating Committee
  - f. Airport Advisory Board
  - g. What We Need From You
  - h. Ground Rules for Committee Participation
  - i. How You Can Help – Sharing is Caring

Opened the floor for questions:

- V. What does based aircraft mean?
  - a. Jim and Mario answered that a stored aircraft at the airport, tenant leases or rents spaces at the airport. The revenue generated from personal property tax goes back to DeKalb County, DeKalb School Board, and City of Chamblee.
- VI. What does operation mean?
  - a. Jim answered that an operation means takeoff or landing of an aircraft
- VII. Will the presentation deck be available after the meeting?
  - a. Katie answered that yes, it will be available within 24 hours on the pdkmasterplan.com website
- VIII. What are the total number of flights going in and out of PDK on a daily basis?
  - a. Nate with PDK Airport answered that it depends on which day it is and the weather, but on average 400-500. The annual total number of flights for 2017 was 160,000 operations.
- IX. Do you see the operations growing by factor of 2, 5, how is it forecasting to grow?
  - a. Jim answered that you can look towards the national FAA forecast for general aviation airports and its hovering just under 2% average annual growth per year. The forecast has not been done yet for PDK airport specifically but will be somewhere around that number.
  - b. Mario from PDK Airport added that 20 years ago, 230,000 operations a year. We still get calls today saying that operations have increased and when in reality they have decreased. If the economy is doing great, aviation is doing great. If the economy is in the tank, then aviation is in the tank. General Aviation is based off of disposable income. A large chunk of PDK is corporate jets and they have the means to keep operating. The other half that use their private planes for business, if business is not doing well they do not fly, mostly because of the high pricing in jet fuel. A point in reference when you are talking about the factors of 2 and multiplying going up that as it can go up and it can go down.



- X. Committee Member stated that they thought it would be valuable to educate everyone about what enterprises are funded by the airport.
  - a. Mario stated there are 3 enterprises funds in the county: Sanitation, Water, and the Airport. The Airport is self-sufficient, meaning that it does not take on any tax dollars that is imposed upon by the county. All costs generated by the airport are covered through revenue that is brought upon by operations through the airport or it is a grant from the FAA. All of the tenant's personal property tax money that is paid from the tenants is distributed amongst DeKalb School Board gets 55%, DeKalb County gets somewhere around 20%, and City of Chamblee gets 15%. The airport gets nothing.
- XI. Comment from committee member about the fact that PDK does not have a sense of identity and how will the master plan plan for the future airtropolis of the PDK.
  - a. Katie Cash stated that those are all great ideas and that this is the purpose of these committee meetings is to come together and share those ideas amongst each other.
  - b. Jim also added that that is the kind of feedback they are looking for and want the community to accept the master plan with open arms.

#### Let's Discuss PDK....

Collect feedback on the following items from the committee members. Will share collective feedback from all committees at next meeting.

- XII. What could be improved?
  - a. Shared a few written by committee members – More parking (both plane and car), more dining options (no chain), better noise levels, improve identity and place making, proactive communication with the citizens
  - b. Committee member asked how far the closest Mart station is to the airport? Mario answered that the closest Marta station is about a 5-minute walk.
- XIII. What is your vision for the airport in 20 years?
  - c. Shared a few written by committee members - sense of community, signature well-known general aviation airport, growing operations of the airport more efficiently and effectively, elevating excellence in aviation
- XIV. What do you see as strengths?
  - d. Shared a few written by committee members – medivac flights, accessibility and revenue, close proximity to facilities in Chamblee, location, response to noise complaints
- XV. What do you see as weaknesses?
  - e. Shared a few written by committee members – lack of ability to address curfew violations, lack of informing neighboring areas of airport usage levels (people moving in and unsure of volume of airport)
- XVI. What do you see as unmet opportunities?



- f. Shared a few written by committee members – community engagement, do more in partnering with local schools around education youth about aviation (offer tours), add additional revenue streams for coworking space, have an official aviation day for local schools, enforcing good neighbor policy, being more responsive to complaints, support other community events

XVII. Katie Cash discussed the following topics:

- a. Next Steps
- b. Committee Meeting #2
- c. Committee Meeting #3

Questions:

- XVIII. Are the same questions asked and discussed today on the survey as well?
  - a. Katie answered yes, they are on the survey and encouraged everyone to share the survey amongst their peers.
- XIX. Will the working documents be posted before meeting to have time to review before discussion at meeting?
  - a. Jim answered that the working papers will be posted, and committee members will be informed when posted, although they do prefer to discuss the documents with the members before distributing them but will do their best to share them amongst the members.

The CAC meeting was dismissed at 7:17 PM.