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## CHAPTER ONE – INTRODUCTION

### BACKGROUND

This document is an update of the Knox County Regional Airport Master Plan. The Airport is located in Knox County, town of Owl’s Head, Maine. The three-letter identifier for the airport is RKD. This update replaces the last update prepared in May 2000. One focus of this AMPU is to analyze the need for additional hangar development and to provide sufficient space to accommodate additional T-hangars and conventional hangars. A second focus is to review the design aircraft and airport reference code (ARC) throughout the 20-year planning period to determine the design criteria for the airport in the future. This master plan will include green initiatives that may be able to be implemented in order to achieve sustainable development principles as appropriate for the proposed projects.

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### AIRPORT MASTER PLANNING PROCESS

Airport master planning is the systematic means that is used to develop and enhance an airport. An AMPU identifies a logical, organized approach for meeting both existing and future airport demands. The following defines the steps involved in completing this AMPU.

- **Public Involvement** – Public participation is an important function in developing the AMPU. Information provided by the public has the benefit of tailoring the airport-planning process specifically to the needs of the airport and local community. A Master Plan Advisory Committee was organized by the County that included volunteers with various perspectives regarding Knox County Regional Airport. The role of this committee was to provide input for the planning process of this AMPU.
- **Inventory of Existing Conditions** – The inventory of existing conditions is a review of existing facilities at the airport. This data is used throughout this AMPU.

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- **Aviation Forecasts** – Forecasts of aviation demand are prepared for the short term (zero to five years), intermediate term (six to 10 years), and long term (11 to 20 years). Forecasts are developed to define the magnitude of change that can be reasonably expected to occur over time.
  - **Demand/Capacity Analysis and Facility Requirements** – This step in the AMPU will determine the capacity of existing facilities and compare those capacities to the forecasted demand. This analysis is used to determine facility requirements needed in the short-, intermediate-, and long-term periods.
  - **Alternatives Development** – This step in the AMPU will identify and evaluate reasonable development alternatives that meet the demand levels determined in the facility requirements analysis. Alternatives will be developed that are constructible, environmentally practical, and financially feasible.
  - **Airport Layout Plan (ALP) Set** – One of the key products of an AMPU is a set of drawings that provides a graphic representation of the proposed projects for the airport. The ALP will identify all proposed projects throughout the long term.
  - **Implementation Schedule** – The implementation schedule will identify the proposed development at the airport resulting from recommendations presented in this AMPU. Estimates of development costs by period are included in the implementation schedule. Environmental requirements associated with recommended projects proposed in the AMPU also are included in the implementation schedule.

## PRODUCT OF THE MASTER PLANNING PROCESS

The products of this master planning process will include the following deliverables:

- **Technical Report** – This technical report contains the results of the analyses conducted during the development of the master plan. Individual chapters will be produced to facilitate review and coordination with the FAA, MaineDOT, the PAC, and the airport.
- **ALP Set** – The ALP (located in Chapter 6) is a graphical representation of the proposed development in the master plan and will be produced as a separate set of full-sized drawings. In addition, the ALP set will be included in this report in reduced form.