2020 Runway Work

The 100% design submittal was provided to IDOT and Village staff on February 28, 2020 by engineers with Crawford, Murphy, and Tilly Inc, (CMT). The project is expected to be on the April letting schedule with construction anticipated to begin in July.

Changes from the original design were minimal. The supplemental windsock planned for the Runway 08 end was moved from the north side of the runway to the south side of taxiway to overcome issues with placement inside the Runway Object Free Area (ROFA).

The next report regarding the runway project will likely come after the bids are opened in April. Stay tuned for more information.

Caution: Soft Shoulders

As the last of the snow piles melt and the rains begin to fall, the season of muddy shoulders is once again upon us. Airport tenants and users are encouraged to avoid parking on grassy areas for the next few weeks until the grounds can support vehicular traffic without leaving mud trails as evidenced in the pictures below.

Airport staff has placed painted aircraft tires in a manner to block vehicular traffic in the areas most affected by muddy grounds as a temporary solution.

Please consider parking your vehicle in the parking lot or in the apron immediately north of the Airport Office in the short term as we collectively wait for warmer weather to dry out the grounds.

Runway Lighting

Airport staff replaced all of the runway light bulbs with LEDs during the first week of March. The new bulbs have an equivalent brightness to that of medium intensity runway lighting (MIRL).

At this time, the Village does not plan to update the chart supplement or any other publications related to runway lighting to indicate the new intensity as the bulbs are not FAA-approved. This upgrade was done to both enhance energy...
efficiency and improve visibility to those pilots utilizing the airport at night.

**The Rising Cost of Aviation Insurance**

A recent article published by the Aircraft Owner & Pilots Association (AOPA) has indicated many owners are seeing dramatic increases in their liability insurance premiums during the renewal period. The article points to a hardening of the insurance market due to losses exceeding premiums over the last decade. Rising losses have forced out underwriters whose job it is to evaluate and analyze the risks involved with insurance and establish pricing for a given policy. In 2019, there were 20 underwriting companies. In 2020, there are now 15.

AOPA offers some suggestions to mitigate premium increases. To view their recommendations, visit their site at shorturl.at/hozET.

**Airport Tours**

The airport hosted its first tour of the 2020 season in early March for children from the St. Paul’s Christian Preschool. Tours for school groups or non-profit organizations can be arranged free of charge by contacting Michael Peranich, Airport Manager, at 815-479-7960, extension 2 or by email mperanich@lith.org. Tours can be customized to an extent to fit the needs of your group.

**Congratulations!**

Please join us in congratulating the following students for their achievements earned while taking flight lessons at Lake in the Hills Airport:

- Nathan Otto passed his Commercial pilot checkride on February 20, 2020 with CFII Brandon Kuhn from Blue Skies.
- Scott Thomas passed his Commercial pilot checkride on February 20 with CFII Brandon Kuhn from Blue Skies.
- Dorota Tatkowski completed her private pilot checkride on March 2 with Joe Standley at Pilot Flight Training Courses.

**Fuel Prices**

Crude oil prices have been falling in the early part of March. OPEC failed to sign a production cut deal with Russia and markets have been selling off over fears of COVID 19 (Coronavirus). Pump prices in the area have responded quickly to sinking fuel prices; however, aviation fuel tends to lag behind according to the Village’s fuel supplier, Arrow Energy. Jet fuel prices have been far more responsive to the downturn of oil prices than 100LL.

The Village was able to recognize lower prices across the board by 10 cents per gallon after a fuel delivery in February. Another fuel delivery is anticipated in the middle of March at which time fuel prices will be adjusted again.

The fuel prices listed below are effective as of March 11, 2020 but are subject to change without notice.

<table>
<thead>
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<th></th>
<th>Self Service</th>
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**On The Calendar**

- **May 2** – Young Eagles Rally (8:30 – noon)
- **June 6**– Young Eagles Rally (8:30 – noon)
- **June 9** – 2nd Annual Airport Movie Night
  Tentative start time: 8:30 pm.
  Disney’s Planes will be shown
- **June 28** – Airport Open House & EAA Pancake Breakfast
  8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.