

**PUBLIC NOTICE  
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND  
FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT/RECORD OF DECISION**

**Improvements to Ennis Big Sky Airport (EKS)  
Madison County, Montana**

Interested parties are hereby notified that Madison County, Montana and the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) have prepared an Environmental Assessment (EA) and the FAA has prepared a Finding of No Significant Impact/Record of Decision (FONSI/ROD) for improvements at the Ennis Big Sky Airport (Airport Location ID EKS). The airport is located in the Madison Valley of southwestern Montana approximately seven miles south-southeast of the Town of Ennis and is owned and operated by Madison County (Airport Sponsor).

Madison County's purpose for pursuing improvements at EKS is to safely and efficiently accommodate the critical aircraft (or grouping of aircraft with similar characteristics) currently using and forecast to use EKS. To accomplish this, improvements and modifications must be made to facilities at the Airport in accordance with the FAA's recommended design standards and guidance to address a change in the critical aircraft using the facility. The actions described below are collectively referred to as the Proposed Action.

The proposed improvements would modify the existing airport configuration to provide a 100-foot-wide by 7,600-foot-long paved runway constructed to C-II-5000 standards and a 35-foot-wide full-length parallel taxiway. The airport improvements associated with the Proposed Action include: acquisition of land for airport purposes; perimeter fencing; construction of a 999-foot-long northerly extension to the existing runway along with associated widening and reconstruction work on the existing runway; rehabilitation of the existing partial parallel taxiway and an extension to provide a full-length parallel taxiway; additional runway and taxiway lighting; removal of several airport buildings; reconstruction of the South Apron; taxiway improvements; relocation of navigational aids and weather reporting equipment; relocation of the self-service fuel dispensing unit; removal of 14 CFR Part 77 airspace obstructions; and amending the existing instrument approach and departure procedures.

The EA has been prepared in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969 and the Council of Environmental Quality (CEQ) guidelines. The purpose of the EA is to assess the effects on the human and natural environment associated with the Proposed Action. The EA evaluated two alternatives—the No Action Alternative and the Proposed Action which would improve facilities at the airport.

The FONSI/ROD is the FAA's finding that the Proposed Action will not have a significant effect on the human and natural environment associated with the proposed improvements.

The FONSI/ROD and Final EA are available for public review at the following locations during regular business hours:

1. Madison County Commissioner's Office  
103 W Wallace St  
Virginia City, MT, 59755
2. Madison Valley Public Library  
210 E Main  
Ennis MT 59729
3. Ennis Big Sky Airport (Choice Aviation)  
35 Runway Road  
Ennis, MT 59729

The FONSI/ROD and Final EA can also be reviewed at:

<http://www.rpa-hln.com/ennis-airport-final-ea.html>

Additionally, a link for viewing the FONSI/ROD and Final EA is provided on the " Public/Legal Notices" webpage of Madison County's website.

This FONSI/ROD constitutes a final order of the FAA Administrator and is subject to the exclusive judicial review under 49 USC § 46110 by the US Circuit Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia or the US Circuit Court of Appeals for the circuit in which the person contesting the decision resides or has its principal place of business. Any party having substantial interest in this order may apply for review of the decision by filing a petition for review in the appropriate US Court of Appeals no later than 60 days after the order is issued in accordance with the provisions of 49 USC § 46110. Any party seeking to stay implementation of the ROD must file an application with the FAA prior to seeking judicial relief as provided in Rule 18(a) of the Federal Rules of Appellate Procedure.

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**Publication Dates:** Notice to appear in *The Madisonian* on November 6, 2019 (11/6/19)