

MEMORANDUM

To: CHAIR AND COMMISSIONERS
CALIFORNIA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

CTC Meeting: June 25-26, 2026

From: STEVEN KECK, Chief Financial Officer

Reference Number: 4.31, Action Item

Prepared By: Tarek Tabshouri, Chief
Division of Aeronautics

Subject: **ADOPTION OF THE AERONAUTICS 2026 ACQUISITION AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM**
RESOLUTION G-26-46

ISSUE:

Should the California Transportation Commission (Commission) approve the California Department of Transportation's (Department) Division of Aeronautics (Aeronautics) 2026 Acquisition and Development (A&D) Program, as detailed in Attachment A, which was presented as an Informational Item at the May 2026 meeting?

RECOMMENDATION:

The Department recommends the Commission approve the Aeronautics 2026 A&D Program.

BACKGROUND:

The Aeronautics A&D Program is funded by the Aeronautics Account in the State Transportation Fund. The A&D Program is prepared in accordance with the California Public Utilities Code (PUC), sections 21683 and 21706.

The Aeronautics A&D Program is a biennial, 2-year program providing State grants to airports for planning, construction, and land acquisition. A&D projects are state funded at 90 percent of the total project cost with a 10 percent local match required. The Department provides the Commission with quarterly reports on the status of all projects in the Aeronautics A&D Program. Although the Aeronautics Fund Estimate does not include any capacity for the A&D Program due to lack of funding, the Department will continue to program projects in accordance with the PUC.

It should be noted the Aeronautics Account is a continuously appropriated account, and any unused funds would revert to the Aeronautics account for use in future fiscal years.

New statutory regulations, effective July 1, 2025, expanded existing statute to include new categories of projects eligible for A&D grants including charging stations, renewable energy

microgrid systems, educational facilities and equipment, fueling facilities and equipment, and helipads. As a result of this legislation, Aeronautics undertook a redesign of the former ranking methodology to accommodate expanded eligibility provisions.

The updated A&D scoring criteria introduces a refined scoring system featuring expanded priority areas, and it utilizes a merit-based, data-driven methodology with qualitative justifications. These criteria recognize the significance of projects at both the airport and system levels, and establish a foundation for streamlined data collection and cross-office collaboration, ultimately supporting better funding decisions, as presented in Attachment B.

The scoring criteria were formally updated and approved by Commission in December 2025, and this marks the first A&D Program to implement these criteria following their approval.

Attachments:

- A. Aeronautics 2026 A&D Program
- B. Aeronautics A&D Projects Priority Scoring Criteria

AERONAUTICS 2026 ACQUISITION AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

Resolution G-26-46

Reference No.: 4.31

June 25-26, 2026

Attachment A

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Programmed Year	Priority Score	Airport	Category	County	District	Project Description	Total Cost	State Cost 90%
2026-27	N/A*	Salinas Municipal	General Aviation	Monterey	5	Airport Land Use Compatability Plan	\$375,000	\$337,500
2026-27	N/A*	Herlong	General Aviation (Non-NPIAS)	Lassen	2	Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan-Update County Wide	\$275,000	\$247,500
2026-27	37	Alpine County	General Aviation (Non-NPIAS)	Alpine	10	Crack seal, slurry seal, and restripe runway and taxiway	\$250,000	\$225,000
2026-27	37	Needles	General Aviation	San Bernardino	8	Runway/Taxiway Rehabilitation & Striping	\$550,000	\$495,000
2026-27	31	Southard Field	General Aviation (Non-NPIAS)	Lassen	2	Pavement Maintenance & Remarking: RWY, TWY & Tiedown	\$200,000	\$180,000
2026-27	31	Spaulding	General Aviation (Non-NPIAS)	Lassen	2	Pavement Maintenance & Remarking: RWY, TWY & Tiedown	\$200,000	\$180,000
2026-27	31	Cliff Hatfield Memorial	General Aviation (Non-NPIAS)	Imperial	11	Airport runway maintenance	\$195,000	\$175,500
2026-27	31	Fort Bidwell	General Aviation (Non-NPIAS)	Modoc	2	Engineering, Design and Add New Gravel for Runway	\$80,000	\$72,000
2026-27	25	Blue Canyon	General Aviation (Non-NPIAS)	Placer	3	Runway Re-surfacing	\$120,000	\$108,000
2026-27	22	Samoa Field	General Aviation (Non-NPIAS)	Humboldt	1	Removal/Pruning Willow Stand	\$50,000	\$45,000
Total FY 2026-27 Programmed Amount:							\$2,295,000	\$2,065,500

Programmed Year	Priority Score	Airport	Category	County	District	Project Description	Total Cost	State Cost 90%
2027-28	N/A*	Independence	General Aviation	Inyo	9	Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan	\$75,000	\$67,500
2027-28	N/A*	Lone Pine	General Aviation	Inyo	9	Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan	\$75,000	\$67,500
2027-28	N/A*	Bishop	General Aviation	Inyo	9	Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan	\$75,000	\$67,500
2027-28	N/A*	Needles	General Aviation	San Bernardino	8	Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan Update	\$350,000	\$315,000
2027-28	37	Hyampom	General Aviation (Non-NPIAS)	Trinity	2	Pavement Repairs & Maintenance - Crack Sealing/Patching	\$50,000	\$45,000
2027-28	31	Baker	General Aviation (Non-NPIAS)	San Bernardino	8	Runway 15-33 Rehabilitation	\$540,000	\$486,000
2027-28	25	Chiriaco Summit	General Aviation (Non-NPIAS)	Riverside	8	Rehabilitate Runway 6-24	\$550,000	\$495,000
2027-28	15	Lake Tahoe	General Aviation	El Dorado	3	Rehabilitate Parallel Taxiway A & Electrical	\$550,000	\$495,000

* Airport Land Use Compatibility Projects are allocated 25 percent of the programmed funding and are exempt from ranking requirements.

Total FY 2027-28 Programmed Amount: \$2,265,000 \$2,038,500
Total 2026 Aeronautics Acquisition and Development Program: \$4,560,000 \$4,104,000

AERONAUTICS ACQUISITION AND DEVELOPMENT (A&D) PROJECTS PRIORITY SCORING CRITERIA

Formula

$$\text{Total Score} = \text{Merit Score} + \text{Project Score}$$

Where:

$$\text{Merit Score} = \text{Base Score} + (\sum \text{Airport Benefit} + \sum \text{System Benefit}) / 6$$

Section 1: Merit Score

Priority Area: Merit Category

Merit Category	Base Score	Benefit Scores	
		Airport Benefit	System Benefit
Safety	6	3 - High benefit 2 - Medium benefit 1 - Low benefit 0 - No benefit	3 - High benefit 2 - Medium benefit 1 - Low benefit 0 - No benefit
Security	3	3 - High benefit 2 - Medium benefit 1 - Low benefit 0 - No benefit	3 - High benefit 2 - Medium benefit 1 - Low benefit 0 - No benefit
Climate action	2	3 - High benefit 2 - Medium benefit 1 - Low benefit 0 - No benefit	3 - High benefit 2 - Medium benefit 1 - Low benefit 0 - No benefit
Equity and Environmental Justice	2	3 - High benefit 2 - Medium benefit 1 - Low benefit 0 - No benefit	3 - High benefit 2 - Medium benefit 1 - Low benefit 0 - No benefit
Economic Development and Multimodal Access	2	3 - High benefit 2 - Medium benefit 1 - Low benefit 0 - No benefit	3 - High benefit 2 - Medium benefit 1 - Low benefit 0 - No benefit
Capacity	1.5	3 - High benefit 2 - Medium benefit 1 - Low benefit 0 - No benefit	3 - High benefit 2 - Medium benefit 1 - Low benefit 0 - No benefit

How to assign scores:

- The Office of Technical Services assigns Base Score for one (1) merit category as the primary merit, based on project description.
- The Office of Aviation Planning assigns Benefit Scores, including airport benefit and system benefit, by evaluating all (6) of the merit categories, referring to the airport inventory and California Aviation System Plan.
- The Office of Airport assists with Airport Benefit evaluation.

Condition:

- If the Base Score is not assigned to Safety (i.e., Base Score \neq 6), and the Safety score for both Airport Benefit and System Benefit are 0 (No benefit), the project is not eligible for numerical scoring and should not proceed to the scoring phase.
- However, the project may still be considered for funding outside of the scoring process through the justification procedure (see Section 3).

Section 2: Project Score

Priority Area: Development Item

Development Item	Scoring range
Pavement – Runway	1~30
Objects/Obstruction/Hazards	1~15
Runway safety area land acquisition	1~10
Pavement – Taxiway	1~8
Runway Protection Zone Land Acquisition	1~8
Navigation Aids (Lighting, Airport Markings and Signage, Landing Aids, Automated Weather Reporting Equipment (AWOS), Radio Communication equipment, Rotating Beacon)	1~6
Aircraft Parking Tiedown Apron, Drainage	1~5
Airport Improvements and Equipment for Emergency Services, Helipads	1~5
Fencing (Perimeter Fence, Security Fence/Gate), Airport Layout Plan	1~4
Airports Service Roads, Utilities (water, sewer), Blast Wall, Fire Protection Systems, Noise Monitoring Equipment	1~3
Environmental Mitigation, Bond Servicing, Land Acquisition for Airside Usage, Airport Master Plan	1~3
Charging Stations, Renewable Energy Microgrid System, Educational Facilities and Equipment, Fueling Facilities and Equipment	1~3

How to assign scores:

- The project scores are based on the project's significance to the improvement of the development item.
- The Office of Airports will identify development items' conditions at the airports (Excellent, Good, Fair, Poor, Failed) based on airport inspection results, and assign scores within the given range.

Section 3: Justification

If a project of high importance fails to achieve a qualifying score during the internal review, the Department requires the project sponsor to provide a justification. This section aims to mitigate inconsistencies or biases in scoring.