U.S. Department
of Transportation

**Federal Aviation
Administration**

Western-Pacific Region
Office of Airports
San Francisco Airports District Office

Federal Aviation Administration
1000 Marina Blvd, Suite 115
Brisbane, CA 94005

January 5, 2022

VIA EMAIL

Mr. Rayvon Williams
Municipal Airport Director
City of Watsonville
100 Aviation Way
Watsonville, CA 95076

Dear Mr. Williams:

Watsonville Municipal Airport (WVI)
Airport Master Plan Update: Forecast
AIP Grant/Project: 3-06-0272-019-2020

The San Francisco Airports District Office (ADO) has completed its review of the most recent version of the Aviation Forecasts (Chapter/Section 2) associated with the Airport Master Plan Update, dated December 20, 2021, for Watsonville Municipal Airport (WVI). The ADO review comments are as follows:

- Concur that the current and future critical aircraft is accurately identified as a family or group of aircraft within Aircraft Approach Category (AAC) "B" and Airplane Design Group (ADG) "II".
- Concur with the following forecast elements…
    - The methodologies for based aircraft and aircraft operations. The forecast assumptions presented are reasonable.
    - Based aircraft in "Table 2-15: Comparison of Recommended WVI Forecasts to FAA's TAF – Based Aircraft".
        - The ADO acknowledges the slight variation in based aircraft reported in the FAA 2019 Terminal Area Forecast (TAF) versus the FAA 2020 TAF versus the FAA National Based Aircraft Inventory versus the FAA Form 5010-1.
    - Total operations in "Table 2-16: Comparison of Recommended WVI Forecasts to FAA's TAF – Operations".
    - The growth rates through the base year plus ten years for based aircraft and total operations are acceptable from a planning standpoint.

- These concurrences are for planning purposes only and limited to the Airport Master Plan Update. These forecasts are not adequate justification for near-term (1-5 years) or mid-term (6-10 years) development projects due to the evolving impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic; see the language in italicized font below.

- Language similar to that in italicized font below should be inserted as a disclaimer at the beginning of the forecast chapter/section and any other applicable chapters/sections of the Airport Master Plan Update.

This forecast was prepared at the same time as the evolving impacts of the COVID-19 public health emergency. Forecast approval is based on the methodology, data, and conclusions at the time the document was prepared. However, consideration of the impacts of the COVID-19 public health emergency on aviation activity is warranted to acknowledge the reduced confidence in growth projections using currently-available data.

Accordingly, FAA approval of this forecast does not constitute justification for future projects. Justification for future projects will be made based on activity levels at the time the project is requested for development. Documentation of actual activity levels meeting planning activity levels will be necessary to justify AIP funding for eligible projects.

Upon successful completion of the Airport Master Plan Update, including an associated Airport Layout Plan Drawing Set (ALP) approved by the ADO, all safety, security, and standards projects depicted on the ALP and justified based on demand at that time will be eligible for funding under the Airport Improvement Program (AIP). In the previous sentence, “safety projects”, “security projects”, and “standards projects” are as defined in FAA Order 5090.5, Formulation of the National Plan of Integrated Airport Systems (NPIAS) and Airports Capital Improvement Plan (ACIP).

It has been a pleasure working with you and the rest of the team at WVI. I particularly appreciate your and the team’s patience to discern and forge a path forward through all the uncertainties stemming from COVID-19. If you have further questions or need for clarification, please feel free to contact me via phone at (405) 666-1075 or via email at robert.l.zimmerer@faa.gov.

Sincerely,

ROBERT LAWRENCE ZIMMERER

Digitally signed by ROBERT LAWRENCE ZIMMERER
Date: 2022.01.05 18:10:01 -08'00'

Robert L. Zimmerer, Community Planner
San Francisco Airports District Office