



NATIONAL SAFE SKIES ALLIANCE

Program for Applied Research in Airport Security

PARAS 0011 Project Summary

Project Title:	Guidance for Airport Security Master Planning		
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BACKGROUND

Airports must provide a myriad of services to the traveling public that require significant out year planning and infrastructure consideration. In the changing and challenging operating environment, airports are required to constantly evaluate vulnerabilities and undertake major capital improvement infrastructure projects to address evolving security and operational needs that are driven by increased usage and complex threat scenarios.

Federal regulation and oversight at airports is the responsibility of many agencies such as Customs and Border Protection, Centers for Disease Control, Federal Aviation Administration, and Transportation Security Administration. Airports are required to implement an Airport Security Program (ASP) to identify how they comply with 49 CFR 1542. The ASP establishes baseline security requirements, but it does not specifically address technology or standard operating procedures, which vary among airports.

Airport security involves the entire airport community and may be managed by various departments, including security, airfield/landside operations, information technology (IT), maintenance, and airport law enforcement. This approach requires a collaborative effort to forecast future needs and daily management of airport security.

Airports develop Master Plans for airfield and terminal needs; more recently, IT Master Plans are becoming common. The premise is largely based on planning for capital needs for infrastructure support. A Security Master Plan (SMP) should be considered for the same reasons as other Master Plans.

Airport operators would greatly benefit from a document that gives guidance as well as a strategic approach to future security needs. The airport security environment is constantly evolving. As a result, the use of an SMP in the forecasting of future needs and associated costs may be beneficial.

OBJECTIVE

The objective of this research is to develop an SMP guidebook to aid airports in forecasting security needs and planning of capital needs for security infrastructure. The guidebook shall include:

- Considerations relating to overall security and operations of the airport, including but not limited to:

- Policy and procedures, to include regulatory requirements
- Recent assessments and inspections
- Baseline of current security posture and operations
- Benefits of developing an SMP
- Funding strategies
- Financial metrics
- Technology and infrastructure planning
- Recommendations for coordination with overall airport planning documents
- Recommendations for the timeframe covered by the SMP
- Recommendations for SMP implementation
- Identification of best practices
- Identification of key internal and external stakeholders' roles and responsibilities
- Gap analysis
- Threat contingencies requiring infrastructure
- SMP template that is appropriate for various airport types, sizes, and governance