



MADRAS MUNICIPAL AIRPORT NEWSLETTER

March 2024

Vol. 3



February was certainly packed with activity here at the airport. Plowing and shoveling snow then clearing gravel and fixing taxiway and runway lights after the snow was removed took many hours. It was very much worth the effort and enjoyable to see our airport functioning as quickly as possible between the storms.

There were many opportunities to share with the community and our legislatures about what is going on here at the Madras Airport. We began the month by hosting a Jefferson County Chamber of Commerce Coffee Cuppers event. It was an opportune time to share about the airport with MANY local residents and business owners.

During February it was my pleasure to share about upcoming airport and proposed projects with US Senator Wyden and Merkley staff and US Congressman Cliff Bentz. A quick trip to Salem for the Oregon Airport Management Association (OAMA) Legislative Day was also beneficial in meeting others in the industry.

It is always my pleasure to provide tours to schools and groups to share about aviation and how the airport functions as an important part of our community. Photos of some of these tours from this past month will be included later in this newsletter.

We also hosted a meeting with FEMA and other agencies and provided a walking tour of the airport to highlight the vast area of land and the buildings available. FEMA is sponsoring an assessment of the Madras Municipal Airport (MDJ) for the purpose of developing a Disaster Response Air Operations Plan to support local or regional disasters. The assessment focuses on identifying sites, facilities, equipment, and services to support Air Evacuation, Air Reception, Logistics Staging, and Aeromedical Staging. Thank you to the tenants that attended and who took part in on-site meetings. We are hopeful that this exercise will highlight our airport and community's strengths and availability to help in a time of need.

CALENDAR AT A GLANCE

UPCOMING

- March 6:** OSHA Visit to General Aviation Building
- March 10 - August:** Apron construction work
- March 21 @ 4PM:** Industrial Site - Airport Commission Meeting at General Aviation Building conference room

FUTURE: SAVE THE DATE

- June 1 @ 8 AM - 1 PM:** Madras Airport Day
- June 1 @ 8 AM - 1 PM:** EAA Young Eagle flights
- June 6-9:** Cherokee gathering
- June 17-21:** Tri-Pacer Fly In
- July 15-18:** Aviation Day Camp (Tentative date)
- August 10:** Palms To Pines Air Race terminus and banquet
- August 23-24:** Airshow of the Cascades

ONGOING

- Sunday mornings @ 9 AM:** Coffee & doughnuts @ General Aviation Building
- Third Thursday of the month @ 4 PM:** Industrial Site - Airport Commission Meeting @ General Aviation Building conference room

Call 541-777-4935 to add Madras Airport events to the calendar (Madras Airport business/tenant/aviation related)

March through August will be an active time as the apron and fencing construction are completed. We will also continue plans and work on the helibase and airport perimeter road. The hope is to have this area available and ready for use during fire season this year.

New hangar construction is in discussion, if you are interested in finding out more about this exciting project, please give me a call. Address numbers will be going up on the existing hangars. This will aid in identifying property and will be helpful if emergency services are ever needed.

During the week of March 11-15 I will be taking an online "live" course from 7AM to 4PM. My plan is to be at the airport at this time and take care of business during breaks. Thank you for understanding if I am delayed in response or unable to meet with you during this time. The first week of April I plan to be at an American Association of Airport Executives conference. These opportunities will allow me to grown in my position and help our airport stay up to date with the airport industry's news, trends, and resources.

With much appreciation,
Lorraine Martinelli

APRON/FENCE CONSTRUCTION

The areas in front of the General Aviation Building and the concrete pad at the transient tie-down area will be torn out and replaced during March through August. This project has been in the plans since 2022, with the project being approved in late 2022. The original approval slated this project to be completed in one phase. In order to minimize the impact on self-serve fuel service and tie-downs, the project will now be completed over two phases and extend the project into August. The updated plans will be up at the General Aviation Building. Construction will be completed prior to the Airshow of The Cascades.

With this area as a construction work zone, please be mindful of barriers, construction equipment, and FOD. The contractors will give every effort to work with airport tenants and pilots. If you have any questions or concerns during this project, please contact me.



PROJECT/PROGRAM UPDATES

Hangars: There are a couple of contractors interested in building hangars! If you are interested in discussing options for a t-hangar, box hangar, or corporate hangar, please reach out soon. The ball is beginning to roll...

A hangar waitlist policy and waitlist is in the works and lease templates for ground leases and city t-hangars are available for perusal.

Runway extension: This project remains on the table but will be moved to a long-term project.

Apron repair work: See above.

Wash pad: The Public Works crew is ready to fix the water fixture at the wash pad in the spring. It will be ready for pilots to use to wash their aircraft.

Run up area taxiway lights: We have begun the process of removing the inner circle of lights at the run-up areas. During March we will complete this process and remove a few taxiway lights from in front of Erickson Aircraft Collection. These areas have been problem areas for taxiway lights.

Grass strip: The grass strip has been aerated and is well on the way for spring maintenance. Be sure to listen to the AWOS for any temporary maintenance and grass strip closures. Also be mindful to not use the grass strip during and after significant rain, as aircraft use may create unwanted ruts.

REIL lights: The REILs are scheduled to be fixed by mid-March. They are currently NOTAM "Inop" until March 31st.

FOD: Thank you for helping to keep our airport clean and free of debris. There is a FOD box in the GAB.

Surveillance cameras: Upgrades are in the works!

MADRAS AIRPORT DAY: JUNE 1

June 1, 8AM - 1PM: Madras Airport Day! Save the date! This event will be open to the public and free for attendees. This will be an opportunity for pilots, aviation business, and flight schools to highlight what is available in aviation through careers and education. To make this event a success, aviation business, pilots, aircraft mechanics along with volunteers will work together to share aviation with our community. If you are interested in collaborating on this event, please give me a call!

NEW AIRPORT STAFF INTERN



Through the Youth Career Connect program, we have a new youth intern. Come and say, "Hi!" to Abby! She is really enjoying her work here at the airport and I am thankful for her help. She has been becoming familiar with all of the components of the runway and taxiway light system by taking inventory and organizing the parts on hand. This photo shows us removing one of the taxiway lights in the inner circle of the runup area. Abby's plan is to pursue an education and career in aviation.

HAPPENINGS AT MADRAS



What happens when an aircraft is in need of a tire repair after landing? Our on-field aircraft mechanic and maintenance shop, New Moon Aviation, safely removes the aircraft off of the active runway and repairs, as needed. We ensure that a safe perimeter is created for the disabled aircraft and for the mechanics, communicate with aircraft that are in the area, and close runways, as necessary - always keeping SAFETY as our number one goal.

The airport property covers a wide area, including wetlands. During February, a scientist with Beaver Works was in search of willows to collect starts to create beaver habitats. It was fascinating to learn about this program.



Providing opportunities for youth to learn about aviation is important for the future growth of aviation. Mariposa Bilingual Program students took a lunchbreak at the General Aviation Building conference room after learning about the airport and touring Erickson Aircraft Collection and Erickson Aero Tanker.



CITY OF MADRAS AIRPORT OFFICE

Pilot lounge available 24/7. Please call for the current door code.

Airport Operations:

Lorraine Martinelli 541-777-4935

lmartinelli@cityofmadras.us

If you did not receive this newsletter directly, please email me your contact information to stay up to date with Madras Airport news.

For the convenience and comfort of pilots who fly in at night, our 24/7 pilot lounge now has a microwave, Keurig, and a small fridge with drinks. We will be expanding this area to ensure that pilots flying through when the main office is closed, have amenities available. This is a secure area for pilots only - please contact me for the current door code. 541-777-4935.

FBO NEWS: BERG AIR, LLC MARCH HOURS

Monday - Saturday 9 AM - 4 PM

Sunday 9 AM - 1 PM

Self Serve 100LL and Jet A available 24/7
Call to schedule full service fueling 541-475-4899

Contacts:

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