2024 COMMERCIAL SERVICE AIRPORT

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN (CIP) **FUNDING ANALYSIS**



The Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) completed the 2024 Commercial Service Airport-CIP Funding Analysis in response to recommendations in a 2021 report issued by the Georgia Senate's Joint Legislative Study Committee on Airport Infrastructure and Improvements. This analysis focuses on project costs as per FY25-FY29 CIPs for the CSA; the CIPs that support the analysis were submitted to GDOT in December 2023. The analysis compares CIP costs to historical funding and identifies any potential funding gaps. The analysis reveals that, collectively, the CSA may face an annual funding gap which could exceed \$126.2 million.

Seven commercial service airports (CSA) in Georgia contribute an estimated \$5 billion annually to the state's economy.

CSA capital improvement plans are updated frequently. This analysis focuses on airport identified CIP projects that will be implemented using federal and/or state grants, leveraged with local matching funds. Airports also undertake other projects, not included in their CIPs, using funding sources such as Passenger Facility Charges (PFCs), Regional Transportation Special Purpose Local Option Sales Taxes (TSPLOST), and Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (SPLOST). These funding sources can be used to wholly fund projects not included in CIPs, or these local funds can be used to match federal or state grants.



COMMERCIAL SERVICE STUDY AIRPORTS

- AUGUSTA REGIONAL AT BUSH FIELD (AGS)
- BRUNSWICK GOLDEN ISLES (BQK)
- COLUMBUS (CSG)
- MIDDLE GEORGIA REGIONAL (MCN)
- SAVANNAH/HILTON HEAD INTERNATIONAL (SAV)

Average Annual FAA Funding

(FAA Discretionary and Entitlement funds)

Average Annual State

(Includes local funds that have been used historically

to match federal and state

Funding

Funding

grants.)

- SOUTHWEST GEORGIA REGIONAL (ABY)
- VALDOSTA REGIONAL (VLD)

CIP INFORMATION FOR THE SEVEN CSA

- Average annual CIP costs are \$153.3 million.
- \$12.4 million is expected from the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) program, known as BIL, to address
- CIP costs are almost **seven times** higher than average historical federal, state, and local funding.
- 50% of the CIP costs are associated with rehabilitation or improvements to important runway, taxiway, and apron infrastructure.

FEDERAL FUNDING VS RISING COSTS HISTORICAL AVERAGE HISTORICAL FAA AIP FUNDING NATIONAL CONSTRUCTION COST INDEX ANNUAL FUNDING (SNOITIB) \$2.0 Between FY18 and FY23, average annual 2.5 FAA, state, and local funding for the CSA а totaled \$20.7 million. 1 75 INDEX 1.5 \$1.6 million 1.25 - AIP ENTITLEMENT - AIP DISCRETIONARY \$2.8 million AVERAGE Federal funding through the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) ΔΝΙΝΙΙΔΙ has not increased to keep pace with airport needs and inflation. FUNDING TOTAL Data from USDOT shows that if the cost for a project was \$20.7 Average Annual Local \$1 million in 2003, by 2023 the cost of the same project had MILLION risen to \$3 million. To fully implement all CIP projects, even with a nominal increase in historical FAA funding, significant \$16.3 million increases in annual state/local funding would be needed. Source: USDOT Bureau of Transportation Statistics

REVISED FEDERAL FUNDING ANALYSIS

Capital improvement plans for the CSA show a need for a level of federal funding over five times higher than the total of **\$16.3 million** the CSA have received each year on average from the FAA. A revised federal funding analysis reduces the anticipated share of federal funding to be more reflective of actual historical funds the CSA have received. Projects with lower National Priority Rankings are less likely to receive federal grants and were moved from the federal funding category to the state/local category. This revised analysis was based on state funding at **75%** and local funding at **25%** of the total project cost. As shown, the revised analysis results in an increase in both state and local funding to address potential funding gaps for the CSA.

POTENTIAL ANNUAL FUNDING GAPS FOR STUDY AIRPORTS

Funding	Revised Annual CIP	Annual Historical	Potential Annual
Source	Funding FY25-FY29	Funding FY18-FY23	Funding Gap
FAA Discretionary & Entitlement	\$20.7 million	\$16.3 million	\$4.4 million
State	\$85.5 million	\$2.8 million	\$82.7 million
Local	\$40.7 million	\$1.6 million	\$39.1 million
*Total *Total excludes FAA funding from BIL.	\$146.9 million *	\$20.7 million	\$126.2 million

In May 2024, Congress approved increasing total funding in the Airport Improvement Program (AIP) from **\$3.35 billion** to **\$4.0 billion**. If funds are ultimately appropriated, annual federal funding for the CSA could increase from **\$16.3 million** to **\$19.4 million**. Even with this increase, a gap in federal funding would still remain.

ANNUAL COMMERCIAL AIRPORT FUNDING IN OTHER STATES

Georgia (7) — \$2.8 million	1
lowa (8) — \$2.9 million	ı
Colorado (14) — \$3.3 million	1
Wyoming (9) — \$3.3 million	ı
North Dakota (8) — \$6.9 million	
Pennsylvania (14) — \$10.7 millio	n
Virginia (9) — \$15.9 millio	n
Louisiana (7) — \$17.9 millio	n
Tennessee (6) — \$33.5 millio	n
Maryland (3) — \$38.1 millio	n
North Carolina (10) — \$89.1 millio	n
Florida (21) - \$172.9 milli	on

Note: (#) Number of commercial airports by state receiving state funds.

Working through the National Association of State Aviation Officials (NASAO), 33 states responded to a survey on commercial airport funding assistance. A sample of reported responses is shown here. States with the most robust funding programs draw revenue from state aviation fuel taxes and state transportation trust funds. GDOT does not currently draw airport funding from either of these two sources.



On average, other states responding to the NASAO survey provide over \$14.2 million annually to commercial airports to assist them with implementing projects in their CIPs. Georgia's average annual funding for commercial service airports is \$2.8 million.

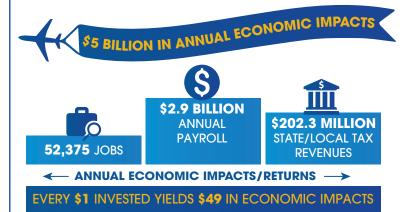
COMMERCIAL SERVICE AIRPORTS

ANNUAL ECONOMIC IMPACTS EXCEED ANNUAL IDENTIFIED CIP COSTS

AVERAGE ANNUAL CIP COSTS VS. ANNUAL ECONOMIC IMPACTS

Airport Associated City	Annual Average 5-Year CIP Costs*	Annual Economic Impact*		
Augusta	\$26.8 million	\$285.7 million		
Brunswick	\$24.1 million	\$155.0 million		
Columbus	\$15.1 million	\$94.6 million		
Macon	\$23.1 million	\$153.9 million		
Savannah	\$50.1 million	\$4.2 billion		
Albany	\$5.5 million	\$63.0 million		
Valdosta	\$8.6 million	\$37.3 million		
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*Source: Based on revised federal funding analysis. GDOT 2020 Statewide Economic Impact Study; impacts do not include ATL.





Information from GDOT's 2020 Statewide Economic Impact Study shows the annual economic impact and the state and local tax revenue impacts are **35** times higher than the total annual investment needed to fully fund all CIP costs at each CSA.