

Runway 3/21

Highlights

- 1) Runway 3/21 is the smaller of two runways at Duluth International Airport (DLH) and currently serves commercial service and general aviation users.
- 2) The Master Plan will evaluate if Runway 3/21 meets existing and future user needs.
- 3) Alternatives will be developed and evaluated to meet user needs

Runway 3/21 Use and Role

Duluth International Airport has two runways, Runway 9/27 (10,591 feet long) and Runway 3/21 (5,600 feet long). Runway 9/27 is the primary runway, used the majority of the time. Aircraft take off and land into the wind and Runway 9/27 is oriented east-west to align with the prevailing winds. Runway 3/21 (oriented northeast – southwest) serves as a crosswind runway, providing another option for pilots when

winds do not favor Runway 9/27. Runway 3/21 is also used when Runway 9/27 is unavailable due to construction or other conditions. Currently, general aviation aircraft and commercial airlines use Runway 3/21 when conditions warrant. The 148th Fighter Wing does not use Runway 3/21 as the existing infrastructure does not meet their requirements.

Evaluation of Runway 3/21

The Master Plan will evaluate if Runway 3/21 adequately meets the needs of existing and future users. If it does not adequately meet the needs, alternatives for improvement will be evaluated. Examples of infrastructure and related needs that will be evaluated as part of the Runway 3/21 analysis include:

- Runway length and width – Different aircraft and users require different lengths and widths to operate on a runway in different conditions
- Taxiway network – How aircraft travel to and from the runway
- Instrument approach procedures – Procedures that guide aircraft to a runway end in periods of inclement weather or low visibility.
- Lighting – Various types of runway lighting help pilots identify the runway at night and during periods of low visibility.



Many factors will contribute to the evaluation of the runway in the Master Plan. Some of these factors include: Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) design standards, user needs, environmental considerations, infrastructure constraints, financial feasibility, community goals and input and stakeholder input.

Build Our Future. Together. Get Involved!

Project information and updates will be provided throughout the project on a dedicated project webpage on the Duluth Airport website. Project updates, meeting agendas and minutes, newsletters, events calendar, blog and review documents will all be posted on this site. Please consider signing up on the website to receive email project updates.

Website: DuluthAirport.com/Vision2040

We welcome and look forward to the public's involvement in this process. Project public open houses and events will be posted on the project webpage throughout the project. Additionally, a Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) will be formed to provide input and help guide the Runway 3/21 evaluation.

The public will have the opportunity to learn more and provide comment at several open houses held throughout the Master Plan process. The first of these meetings is expected to occur September 2019. Please check the project website for information on upcoming Public Open Houses.