



**STATE OF TENNESSEE
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

AERONAUTICS DIVISION
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WILL REID
COMMISSIONER OF TRANSPORTATION

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7/31/2026

Subject: Important Update Regarding ACIP Programming and Project Requests

Airport Managers, Sponsors, and Consultants,

The Aeronautics Division is making changes to strengthen the Airport Capital Improvement Program (ACIP) and provide a more consistent and predictable project programming process.

The ACIP is the Division's primary tool for prioritizing airport needs and directing limited state and federal funding to the highest-priority projects. With less funding available than in recent years, adherence to the programmed ACIP is increasingly important.

Effective immediately, the Division will more closely adhere to established deadlines and the programmed ACIP. We will also pause approval of unprogrammed projects while reviewing and improving our programming and Project Staff Review (PSR) processes.

Until further notice:

- The Division will consider time-extension requests for active grants, and projects included in the programmed ACIP.
- Programmed projects include delayed FY2026 projects and FY2027 projects.
- Unprogrammed requests may still be submitted but will generally be deferred. Submissions will help the Division identify emerging needs but do not guarantee approval or funding.
- Revised FY2027 programming, based on the recent ACIP working sessions, will be communicated no later than December 2026.

Changes to PSR deadlines, requirements, and procedures will be communicated in the coming months.

We also welcome your feedback as we work to improve these processes. Please complete the following survey:

<https://forms.cloud.microsoft/g/3Z4Wc57b4w>

We appreciate your cooperation and continued partnership as we strengthen the ACIP process and responsibly manage the resources available to Tennessee's airports.

Sincerely,

John-Paul "JP" Saalwaechter, PE | Director