

# GRAYSON COUNTY REGIONAL MOBILITY AUTHORITY

EMPOWERING THE GRAYSON COUNTY COMMUNITY  
TO CREATE AN INTERMODAL REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION  
NETWORK FOR NORTH TEXAS.



## 2013 ANNUAL REPORT

4700 AIRPORT DRIVE • DENISON, TEXAS 75020 • 903.786.3566

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# Grayson County Regional Mobility Authority 2013 Annual Report

G C R M A

## GRAYSON COUNTY THOROUGHFARE PLAN

INSIDE THIS REPORT :	
Grayson County Thoroughfare Plan	1
Message from the Chairman	2
Runway Protection Zone	3
Hangar Developments	3
Capital Improvement Project	5
West Side Development	5
Wings of Freedom Tour	6
6th Annual Texoma 100 Air Race	7
Wingtips Article	8
World Aerobatic Championships	9
The Future of Mobility in Grayson County	9
Financial Overview	10

Grayson County RMA Board of Directors entered into an agreement with the Institute of Urban Studies at the University of Texas at Arlington for the development of the Grayson County Thoroughfare Plan. This plan consists of four steps which include: 1) interviews with key stakeholders, 2) collection of data, 3) preparation of a draft plan, and 4) presentation of the

plan to the Grayson County RMA Board of Directors for adoption. Once the plan is adopted, it can be incorporated into the Sherman/Denison Metropolitan Planning Organization Plan to assist with development of future roadways throughout Grayson County.

The Grayson County RMA Board of Directors entered into a funding agreement with Walton Texas LP and Walton

International Group (USA) Inc. for funding of the Thoroughfare Plan. This partnership was formed as a benefit to both Grayson County and Walton Development as it can be used in the development of their property in Grayson County.



# MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

You will recognize as you read our 2013 Annual Report that the majority of our results centered on the North Texas Regional Airport. Grayson County is blessed to have highly dedicated individuals on our Board and in the past year we experienced no change on the Grayson County Regional Mobility Authority Board.

The North Texas Regional Airport-Perrin Field (NTRA) progressed in many ways over the past year. Below is a list of projects to facilitate steady growth and development that are completed or currently in progress.

- Received funding to purchase the Runway Protection Zone for Runway 17L
- Selected Garver Engineers to do the engineering on future Capital Improvement Projects
- Built a new 28,275 sq. ft. hangar on the west side of Airport
- Continued updating existing hangars at Airport
- Continued to work towards being accepted into the FAA Federal Contract Tower Program as our airport operations continue to ramp up
- Hosted numerous significant aviation events such as
  - Wings of Freedom Tour
  - Texoma 100 Air Race
  - Lone Star Aerobatic Championship
  - U.S. National Aerobatic Championship
  - World Aerobatic Championship
  - Commemorative Air Force Visit

During the year we signed an agreement with Urban Studies Department at the University of Texas at Arlington to do a Thoroughfare Plan for Grayson County. This was funded by Walton Development, a major property owner in southern Grayson County.

The outcome of this will benefit both the County and landowners as they review forthcoming traffic needs. This Thoroughfare Study will serve as valuable input into the forthcoming Sherman-Denison Metropolitan Planning Organization Plan which will tie the two planning efforts together and greatly benefit the whole County.

The Grayson County RMA continues to monitor activities and development to the south of us as development activities continue to escalate. We want to be able to capitalize on the work to benefit our County growth.

*Will "Bill" Hubbard,*

Chairman, Grayson County RMA



## NORTH TEXAS REGIONAL AIRPORT

The Grayson County RMA has continued to lead the North Texas Regional Airport-Perrin Field (NTRA) in the direction of steady growth. Projects included protecting the approach to Runway 17L, engineering work for upcoming Capital Improvement Projects, new hangar development, installation of water/sewer lines on the west side of the Airport, hangar facility upgrades and the continued marketing of NTRA.

The cities of Sherman and Denison along with Grayson County have continued their joint marketing campaign marketing the Airport to industries and companies looking to expand or relocate to the North Texas Area. Continued growth at the Airport will continue to bring job growth and economic development to the Grayson County area.

### RUNWAY PROTECTION ZONE

The Grayson County RMA took a proactive approach in protecting the Airport in 2013 by asking Texas Department of Transportation Aviation Division to fund the purchase of land known as the Runway Protection Zone (RPZ) for

Runway 17L through a 90/10 grant. The RPZ is 38.3 acres of land that is currently being used for farm purposes, but has the potential to be developed with non-compatible land uses in the future. Grayson County Commissioners Court agreed to

pay the 10% matching portion, or \$26,619.00, from the County Right-of-Way Fund. The purchase of the RPZ will ensure that no non-compatible land uses will occur in this vital area in the future.

### HANGAR IMPROVEMENTS

#### Hangar 201

Hangar development has continued through 2013. NTRA, with support from the Grayson County Commissioners Court, has continued making improvements to the existing Hangar 201 owned by the Airport. Work included covering the existing 72 year old exterior sheet metal with new sheet metal, making repairs to the hangar doors, and replacing windows in the hangar.



## COMMUNICATIONS IN THE AIR

We continue to fund the Airport Traffic Control Tower with airport funds and hoping we will be admitted into the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Contract Tower Program (FCT). Our operations increased over 119% from 2012 for a high of 77,631 operations.

U.S. Aviation Academy, our flight school, has increased student enrollment to over 80 full-time students in 2013 and expects that number to increase to 110 full-time students in early 2014. With this



increase in student pilot population, we expect our operations to continue to increase

and we expect our operations to exceed 85,000 operations in 2014.



## CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

In 2013, the Grayson County RMA passed a resolution in support of needed Capital Improvement Projects for FY 2014-2017. The new Capital Improvement Project started with the selection of Garver Engineers from Frisco, Texas who will do the engineering work for the upcoming projects.



The improvements will include construction of a new aircraft apron adjacent to a Taxiway, which will open this area up for new development, airside drainage improvements and installing wildlife security fencing along the southern border of the airport.

## WEST SIDE DEVELOPMENT

### WEST SIDE UTILITIES

With the development of the new West Side Hangar brought the need for water and sewer service to be completed on the west side of the Airport, parallel to S.H. 289. Grayson County Commissioners Court approved the installation of the new mile long 16" water line and 8" forced main sewer line at a cost of \$495,368.75. This project opens the full 200 acre tract on the west side of the airport for development.

### WEST SIDE HANGARS

Grayson County and North Texas Regional Airport contracted with Piazza Construction for the construction of a 28,275 square foot hangar, aircraft parking ramp and concrete parking lot on the west side of the Airport. Vanir Construction Management oversaw the construction of the hangar. Construction was completed in November 2013 at a total cost of \$1,542,110.98. The hangar is now available for lease or for sale.



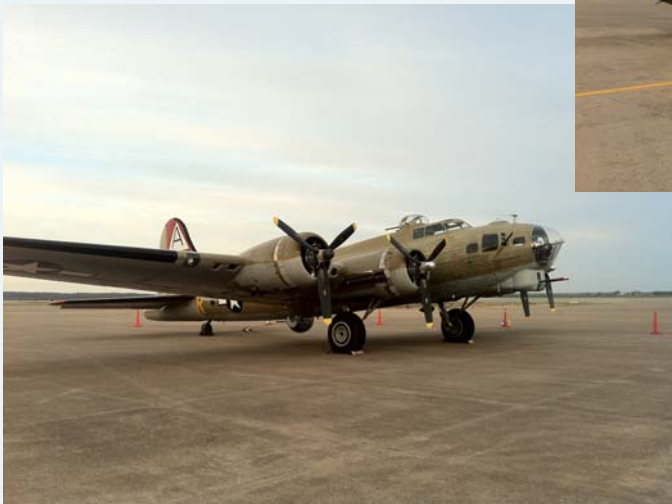
## EVENTS AT THE AIRPORT

### WINGS OF FREEDOM TOUR

The **Collings Foundation Wings of Freedom Tour** visited NTRA again in March 2013. Lake Texoma Jet Center was instrumental in getting NTRA on the calendar for this exceptional event.

World War II classic aircraft on this tour included the B-17G Flying Fortress "Nine O Nine", the B-24J Liberator "Witchcraft", the world's only fully dual control P-51C Mustang "Betty Jane", a Bell UH-1E Huey Helicopter and a replica Me 262 German

fighter. All were on display for the public to see, take a tour through the aircraft and for a few lucky individuals even go for a ride. Many retired Air Force personnel came to the Airport for a trip back in time as many were stationed at NTRA during its time as Perrin Field and later as Perrin Air Force Base.



## EVENTS AT THE AIRPORT

### 6TH ANNUAL TEXOMA 100 AIR RACE

April 5, 2013 saw the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Texoma 100 Air Race take place. The skies were clear but the winds were howling. There were a few scratches due to the wind but 26 intrepid racers flew the course successfully. While the race was taking place, a Discovery Channel film crew was making an episode of the television reality show, **Airplane Repo**. One of the regulars on the show is based nearby and one of the regular racers was enlisted to play the pilot who's Lear Jet was being repossessed. The racers got a lot of air time during the television show as background for the plot.





# NORTH TEXAS REGIONAL AIRPORT HOSTS THE WORLD AEROBATICS CHAMPIONSHIPS

By Chris Sasser  
Texas A&M Transportation Institute

The skies over north-central Texas were buzzing with activity recently as the World Aerobatics Championships were held at North Texas Regional Airport October 9-20. This was the first time in the event's 27-year history that it had been held in Texas and only the third time in the United States.

The event, sponsored by the Commission Internationale de Voltige Aérienne (CIVA), included more than 60 pilots from 17 different countries who competed in flight agility routines over ten days.

The event began with an opening ceremony attended by several hundred people. CIVA President L.G. Arvidsson, a Swede who during the ceremony announced the official start of competition, said the organization was impressed with the location.

"It's a fantastic facility, with a big airfield," Arvidsson said. "This time of the year, the weather is perfect."

*"While NTRA has hosted the Lone Star and the U.S. National Aerobatics Championships for many years, this was a great opportunity for us. The entire TEXOMA community came together to ensure this event was done in a professional and fun manner. It not only included the world's best flying, but social and tourist events every day and evening for all our visitors. The comments we have received from national and international attendees and participants have all been very positive. We are proud to have represented the area, Texas and the United States in such a professional and positive way."*

*Mike Shahan*

Bill Retz, marketing director for the North Texas Regional Airport, commented on how the airport came to host the championship and what the impact means to the local economy.

"We competed for them against other airports throughout the United States and the world," explained Retz. "We're delighted that they decided this was the place to be. An event like this brings a lot of people into the area, including an international crowd that we would normally not get. And we're also expecting people from the Metroplex to drive up and watch the event."

The overall winner was Francois Le Vot, from France, with a nearly 78-percent score.

Two other French pilots, Olivier Masurel and Francois Rallet, also placed in the top ten, to give the French the team win. The top woman in the competition was Aude Lemordant, also from France. The American team finished second, followed by Russia.

Robert Holland from the United States won the four minute freestyle final.

The contest takes place every two years and the next time will be in Slovakia. ♦



*A plane performs an aerial maneuver during the World Aerobatics Championship held at North Texas Regional Airport.*

## 27TH ANNUAL WORLD AEROBATIC CHAMPIONSHIPS

NTRA has been the host of the Lone Star Aerobatic Championships since 1997 and the U.S. National Aerobatic Championships since 1972 and this year was no exception. Both aerobatic championships bring in some of the best aerobatic pilots in the nation, volunteers and spectators who enjoy the area during both events, adding to the economic impact of the Airport on the Grayson County area.



Besides hosting the two aerobatic championships, we hosted the 2013 World Aerobatic Championships in October. This is only the third time this event has been held in the United States in the event's 54 year history. This event brought in approximately 60 competitors from 17 countries, plus support staff and spectators.

During the 2013 World Aerobatic Championships, NTRA also hosted the Arizona Wing of the Commemorative Air Force. The public was able to tour the B-17 Sentimental Journey and the B-25 "Maid in the Shade". Some individuals were lucky enough to go for a ride in these aircraft.



Events such as the ones listed above add benefit to the local economy and gives our area national exposure which helps attract economic development and tourism to our area.



North Texas Regional Airport (RGY) - USA

## THE FUTURE OF MOBILITY IN GRAYSON COUNTY

Grayson County RMA continues to look to the future while evaluating projects that will bring economic development, job growth and increased quality of life for the residents of Grayson County.

As Grayson County RMA continues to move forward, it will continue to work with local stakeholders in allowing Grayson County to grow economically. Grayson County RMA looks forward to the challenges that will arise as it moves into 2014.



## FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

The Grayson County RMA primarily receives funding from Grayson County. During 2013, The Grayson County RMA received funding from Walton Development through the funding agreement to partner together to have the Grayson County Thoroughfare Plan completed.

During 2013, the Grayson County RMA incurred administrative expenses, legal expenses, and expenses for the thoroughfare plan.

Revenue from Commissioners Court:	\$ 7,000.00
<u>Revenue from Other Sources:</u>	<u>\$32,000.00</u>
<b>Total Revenue:</b>	<b>\$39,000.00</b>

Administrative Expenses:	\$ 4,758.25
Legal Expenses:	\$ 2,311.00
<u>Thoroughfare Plan Expense</u>	<u>\$32,000.00</u>
<b>Total Expenses:</b>	<b>\$39,069.25</b>



**GCRMA BOARD MEMBERS**

**Bill Hubbard, Chairman**

**Bill Benton**

**Jeff Christie**

**Randy Hensarling**

**Bill Rasor**

**C O N T A C T  
I N F O R M A T I O N :**

Grayson County RMA/  
North Texas Regional Airport  
4700 Airport Drive  
Denison, Texas 75020

Phone: 903-786-3566  
Fax: 903-786-9185  
E-mail: [airport@co.grayson.tx.us](mailto:airport@co.grayson.tx.us)

[www.gcrma.com](http://www.gcrma.com)

[www.northtexasregionalairport.com](http://www.northtexasregionalairport.com)