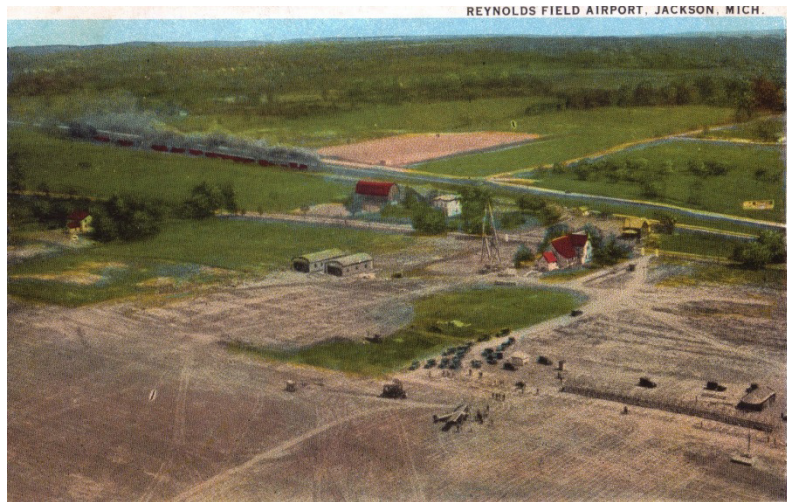


## **Air Transportation**

The Jackson County Airport-Reynolds Field serves the Jackson area by accommodating non-commercial charter and freight flights. There are more than 43,000 landings and takeoffs per year. Located just beyond the northwest corner of the City of Jackson, the airport is an important part of the transportation system, and is a significant contributor of handling the Region's goods and services.

## **Existing Airport Conditions**

Jackson County Airport-Reynolds Field was established in 1927 when Mr. and Mrs. Wiley Reynolds donated 160 acres of a family farm to the City of Jackson for use as a municipal landing field. The airport now comprises 960 acres of land primarily located between M-60, I-94, Airport Road and Wildwood Avenue. The City of Jackson operated the airport until 1976 when the need for a broader tax base to support the airport became evident. In 1976, after two years of joint operation by the City of Jackson and Jackson County, the airport was sold to Jackson County for \$1.00.



The airport has two paved runways: Runway 7-25 is 5,350 feet long and 100 feet wide and Runway 14-32 is 4,000 feet long and 100 feet wide. The airport also owns and maintains two corporate style aircraft hangars plus 15 hangar bays in two other hangar structures. Additionally, the terminal building, tower building, administration building and two maintenance buildings are owned and maintained by the airport. The airport is an all-weather airport with precision approaches as well as visual navigational aids on all runways. The airport has 103 based aircraft, most of which are housed in privately owned hangars on airport owned land. The hangar owners pay an annual lease fee for the land. Runway 7-25 has an Instrument Landing System.

Additionally, the airport has a general aviation/passenger/charter terminal, as well as a rotating beacon for night navigation, a segmented circle and lighted wind indicators on runways 7-25, measuring wind speed and direction, and an automated 24-hour weather station linked to the National Weather Service. The airfield has pilot controlled runway lighting after hours when the tower is not staffed by air traffic controllers. The airport also has several fixed based operators who provide aviation support services.

The airport is characterized by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) as a Regional General Aviation Airport and is one of only fourteen (14) airports in the State of

Michigan with an operating air traffic control tower. The air traffic control services are provided by a private contractor, Midwest Air Traffic Services, Inc., and operate from 7:00 AM until 9:00 PM daily. After hours, arriving and departing aircraft utilize the assigned radio frequency for this airport to announce their intentions to other aircraft in the area. The airport averages approximately 43,000 landing or take-offs annually.

The airport is estimated to have an economic impact on its service area of approximately \$18 million annually. This impact is due to the use by airport and non-airport businesses, general aviation sector use, and the general overall economic impact as a major transportation hub.

### **Future Forecasts and Needs**

Regional air carrier airports will continue to function as the primary passenger facilities providing national and international passenger service for the residents of the Jackson metropolitan area. Lansing Capital Region, Detroit Metropolitan, Flint Bishop and Kalamazoo-Battle Creek international airports are all within 90 minutes travel time from Jackson and provide passenger service options for Jackson area residents.

The annual economic value of the airport to the greater Jackson area is determined to be \$18 million (2017). The airport is expected to continue to provide air services to Jackson County businesses and private individuals by being a major player in the economic development of the region and being a significant transportation hub. The airport also plays a significant role in local and regional pilot training.

In 2017, a new primary runway on a new alignment (7-25) to a length of 5,350 feet was completed and replaced former runway 6-24. This runway shift will allow proper safety areas (1000') on both ends of the runway. This recommended set of alternatives provides full safety areas to all runways. The crosswind runway (14-32) was extended from the original 3500' in 2008 in its original orientation to provide a 4,000 foot runway with required safety areas. The combination of these changes to the two runways provides the airport with a runway system that addresses the FAA runway safety area criteria, and provides future growth and development opportunities.

In 2017, the airport completed a Business Plan identifying key planning areas for the future, including: predevelopment of hangar sites with all utilities for enhanced revenue; marketing excess airport property for development and income through lease or sale; enhancing the airport as a "destination"; and funding key capital purchases through these new revenue streams.

The map of the airport runways and property boundary is on the next page.

# Jackson County Reynolds Field Airport

- Airport Boundary
- Airport Runway

