

AUS Environmental Assessment Briefing

Kane Carpenter

Environmental Manager

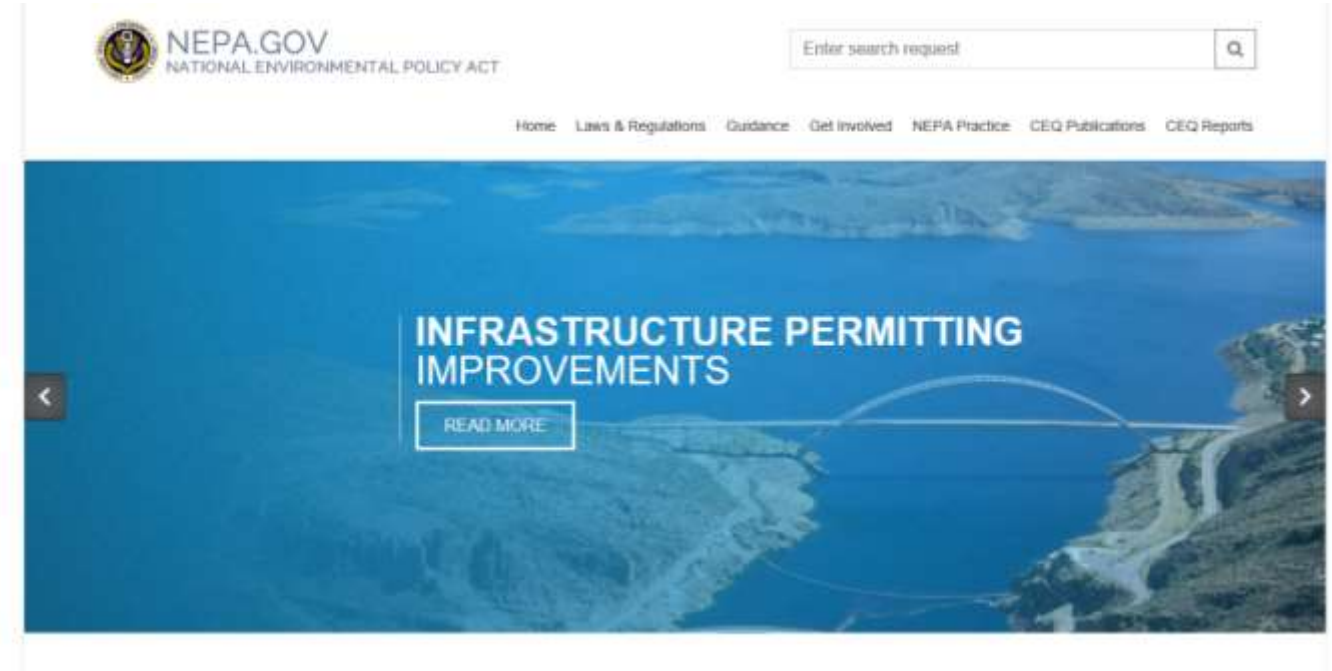


Austin-Bergstrom
International Airport



Topics

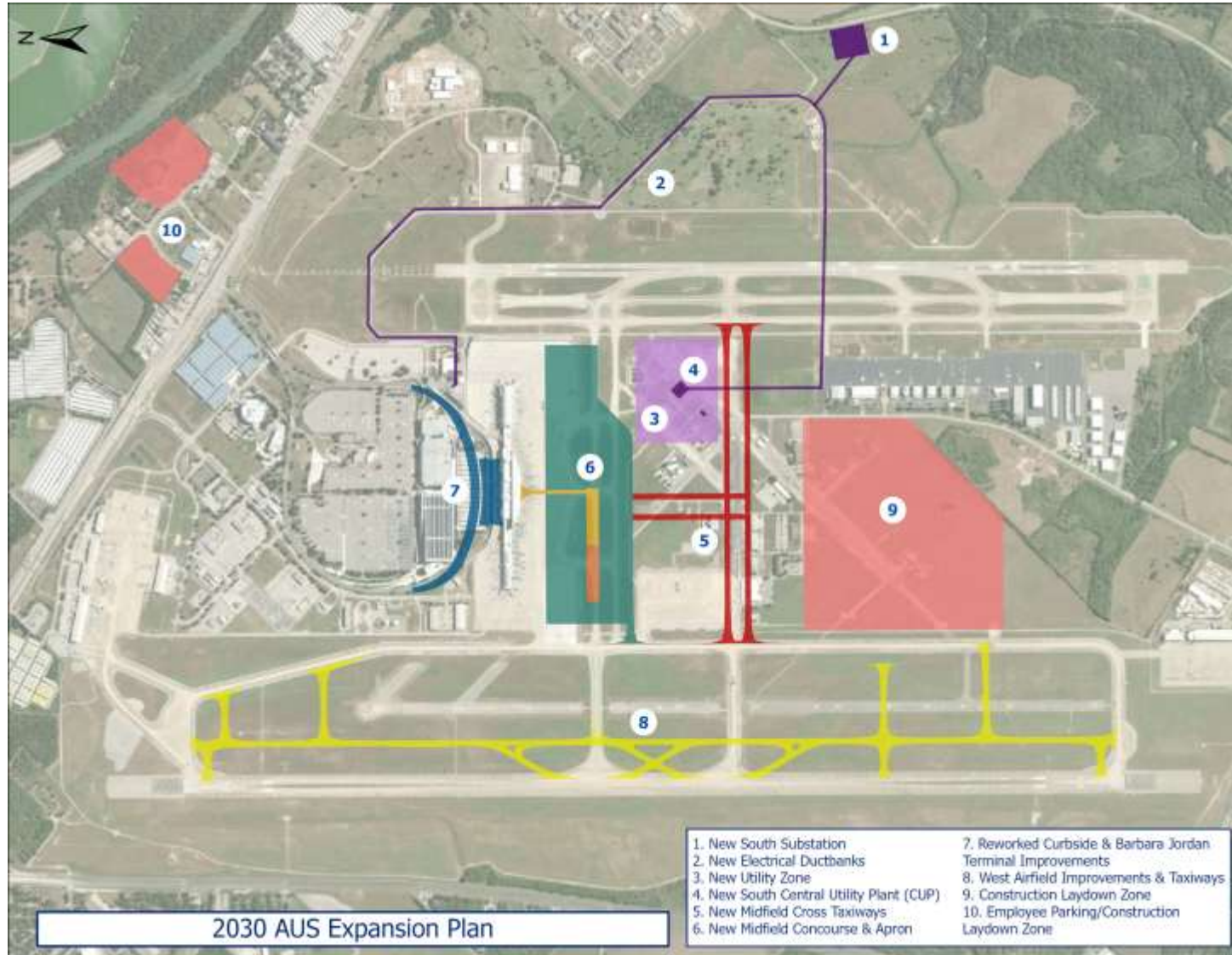
- National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)
- Environmental Assessment (EA) Status
- Environmental Impact Study Areas
- Public Outreach
- Schedule



NEPA

- **National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) was the first major environmental law in the United States and is often called the "Magna Carta" of Federal environmental laws.**
 - NEPA requires Federal agencies to assess the environmental effects of proposed major Federal actions prior to making decisions.
 - We must balance the benefits of the proposed action against the impacts.
 - Evaluate alternatives to minimize impacts.
 - Inform and involve the public before making a decision.
- **AUS is a federally obligated facility.**
- **The Environmental Assessment is the FAA recommended process for complying with NEPA.**

Proposed Action



Environmental Assessment Impact Categories

- **Affected Environments**

- Air Quality
- Biological Resources
- Climate
- Coastal Resources
- Parkland, recreational, etc.
- Hazardous Materials,
- Historical, archeological and cultural resources
- Land Use

- **Affected Environments**

- Natural resources & energy supply
- Noise
- Farmland
- Socioeconomic & environmental justice
- Visual effects
- Water Resources (floodplain, wetlands, scenic rivers, etc.)

Environmental Assessment Update

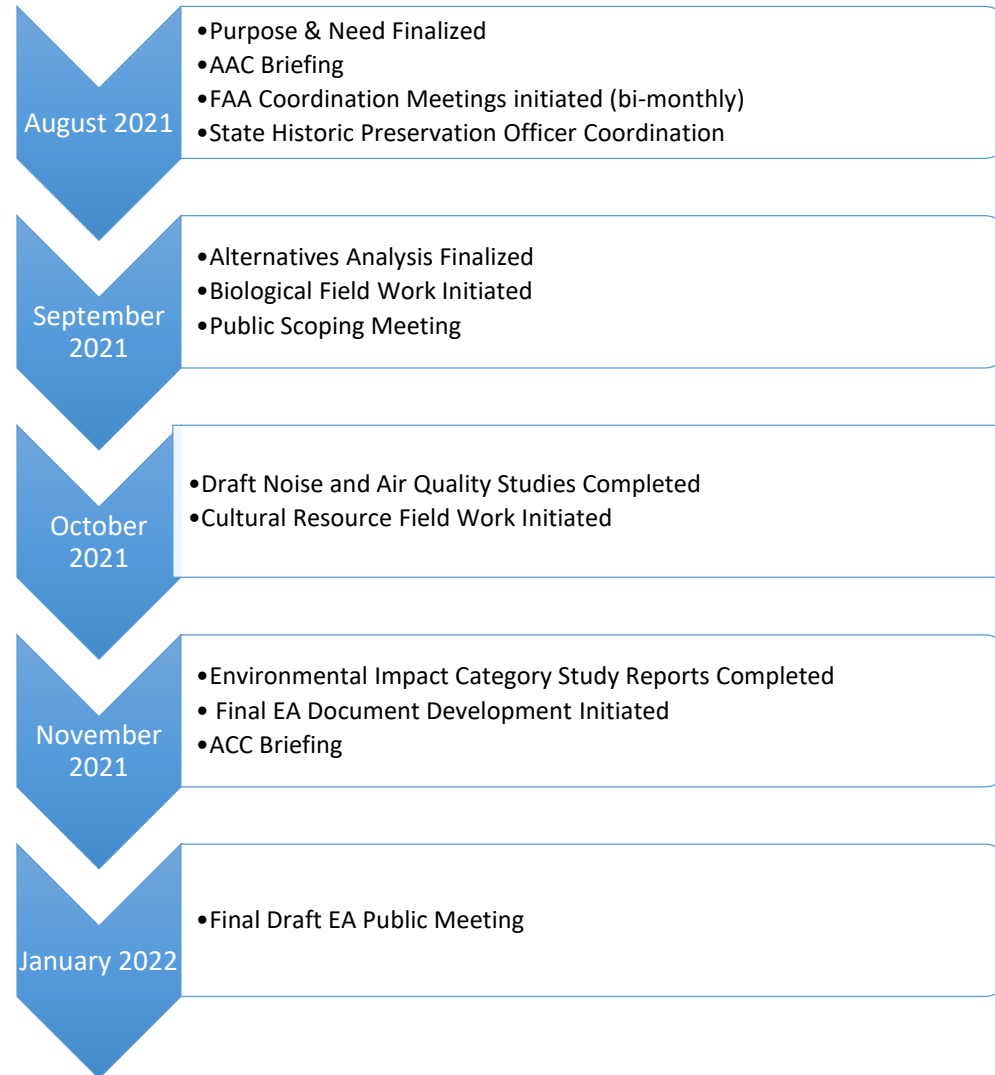
- **Major Sections in an EA**

- 90% - Statement of Purpose and Need
- 90% - Description of Proposed Action
- **Initiated** – Alternatives Analysis
- 15% - Affected Environments
- **Not started** - Confirm Significant Environmental Consequences
- **In progress** - Public Presentations & Feedback
- **Initiated** - FAA coordination
- **Not started** - Finding of no significant impact (FONSI) issued by FAA

Public Outreach

- Virtual Public Scoping Meeting on September 9, 2021
 - [Launch Meeting – Zoom](#)
 - Meeting Notice posted in La Voz and Austin American Statesman
- EA Website is live (Spanish and English)
 - [AUS Evaluación Ambiental \(Spanish\) | SpeakUp Austin!](#)
 - [AUS Environmental Assessment | SpeakUp Austin!](#)

Near-Term Milestones



Questions



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