

**Aeronautics Commission
Budget No. 412
House Bill No. 1006**

	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
2019-21 legislative appropriation	7.00	\$500,000	\$48,831,082 ¹	\$49,331,082
2017-19 legislative appropriation	<u>7.00</u>	<u>900,000</u>	<u>9,985,412</u>	<u>10,885,412</u>
2019-21 appropriation increase (decrease) to 2017-19 appropriation	0.00	(\$400,000)	\$38,845,670	\$38,445,670

¹This amount includes \$20 million of one-time funding. Excluding this amount, the agency's ongoing other funds appropriation is \$28,831,082.

Item Description

FTE positions - The Legislative Assembly approved 7 FTE positions for the Aeronautics Commission for the 2019-21 biennium, the same as the 2017-19 biennium.

Airport grants - The 2019 Legislative Assembly provided \$20 million from the airport infrastructure fund for airport grants during the 2019-21 biennium and authorized the funds to be continued into the 2021-23 biennium. It also provided \$20 million of one-time funding from the strategic investment and improvements fund for airport grants.

Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act grants - The CARES Act was signed into law on March 27, 2020, and included \$10 billion in funds to be awarded as economic relief to eligible United States airports affected by the prevention of, preparation for, and response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The CARES Act provides funds to assist airport operations due to the loss of revenue as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Of the \$10 billion, up to \$85 million has been allocated for North Dakota airports.

Status/Result

As of April 17, 2020, the Aeronautics Commission had 1 vacant FTE position.

The one-time funding of \$20 million from the strategic investment and improvements funding is currently available for allocation to projects. The funding is expected to help complete the primary runway and parallel taxiway reconstruction projects in Dickinson and Watford City. The initial bids on those projects are expected to be received in the spring of 2020 and the first allocations of the grants are expected to be made by the Aeronautics Commission in June 2020. The Watford City project is anticipated to be completed in the fall of 2021 and the Dickinson project is expected to be completed in the fall of 2022. Since the airport infrastructure fund receives its revenues from oil and gas tax collections, because of the decline in oil prices and production in 2020, it is unknown whether any revenue will be deposited in the fund during the 2019-21 biennium.

Airports in North Dakota have received individual allocations from which they can submit requests for reimbursement to the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) for qualified expenses. The funds can be used for any purpose for which the airport revenues may be lawfully used, but the airports are required to continue to employ, through December 31, 2020, at least 90 percent of the number of individuals employed as of March 27, 2020.