



# Airport CEQA Scoping Meeting

PRESENTED BY PALM SPRINGS INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT • April 15, 2025

# Scoping Meeting Agenda

- 01 Mayor Ron deHarte opening remarks
- 02 PSP Airport Master Plan Overview
- 03 California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)
  - Scoping
  - Agencies
  - Program Environmental Impact Report
  - CEQA Categories
  - Schedule/Timeline
  - Comments

# Why We Need an Airport Master Plan

Planning now to meet future demand.

The Palm Springs International Airport is the gateway to the Coachella Valley. It needs to plan for the future in order to:

- Preserve iconic elements of the airport
- Create better passenger experience
- Accommodate for future growth
- Comply with latest airport safety requirements
- Begin new sustainability initiatives

Photo: Architect Donald Wexler in front of the new Palm Springs Wexler Terminal, 1966



# Master Plan Process

A methodical approach to ensure the best outcome.



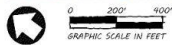


# Approved Rental Car Center Model

Figure x-x: Hybrid North South Sites

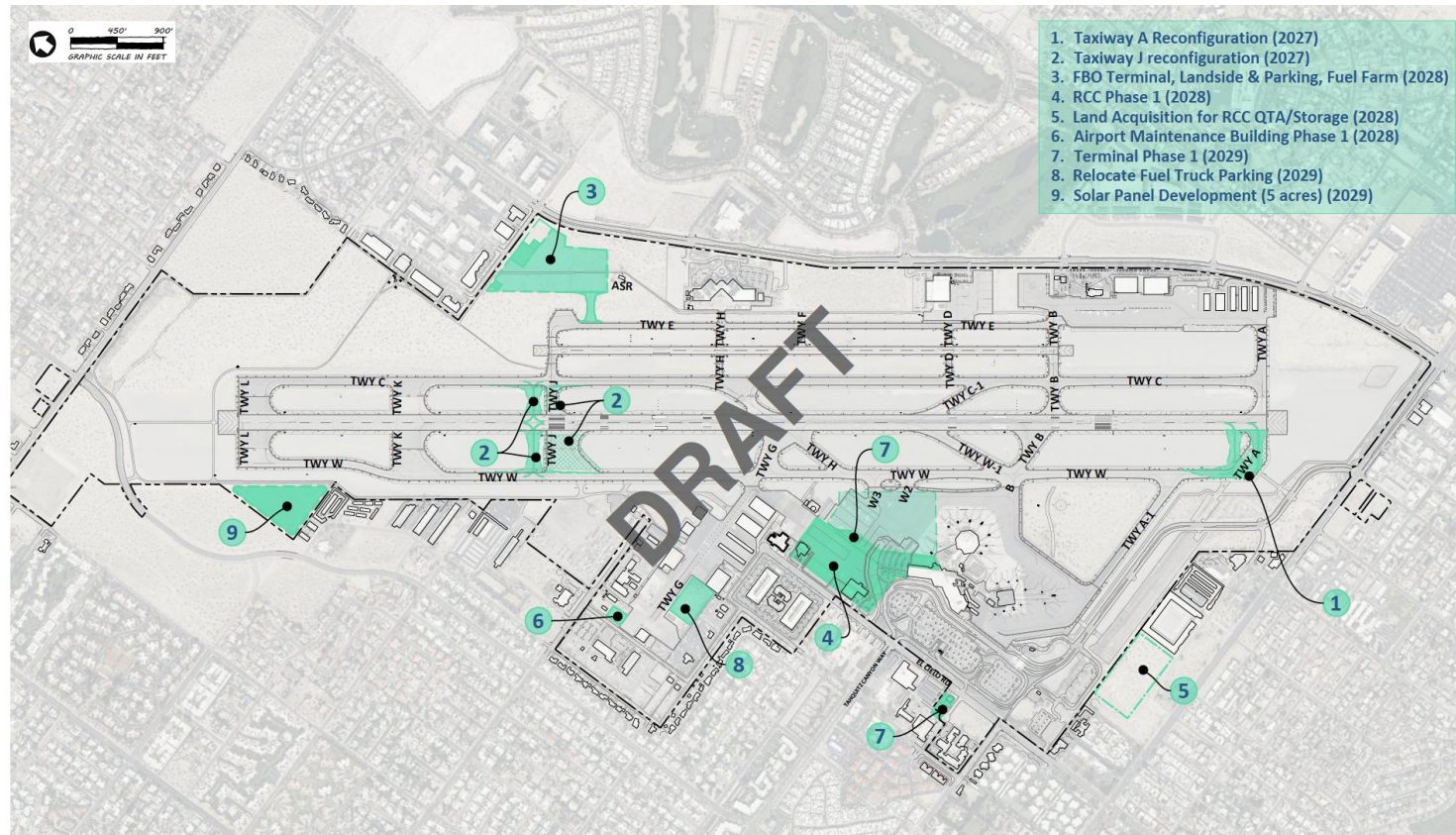


Source: Genster and Mead & Hunt, 2023



# Phase 1 – Near Term Projects

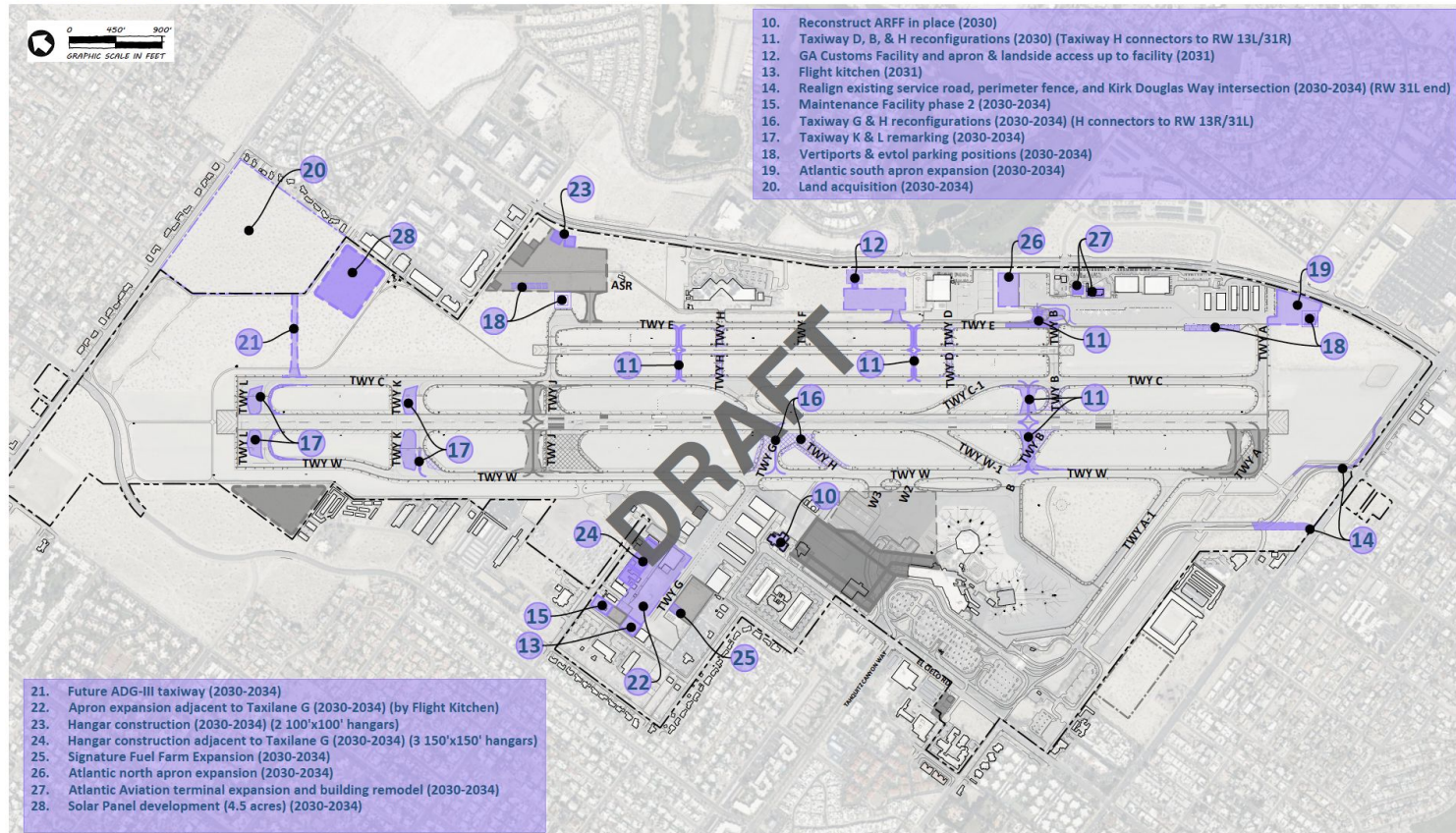
Figure 7-1: Phasing Plan - Near Term Projects (2025-2029)





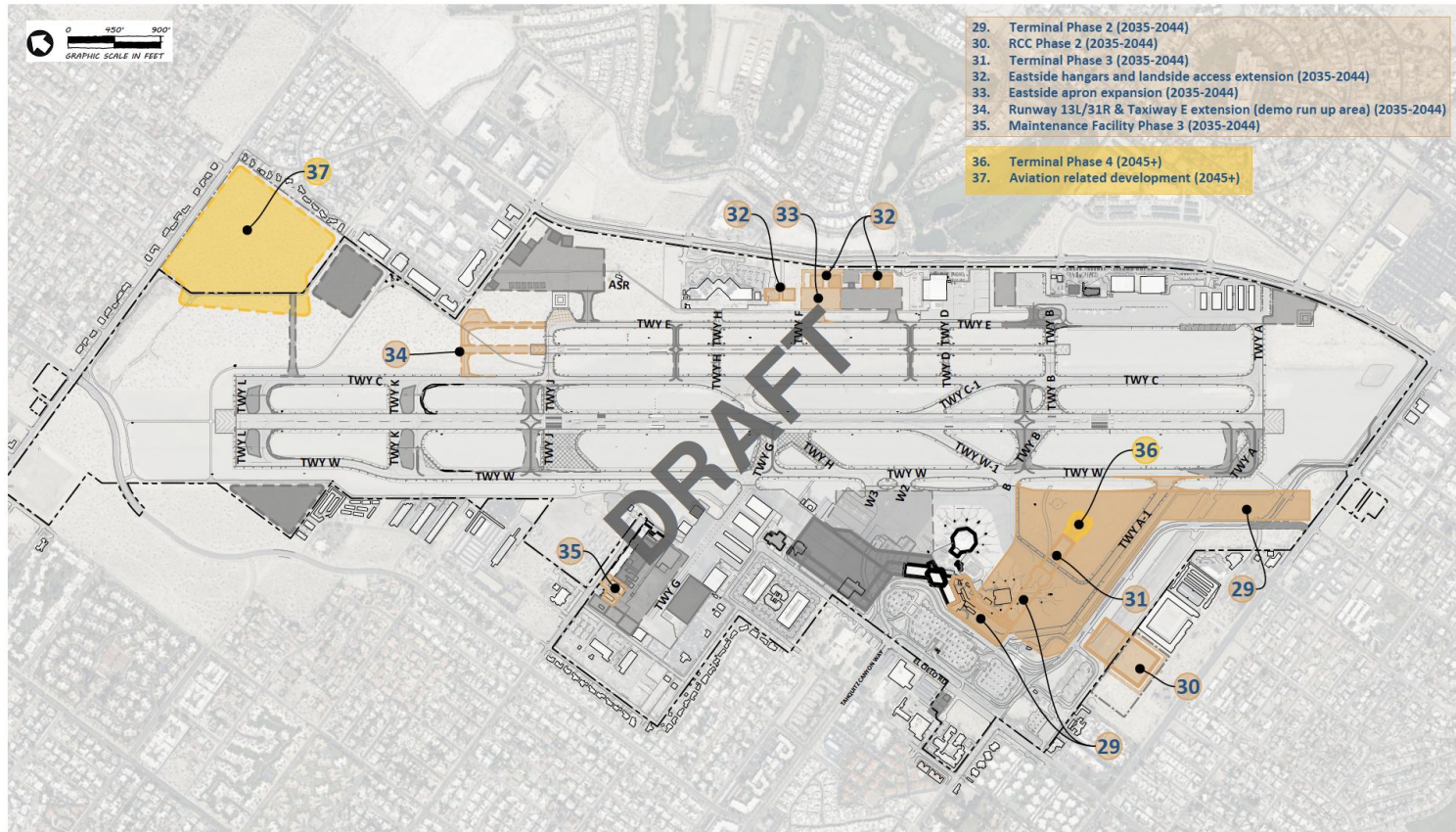
# Phase 2 – Mid Term Projects

Figure 7-2: Phasing Plan - Mid Term Projects (2030-2034)



# Phase 3 – Long Term Projects

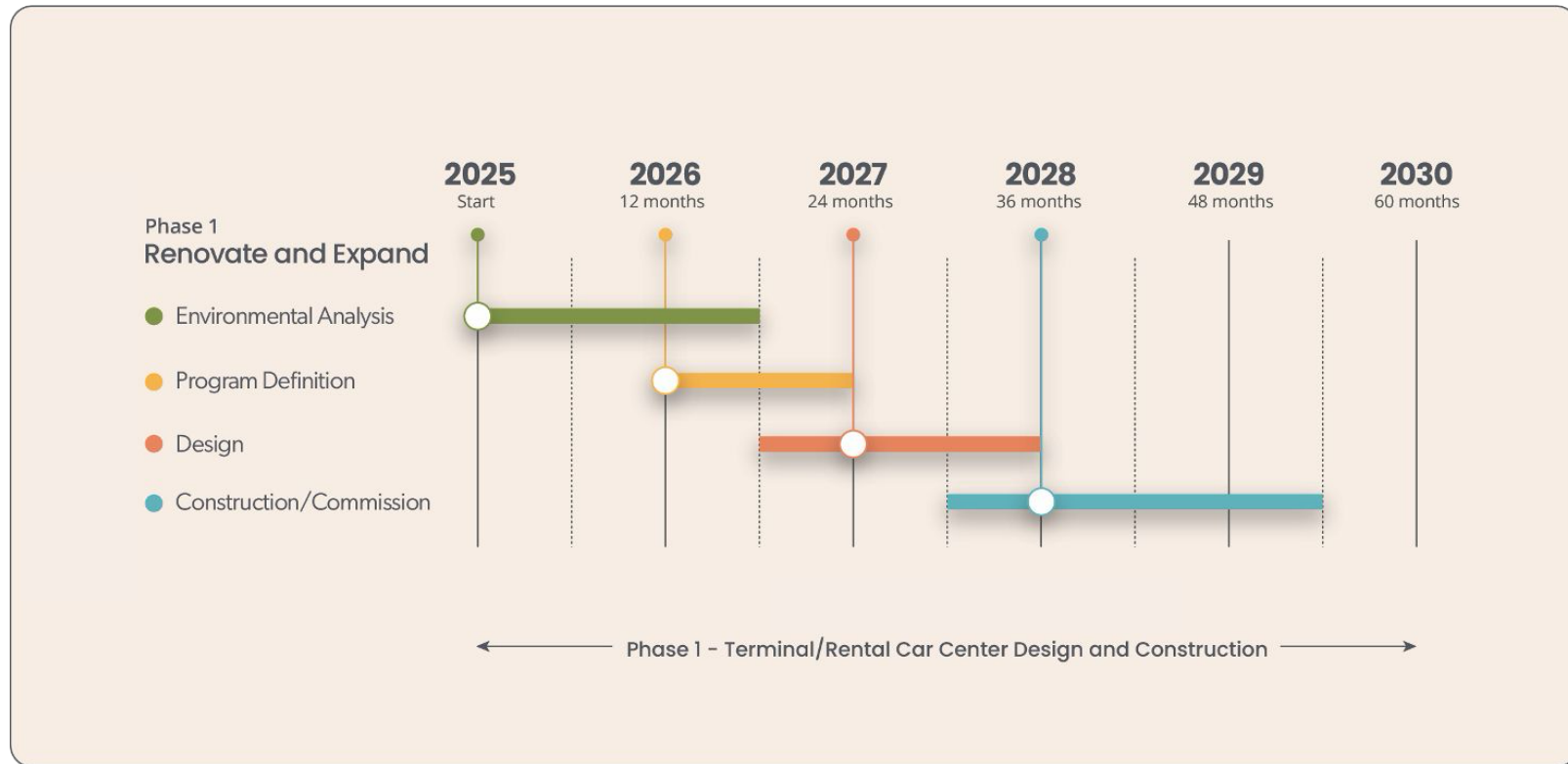
Figure 7-3: Phasing Plan - Long Term Projects (2035-2044) and Post Planning





# Estimated Terminal Program Schedule & Cost

A current timeline for phase 1 terminal development.





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# California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)

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# California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)

## Scoping Meeting Purpose

Inform decision makers and the public of potential environmental impacts of a proposed “project” and its alternatives

### A Project is:

- A discretionary action by a government agency (i.e., the City) and
- Will either have a direct or reasonably foreseeable indirect impact on the environment (Pub. Res. Code, § 21065)

**The Airport Master Plan is a “project” under CEQA**



# Notice of Preparation (NOP) and Project Scoping

## CEQA Requirements:

- ❑ Prepare and file NOP with State Clearinghouse (March 26, 2025)
- ❑ NOP distribution initiates 30-day public “scoping” period (March 26, 2025, through April 25, 2025, at 5:00 PM)

**Goal:** Gain input on forthcoming Environmental Impact Report

# Lead Agency



## The City is the Lead Agency - CEQA

- Principal responsibility/authority for approving or carrying out a project



## FAA is the Federal Lead Agency – NEPA

- Airport Layout Plan (ALP) approval and funding eligibility
- Separate document based on project timing

# Responsible/Trustee Agencies

**State agencies with jurisdiction by law over resources, such as:**

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USFWS/CFW

Regional Water Quality Control Board

Regional Air Quality Control Board

Native American Heritage Commission

Caltrans

Others



# Environmental Impact Report (EIR)

- Provides detailed information about **environmental resources/issues areas**
- Identifies/discloses potential **project-related environmental impacts**
- Identifies ways to **avoid and minimize potential effects (mitigation measures)**

# What is a “Program EIR”?

- An EIR to evaluate **Near-term Projects**
- Foundation/EIR for **subsequent activities or actions**
  - If no additional effects, serves as EIR for subsequent actions
  - If potential effects, foundation for “Tiering” (addendum, subsequent CEQA document)

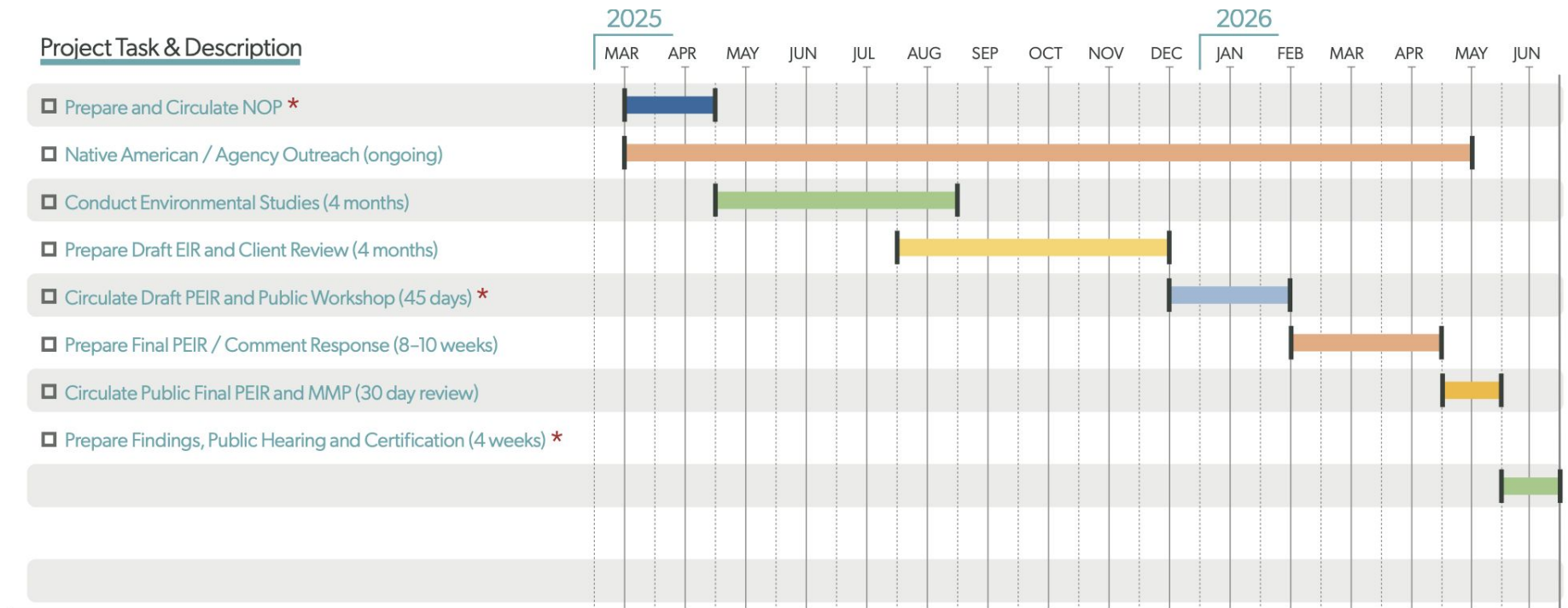
**Goal:** Carry over previous mitigation/streamline processes forward

# CEQA Resource Categories

- Agriculture and Forestry Resources
- *Biological Resources*
- Geology and Soils
- Hazardous Materials
- Hydrology and Water Quality
- Mineral Resources
- Population and Housing
- *Transportation*
- Wildfire
- Air Quality
- Energy
- Greenhouse Gas Emissions
- *Historical, Archaeological, Tribal Cultural Resources*
- Land Use
- Noise
- Public Services and Facilities
- *Visual Effects*



# CEQA Schedule/Timeline



## SCHEDULE LEGEND

Time Frame

Updated: April 2025

*Three opportunities to provide feedback!*

# CEQA Comments

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

*Written comments may be sent throughout the 30-day NOP Scoping period (March 27, 2025, and ending on April 26, 2025, at 5:00 pm):*

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**Project Name:** Comprehensive Airport Master Plan for the Palm Springs International Airport

# Thank you.

[PalmSpringsAirportMasterPlan.com](http://PalmSpringsAirportMasterPlan.com)



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