

NUT TREE AIRPORT



A News Brief of the Nut Tree Airport - Issue No. 1 - Fall 2018

T-Hangars

The new Solano County T-Hangar project will break ground on September 26. The project includes 26 T-Hangars within two buildings. Other site improvements will include taxiways, and water, sewer, and electrical utilities. The new hangars will also be equipped with a fire sprinkler system and with WiFi service. A new public restroom will be constructed with the project. The project is located near the northeast corner of the airport apron on the east side of the Fuel Truck yard area. Development of the project may cause intermittent taxiway closures and advanced notice will be provided to impacted hangar areas. Completion of the project is estimated for February 2019.

Fence & Gate Project - The FAA awarded Solano County a \$430,000 grant in 2018 to construct and complete the airport's perimeter fence, upgrade automated drive-thru gates, and to add several manual gates. In total, 6,650 feet of new fencing was installed improving airport security and to discourage intrusion into the aircraft operating area by wildlife.

Drakes Point (Old Rocky) - Since 1973, Old Rocky, located about 2-miles west of the airport, has had an obstruction marking pole and light. The marking pole and light has been operated and maintained by the Airport. Given the age, decayed condition and other electrical issues, the light was taken out-of-service several months ago under a NOTAM. The good news is that the Airport has worked with the City of Vacaville to construct a new communication pole on Old Rocky to better serve emergency service responses within the City and County. The new pole will be lighted with an LED fixture per FAA requirements. The new project is currently breaking ground and should be in service by late winter.

Local Debrief - CTAF 123.05

In August 2018 the CTAF for Nut Tree changed following a year-long review process which included on-airport survey, monitoring the frequencies of other airports, and many on-airport discussions. Recent feedback from local pilots regarding 123.05 has been mixed. The majority of the comments received do not favor the new CTAF and there appears to be a continued higher level of radio conflicts. Unfortunately, there are only seven (7) Unicom frequencies to choose from that are approved by the FCC, and air traffic in the central valley and greater bay area continues to increase. Radio congestion conflicts are becoming more and more common within regional areas across the country. Each of the Unicom frequencies within the regions that surround the Nut Tree Airport are shared by multiple airports. Given the challenge in assessing the level of existing radio congestion at other airports, and what might eventually be the best frequency for Nut Tree, 123.05 will continue to be evaluated. In the meantime, the FAA has recently agreed to assist the Airport on discussions with the FCC to see what alternative less-congested frequency solution may be available.

Office Renovations - The Airport Office Building will undergo a remodel starting in approximately January 2019. The offices on the second floor of Hangar A (Hertz and Aviation Specialties) will also be renovated. The projects will involve renovation of all public restrooms, new roofing, new HVAC systems, new interior work, and other needed upgrades. The project will allow for expansion of business operating spaces and substantially extend the useful life of the buildings.

Future Improvements - The Airport is currently exploring FAA funding sources to expand the tie-down apron. All tie-down spaces, offices and hangars are at 100% occupancy. The Airport is also seeking FAA financial assistance on taxiway rehabilitations within hangar areas. The FAA is presently allocating supplemental and discretionary funds for airport capital projects on a competitive basis for 2019 and 2020.



NACA 130 - Solano County recently approved a ground lease for the development of an 8,100 square foot private hangar located across the taxiway from, and to the south of, the Center for Freedom and Flight. The hangar will be developed and owned by NACA 130, a private limited liability company. Construction of the hangar is anticipated to begin within 30 days starting with site improvement work. The hangar will become the new home for several vintage and other aircraft.

Did You Know that the Nut Tree Airport...

- Is home to over 200 based aircraft.
- Generated approximately \$7.2 Mil in total economic value from all private and public jobs, goods and services in 2017.
- Is comprised of 301 Acres and produced approximately 106,500 take-offs and landings in 2017.
- Dispensed over 150,00 gallons of fuel in 2017.
- Will have completed over \$6.85 Mil in capital improvements between 2013 and 2019.
- Has 41 Acres available for aeronautical, commercial and industrial development.

- Spotlight -

Mary Gonzales has worked at the Nut Tree Airport and supported Airport operations since 2008. As many of our customers know, Mary always greets with a welcoming smile and a cheerful hello to those that visit the Airport Office. Mary handles a substantial workload supporting the airport's many financial transactions, and budget and accounting functions. Mary monitors and tracks customer rentals and leases, supports administration of FAA and other grants, deals with numerous phone calls and customer questions, and reconciles and reports on the airport's fuel system, inventory control and transactions. Mary is also an award winning and competitive baker and has a high level of culinary expertise! Mary is a true asset to the Airport and, in many ways, keeps things running smoothly. Thanks Mary !

"A mile of Road will take you a mile; A mile of Runway, will take you Anywhere..."

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