

Question: What about current and future flooding? Is there a plan?

Answer: The airport property functions as a bowl, absorbing flooding from the neighborhood. Our plans for a New HVN include funding for enhanced upgrades to the tide gates, as well as the construction of a new, flood-proof terminal and improved flood control. It's also important to note that the existing terminal has only flooded twice in the last decade. In both instances, the terminal and airport was reopened in less than a single day. In the most recent instance, there were no delays or cancellations whatsoever.

Question: Is there a Project Labor Agreement?

Answer: There's a multiparty commitment to a Project Labor Agreement (PLA). The PLA for the West Terminal includes provisions for local hiring prioritization, which is why local labor unions have consistently and publicly supported this project since it was announced on May 6th. It is anticipated that this will result in 200 construction jobs.

While the PLA is between the local building trades council and a private construction company, both the Authority and Avports have given their commitment to the building trades council and said publicly that the runway expansion and new terminal will also be done under a PLA. It is anticipated that this will result in 1,000 construction jobs.

Support from Labor: "We have stood alongside our local elected officials as they ran for public office, and we are proud of their hard work and advocacy for organized labor and for a fairer economy. Now we are proud to stand alongside the New Haven Board of Alders as they work to realize the potential of this historic opportunity at Tweed New Haven Airport. Our union brothers and sisters are ready. Let's get to work!" - [Chris Cozzi is the president of the New Haven Building and Construction Trades.](#)

Question: Where's the Economic Impact Statement?

Answer: [It can be found here.](#)

Question: Will there be non-construction jobs?

In terms of non-construction jobs, the airport's new air carrier Avelo and Avports announced last week that they have begun hiring 100 new positions based in New Haven. Both Avelo and Avports are working with two local job pipelines – New Haven Works and the Workforce Alliance – to fill those jobs and will be holding their first jobs fair in New Haven on September 9th. It is anticipated that this number will grow dramatically once the new terminal opens.

Overall, a private economic forecast (see attached) found that the overall project will create 11,000 jobs.

Question: What are the community benefits?

Answer: The Authority and Avports committed to a \$5 million Community Benefits Package in their May 6th announcement. While versions of this project have been debated for many years, this is the first such package ever put forward for the airport's surrounding neighborhood.

Avports and the Authority have held community meetings, and have been working closely with Alders around the airport, and City officials, and will be releasing a New Haven-specific Community Benefits Package in the coming weeks.

Question: Will there be a Special Services District to provide long-term benefits to neighbors for the length of the 43-year lease?

The creation of a Special Services Districts is under the purview of the City of New Haven. Neither the Authority or Avports objects to the City creating such a district, should it choose to do so.

Question: What protections are there to mitigate pollution?

Answer: The Authority has hired MacFarland Johnson, a nationally recognized and accredited planning, design, and construction administration firm specializing in airport projects to conduct the FAA-funded and overseen Environmental Assessment (EA) of the proposed project. The thorough process is anticipated to take one year and will look at all environmental issues surrounding the project including but not limited to noise, air quality, wetlands and wildlife. The public will have many opportunities to engage in the EA process.

Question: What about noise pollution?

Answer: The Authority, Avports, and Avelo have all committed to adhering to the City of New Haven's existing noise ordinance.

Question: Is there a plan to accommodate increased traffic?

Answer: The Authority and Avports submitted and received approval for a traffic calming plan during the brief period of time (2-3 years) that the airport terminal entrance will remain in New Haven. Additional traffic calming measures will be announced as part of the Community Benefits Package.

Question: Are there public risks associated with a 43-year sublease?

Answer: Under the terms of the City Lease, the City will provide the full annual subsidy in this fiscal year and half of the annual subsidy in the next fiscal year. Afterward, the City will no longer be obligated to be the "local share" for FAA grants as Avports has agreed to assume responsibility for the share going forward. Importantly, the City will continue to own the airport but will not be obligated to contribute financially for the duration of the 43 year lease.

Question: What about eminent domain?

The Authority and Avports have no plans to seek eminent domain authority from the City. In the 23 years since the Authority was formed, it has never once sought eminent domain despite language in the existing airport lease that is similar to what's proposed for a new lease. The proposed expansion, guided by the FAA approved 2021 Master Plan, specifically ruled out the need to expand the current footprint of the airport.

Question: What about the City's commitment to environmental sustainability?

Answer: The proposed expansion is a commitment to finally bring environmental sustainability to Tweed-New Haven Airport. The new terminal will be built with LEED principles, will replace the old terminal with an energy efficient, carbon-neutral terminal and ground operations, and better traffic infrastructure to decrease vehicle road time. Further, study after study found that, generally, highway traffic releases dangerous pollutants and particulates that stay in the air longer and do greater damage to our ozone. By focusing on air travel over road travel the City will decrease pollution.