Status of State Airplane Fleet

Transportation Interim Committee Meeting

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UDOT Aeronautics Program

- Conduct statewide airport planning and capital project planning for statewide airports
- Managing FAA grants and state funds
- Distribution of aviation fuel tax revenue
- Operation and maintenance of stateowned aviation assets
- Administer aircraft registration fees





Aeronautics Passenger Program Fleet

<image/>	
King Air B200	King Air C90
Capacity: 8 passengers	Capacity: 6 passengers
 Owned and operated by UDOT 	 Owned and operated by UDOT
 Rural medical services State business travel Wildfire and search and rescue 	 Rural medical services State business travel Wildfire and search and rescue

Aeronautics Passenger Program

- Medical services to rural communities: 84%
 - Monticello, Moab, Vernal, Price, Richfield and others
 - Pediatric services
 - Cardiovascular clinics
 - U of U Burn Center Outreach Program
- Governor and state agency travel: 16%
 - Wildfire surveillance
 - Emergency response
 - Other state travel





The Challenge

- Current aircraft are at end of life cycle
- Operating expenses continue to rise as fleet ages
 - More down time due to maintenance resulting in less availability
- Continue providing best-value travel options for state business



Aircraft Maintenance Costs Increased With Age

- Industry standard replacement cycle of airplanes is 10 years
- Trade in value at 10 years is 45% purchase price
- Trade in value at 20 years is significantly less and dependent on unknowns

Maintenance Costs					
Years	B200	C90			
2000-2009	\$1,168,368	\$1,152,771			
2010-2019	\$3,284,246	\$2,594,783			



Two Independent Audits of Aeronautics Program

- Audits completed by Conklin & de Decker (2017) and AECOM (2018)
- Aircraft are nearing their end-of-life cycle
 - Increase in maintenance costs and operational impacts
- Both audits recommend a fleet replacement strategy





FAA Requirements That Impact Aircraft Operation

- Part 91: State owned/leased planes that are non-commercial can land at any airport or in any conditions under which pilot determines it's safe
- **Part 135:** Commercial planes restricted at airports with shorter runways or airports without weather reporting systems





Option	Cost (Estimates)	Medical	State Business	Emergency Services	Wildfire Surveillance	Limitations
Maintain Existing Aircraft		\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark	All services likely to cease in 3-5 years
Purchase 2 New Aircraft*	\$15.38M	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark	
Lease 2 New Aircraft for 10 years*	\$18.4M	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark	Annual appropriation required
On-Demand Charter Service	Various Rates	\checkmark	\checkmark			FAA restrictions
Hybrid Ownership	\$6.9M + Various Rates	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark	FAA restrictions
*Doesn't include hourly charge to customers						
	✓ Can provide servic w/ no limitations		✓ Can provide service w/ limitations		not provide service	

