

## SECTION 1

### INTRODUCTION

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Polacca Airport is a public use basic utility airport serving the aviation needs of the Hopi Indian Tribe, located on the Hopi Indian Reservation, Arizona. Aviation plays an important transportation role for the reservation because of its remote location with respect to major cities, the limited services offered on the reservation, and the climate and topography of surrounding terrain. Aware of the Tribe's aviation needs, the Hopi Indian Tribe applied for a planning grant to the Federal Aviation Administration, and subsequently selected the firm of PRC-R. Dixon Speas Associates to undertake a site selection study and prepare a comprehensive airport master plan.

This report documents the findings and recommendations of the site selection study, and presents the long-range airport master plan. The overall intent of the airport master plan is to provide a guide for the orderly development of airport facilities required to satisfy the aviation needs of the Hopi Tribe, which are at this time primarily medical evaluation. The planning horizon addressed was for a period of 20 years ending 1997.

A summary of the study's findings and recommendations follows this introduction. The remainder of the report presents a technical discussion addressing the existing airport, forecast aviation demand, calculated facility requirements, conceptual design of airport systems, environmental considerations, and implementation of the master plan.

#### 1.1 STUDY OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the master planning study were to:

- (1) Identify the projected short-, medium-, and long-range commercial and general aviation demands of the Hopi Tribe;

- (2) Evaluate alternative airport sites capable of accommodating the demands; and,
- (3) Develop a physical plan for the selected site.

## 1.2 COORDINATION AND PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

Community involvement was encouraged throughout the study effort. Public meetings were held at community centers and individual villages as the need arose. Further, working papers were submitted to local, state, and federal organizations interested in the study, for their review and comment.