



Owatonna Degner Regional Airport Quarterly EDA Report, July 2021

General Aviation Activity

General

General Aviation activity at the airport remains brisk through the first half of the year primarily due to piston aircraft activity and flight instruction. Aviation fuel sales volume (combined avgas and jet fuel) has increased over last year's volume to date even in the face of rising fuel costs. All airport owned T-hangar spaces (31) are rented.

Flight Training

Accelerated Aviation now utilizes six aircraft (two added since 2021), an advanced flight simulator, and eight flight instructors with near daily flight training activity. Additionally, the company has expanded into additional leased hangar space at the airport. Trident Flight Training continues to conduct training utilizing an advanced flight simulator.



Photo: OWA (2021)

Aircraft Maintenance

Langer Aviation, providing aircraft maintenance and restoration services has enough work booked for months without taking another appointment. The long term airport based business serves the area aircraft maintenance needs including aircraft annual inspections, avionics installations, restoration services, and on-call emergency maintenance services.



Photo: Aircraft on Ramp at OWA (2021)

Business Aviation

The airport continues to accommodate a variety of business aircraft from single engine piston, twin turbo-prop through turbine jet aircraft. This activity supports local business needs and provides a connection to the national airspace system.

It is expected that the use of business aviation will continue to be robust. According to an article in **AIN Online 7/13/21**, entitled "Survey: Private Aviation Boom Likely to Linger":

"The current post-Covid surge in private aviation likely will persist, according to the results of a just-released survey conducted by industry buyers guide *Private Jet Card Comparisons*. According to the findings, 69 percent of

private aviation users expect to use private aviation more now than they did pre-Covid, while 28 percent expected the same amount of use.”

T-Hangar Building Project

Bids were received and opened on March 9, 2021 for this project. The construction phase of the project for the 10-Unit building, site work, and taxi lane has been awarded subject to receiving the anticipated Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) grant. The project is being funded through an anticipated 90% FAA grant and other American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds. The total local project costs is expected to be approximately \$10,200.



Photo: Existing T-Hangars (2021)

American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Grant

The Owatonna Degner Regional Airport (OWA) is expected to receive additional grant funding through the ARPA Act of 2021 that was signed into law on March 11, 2021. In all about \$8 billion in grants is expected to be issued to airports across the country. According to the FAA:

“The funding provides economic relief to eligible commercial service, reliever, and general aviation airports. The money will help keep people safe and employed by reimbursing operational expenses, debt service payments, and costs related to combating the spread of pathogens at the airport.”

The airport is anticipating a grant in the amount of \$32,000 as determined by the FAA through formula.

This supplements similar related pandemic grant funding already received:

CARES Act Funding 2020:	\$30,000
CRRSA Funding 2021:	\$13,000