

Vision and Purpose of Plan

A Vision for Las Cruces International Airport (LRU)

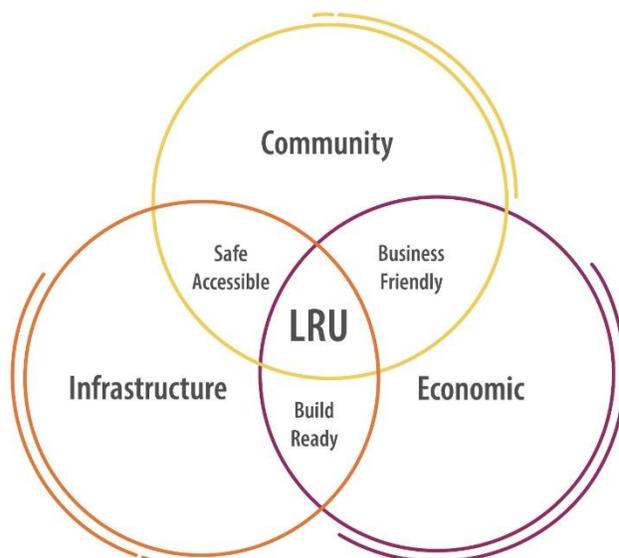
The Las Cruces Master Plan process is built on ten core ideas that have been used to develop the overall vision for what LRU will be in the next ten years. Through the implementation of this plan, LRU will be:

- Safe for all users
- Welcoming and supportive of Business
- A hub for regional, national, and international tourism
- A center of education & job development
- Supported by the City
- In position to be an Economic Development engine
- Supportive of Aviation and Commercial Aerospace
- Important to the people of the Las Cruces region

LRU Vision

“Las Cruces International Airport is a thriving well-connected aviation and commercial aerospace gateway to the City of Las Cruces, the region and beyond, providing access and economic opportunity.”

These guiding principles are distilled into a core vision statement that, at its heart, sees LRU as having a key role in the *Community*, providing the *Infrastructure* that airport users and businesses need to grow, and to be an important part of the local and regional *Economy*.



Las Cruces International Airport is in a strong position to achieve this vision. It lies in a central geographic location that serves the city, the region, and a wide range of users. There are opportunities to grow these connections to include commercial air service. The growth of the Commercial Aerospace Industry, driven regionally by the presence of Spaceport America and its tenants, presents an opportunity for LRU to actively encourage economic growth in and around the airfield which will benefit the community and the region.

Master Plan Purpose

Broadly, this Master Plan will serve as a tool to implement the Plan's vision. Through a process of analysis and assessment, the Plan has several recommended improvements, actions, and policy changes that (when implemented) will move LRU toward the vision. Essential to Plan implementation is understanding the level of need, potential costs and impacts so that the City can adequately plan for future investments.

The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) sees an Airport Master Plan, the Aviation Forecast, and mandatory Airport Layout Plan clearly outline planned infrastructure investments over a seven-to-ten-year period. These investments are incorporated into the Airport's Capital Improvement Plan and are used to apply for funding for improvements from the FAA. To ensure appropriate access to FAA funding, this Plan includes the required components per the FAA for an airport Master Plan.

The Master Plan objectives are to:

- Provide an effective graphic representation of the development of the airport and the anticipated land uses in the vicinity of the airport;
- Provide the necessary Airport Layout Plan (ALP) drawing set.
- Identify and document the strengths, threats, opportunities, and weaknesses that the proposed development will improve, correct, or mitigate;
- Support proposed development with technical, economic, and environmental investigation of conceptual layouts and alternatives;
- Propose a realistic, integrated schedule for the implementation of the short-term development proposed;
- Provide sufficient project scope and detail for future environmental evaluations that may be required before the project is approved;
- Provide a plan that addresses the issues and satisfies local, state, and federal regulations;
- Document policies and future aeronautical demand to support municipal or local deliberations on land use controls, spending, debt, and other policies necessary to preserve the integrity of the airport and its surroundings;
- Establish the framework for continued planning.

Relationship to Other Plans

If LRU is to be a place that serves the city and the region, it is vital that the Master Plan be considered in the context of the many other planning initiatives that have taken place in the City and the Region. Of relevance are the Elevate Las Cruces Comprehensive Plan (2020), which focuses on a "place based" approach to future growth that is built on community health, prosperity and livability, and the Las Cruces Innovation and Industrial Park Master Plan (2021), which lays out a framework for developing the area immediately adjacent to LRU.

Throughout this document these plans have been considered and in areas where there are clear connections between the Airport Master Plan, these connections have been clearly called out.