



**TRUCKEE TAHOE AIRPORT DISTRICT  
BOARD OF DIRECTOR STAFF REPORT**

**AGENDA TITLE: Carbon Reduction and Greenhouse Gas Emissions Program Update**

**MEETING DATE: October 28, 2020**

**PREPARED BY: Kevin Smith, General Manager**

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**OBJECTIVE:** Review and discuss materials presented by staff related to aircraft carbon emissions information prepared for pilots and passengers and provide input to staff. Review sustainable fuels program information and provide input to staff. Review and discuss the Green Energy Portfolio concept presented and provided direction to staff. These three items are discussion items only.

**DISCUSSION:** For the 2020 Budget Year the Board of Directors adopted the following goal:

*“Find and implement achievable greenhouse gas emissions reduction projects including solar power, public transit, pilot, passenger, and operator education, and other green initiatives;”*

To further this Goal staff would like to present information related to various endeavors underway related to carbon emissions reduction and education programs, sustainable fuels, and a green energy portfolio for all District electricity consumption.

**Good Traveler - Enjoy More. Impact Less. Program:** Staff wanted to share the first pamphlet or circular intended for our itinerant operators and passengers. This is a two-sided 5.5 inch by 8.5 inch pass along card that will be given to travelers and crews coming and going from our airport. The front side provides some information on carbon emissions from their operations in a friendly informative way and then has a call to action in the form of participation in the Good Traveler Program. The back side of the flyer has information related to our voluntary curfew along with other ways they can impact less and be a good traveler. We have plans to make this information into terminal posters as well as reference the materials on the outside of the Terminal visible to arriving traffic. We also have plans to turn this concept into a website that will have information

for both the local community to know how we are addressing the impacts of airport operations as well as information for pilots, passengers, and itinerant operators outlining more information about being a Good Traveler and how to lessen their impact on the community. This information provided is in draft form. Staff is willing to hear public and Board input on this information before we finalize begin dissemination.

Staff was able to meet with the Rocky Mountain Institute (RMI) which operates the Good Traveler website and program. Attached to this Report is additional information regarding the program and membership. Current membership is \$5000 per year which will likely go down to \$3,000 as more general aviation airports join the program. There are 4 Carbon Offset Funds in Northern California that our funds can contribute to. Please review [thegoodtraveler.org/projects/](http://thegoodtraveler.org/projects/) for a full review of these projects. The Good Traveler not only allows our operators and passengers to offset their carbon emissions from travel by aircraft, but the Airport can do the same using CO2 numbers from our GHG Inventory. The Good Traveler Program appear open to adding additional Carbon Offset projects should we find a qualifying project within the Airport District boundaries.

Please review the attached Good Traveler GHG pass along card along with the program information as well as the Aircraft Emissions Table by city pairs.

**Sustainable Fuels (SAF) Program:** Staff has identified a potential program to begin using sustainable fuels in our regular fuel distribution process as part of our FBO operation. Our current fuel supplier, Avfuel is preparing to deliver a 30/70 SAF blend to KTRK in early 2021. 1 out of every 5 loads will be SAF. This SAF is a fuel product that meets ASTM 1655 for Sustainable Blended Aviation Jet Fuel (SAJF) using synthesized non-petroleum components derived from materials such as coal, CNG, landfill biomass, recycled oil and waste products from other manufacturing. SAJF is a “drop-in” replacement for stand Jet Fuel meaning it doesn’t require any equipment or aircraft modification to use. The fuel simply is placed in existing tanks and flows into aircraft and is burned without additional additive or modifications.

Because the cost of this SAJF is approximately 12%-15% higher than traditional Jet Fuel, the purchase amount is relatively small initially. Over time Staff will analyze the resultant changes in revenue and charge accordingly based on sustainable objectives. Staff will keep the Board fully informed as we launch the new endeavor. Please review the SAF Trifold Coalition Pamphlet as well as the SAJF Guide attached to this staff report for additional detail regarding the SAF program and its goals.

Avfuel will help the District brand this innovative and sustainable SAJF as well as local outreach from Staff.

**Green Energy Portfolio for the Truckee Tahoe Airport District:** The District has begun early conversations with Rem Scherzinger, new General Manager of the Truckee Donner Public Utility District to build a 100% green/renewable energy portfolio for District electricity consumption. In preliminary conversations with Mr. Scherzinger he has indicated that the TDPUD can provide a tailored energy use program for the District where the Airport District specifically purchases

renewable green energy sources to power all District infrastructure. Participation in such a program may have an increase cost to District. District Staff is still in the information gathering and research phase of this program but wanted to make the Board is aware of these discussions. Should the Board have further interest in this concept, staff will bring a more detailed proposal at a future meeting.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

GHG Pass Along Card – Be a Good Traveler – Enjoy More. Impact Less

The Good Traveler Partnership Application and Program Guide

The Good Traveler Program Outline

Aircraft Emissions Tables

SAF Trifold Coalition Pamphlet

SAJF Guide Article