

Tampa International Airport Conceptual Planning For Transit Station and Access



Client Name: PB Americas, Inc.

Date Started: September 2007

Date Completed: October 2007

The Hillsborough County Aviation Authority undertook this study to identify and preserve sufficient space for a future transitway alignment and two stations at Tampa International Airport (TPA) to serve the future regional transit system planned for the Tampa Metropolitan area.

The 2005 Master Plan includes a fourth runway, numerous taxiway improvements, a new North Terminal building with four remote airside buildings, and approximately 50 new aircraft gates. The first phase is expected to open in October 2015. Although the Tampa metropolitan area is in the planning stages of a regional transit system, the final system configuration and construction start date for the first segment is unknown.

The results of this transitway study will be used by the airport to design the future facilities to accommodate the transitway while minimizing disruptions to airport operations and to reduce costs associated with relocating facilities. This study considered two viable transit technologies being evaluated by the local transit and planning agencies.

Parsons Brinckerhoff (PB) tasked TransSolutions with modeling the proposed alignment and the roadways immediately surrounding TPA with VISSIM, a widely-used traffic simulation modeling tool, and creating a video file to be used in public presentations. The animation was a successful tool to demonstrate how the transitway alignment and associated guideway would incorporate into the future plans of the Aviation Authority for TPA. Copies of the animation were provided to the mayor's office and to the media as well.

The airport will soon begin more detailed planning and design of the North Terminal complex. Determining the transitway alignment and associated guideway parameters now will assist the Aviation Authority in designing the North Terminal facilities to accommodate the transitway with minimal impacts.