




# Memorandum

U.S. Department of  
Transportation  
Office of the Secretary  
of Transportation  
Office of Inspector General

Subject: INFORMATION: Audit Announcement—Audit  
of FAA's Runway Safety Area Improvement  
Program  
Federal Aviation Administration  
Project No. 07A3013A000

Date: October 26, 2007

From:   
Robin K. Hunt  
Acting Assistant Inspector General  
for Aviation and Special Program Audits

Reply to  
Attn. of: JA-10

To: Assistant Administrator for Financial Services  
and Chief Financial Officer

The Office of Inspector General plans to conduct an audit of the Runway Safety Area (RSA) Improvement Program. The Department of Transportation Appropriations Act for fiscal year 2006 requires that the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) report annually on its progress toward improving RSAs. The act also requires commercial airport sponsors to ensure that their RSAs comply with FAA design standards by 2015. As of May 2007, FAA reported that over 200 runways still need to be improved.

The objectives of this audit are to: (1) evaluate the effectiveness of FAA's process for identifying, prioritizing, and funding needed RSA improvements and (2) assess FAA's and airports' progress and risk, if any, in fulfilling the congressional RSA mandate.

We will conduct the audit at FAA Headquarters in Washington, DC; selected FAA Regions and Airport District Offices; and various airports. We plan to start the audit during the week of November 26, 2007, and will contact your audit liaison to schedule an entrance conference. If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Darren Murphy, Program Director, at (206) 220-6503 or Jerrold Savage, Project Manager, at (206) 220-6511.

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cc: FAA Deputy Administrator  
Associate Administrator for Airports  
Anthony Williams, ABU-100  
Martin Gertel, M-1