

Boulder Municipal Airport (BDU)

Airport Fact Sheet | April 2023



History

1928

Hayden Field opens as dirt landing strip

1943

Boulder Municipal Airport founded

1958

First Federal Grant

1976

Boulder Aerobatic Club female pilot ranked in U.S. top 5

1976

High altitude record of 44,100' above sea level

2004

Record-breaking 1000km flight by glider

1953 – 1969

Numerous improvements

1964 – 1969

Additional land bought

1977

Pete Bartoe Jr. builds the Jet Wing

1994

Boulder County fires contained thanks to BDU single engine air tanker

Key Features

Approximately **65,000** operations in 2022

BDU is a **non-towered** airport

Airport is not staffed **24/7/365**

Spring 2022
BDU implemented flight tracking system

171 based aircraft

40 gliders

129 fixed-wing

2 helicopters

Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Roles and Responsibilities

- Regulates civil aviation to promote safety
- Encourage and develop civil aeronautics, including new technology
- Air traffic control and navigation of both civil and military aircraft
- Research and develop the National Airspace System
- Promoting and funding environmental compatibility while preserving the airports as a system within critical infrastructure
- Fund the operation and development of airports as part of the national airport systems through grants and the associated grant obligations

Visit the website



BOULDER MUNICIPAL AIRPORT DESIRED NEAR-TERM ACTION ITEMS

TOPIC AREA

DESIRED ACTION ITEMS



NOISE

Develop and regulate noise abatement strategies to reduce the impact of noise from aircraft

- ✓ Implement landing fees for both based and non-based aircraft
- ✓ Enforcement/encouragement of noise procedures; explore ways to encourage compliance with noise abatement procedures
- ✓ Include South Boulder and Boulder Reservoir in Voluntary Noise Abatement
- ✓ Update voluntary noise procedures to discourage touch and go, low passes, training and pilot building hours after 5 PM
- ✓ Hours of operations should be updated to 9-5 PM on weekdays and 9-4PM on weekend
- ✓ Limit touch-and-go activity/training flights; explore options with voluntary limits on start and end times
- ✓ Create glider training area modifications
- ✓ Identify ways to limit overflights from adjacent airports
- ✓ Regularly publish noise complaint data
- ✓ Investigate ways to better measure and report noise
- ✓ Rework helicopter flight paths to avoid flying over homes
- ✓ Explore feasibility of mandating quieter muffler/exhaust systems for based aircraft



HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

Incorporate carbon reduction strategies into airport policies and future developments/improvements

- ✓ Expedite the delivery of unleaded aviation fuel to BDU – establish timeline for discontinuing use of leaded fuel
- ✓ Evaluate proximity to other natural features/wildlife habitats
- ✓ Incentivize the use of electric airplanes/eVTOL (does not need runway) at BDU
- ✓ Investigate impacts of leaded aviation fuel emissions in Boulder, specifically relating to children's health
- ✓ Publish regular estimates of lead emissions from BDU operations
- ✓ Investigate greenhouse gas impact of operations, based on flight data from flights originating/landing at BDU
- ✓ Report leaded fuel sales and consumption



COMMUNITY RELATIONS

Increase opportunities for community involvement at the airport

- ✓ Land use compatibility – modify and strengthen the influence zone coordination for construction and implement a mandatory disclosure program
- ✓ Coordinate the Airport Land Use Compatibility Planning with FAA regulatory requirements and compatible land uses
- ✓ Update Airport Rules and Regulations and share with the community at large
- ✓ Comply with Airport Minimum Standards and FAA Compliance Standards
- ✓ Develop and invest in a Flight Management system/program to educate pilots and community members about actual performances and program awareness
- ✓ Commit to ongoing coordination between pilots and neighbors
- ✓ Promote community events and programs
- ✓ Deliver quarterly noise complaint summary memo to City Council
- ✓ Deliver quarter summary memo to CC/CDOT/public detailing tenant violations, late fees, improvements, crashes, fuel farm updates
- ✓ Cease offering flying events at BDU
- ✓ Introduce community programs for traditionally underserved communities at the airport
- ✓ Host family-friendly events at the airport with aviation focused activities



AIRPORT ECONOMICS

Develop economic activities for financial sustainability

- ✓ Update contract/leasing structure and fees to cover costs
- ✓ Create a maintenance plan for aging infrastructure
- ✓ Administer an Economic Impact Study for the airport
- ✓ Airport economic and budgetary data easily accessible
- ✓ Investigate the potential for transport aviation
- ✓ Share information about funding sources for BDU – including FAA grants

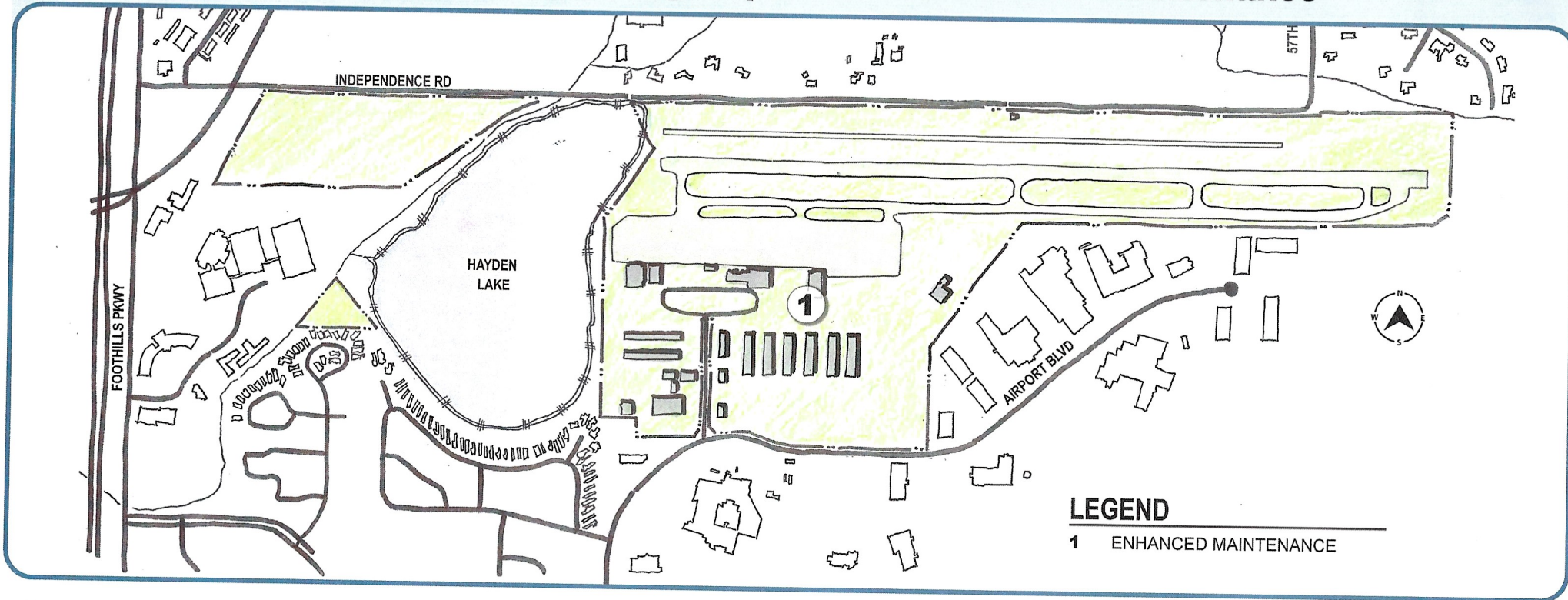


SAFETY

- ✓ Introduce real time messaging to pilots and geofencing
- ✓ Commit to regular publication of safety data



Scenario 1 Existing Airport with Enhanced Maintenance



Elements that Remain:

- Existing runways and taxiways
- Existing hangar facilities
- Existing support buildings

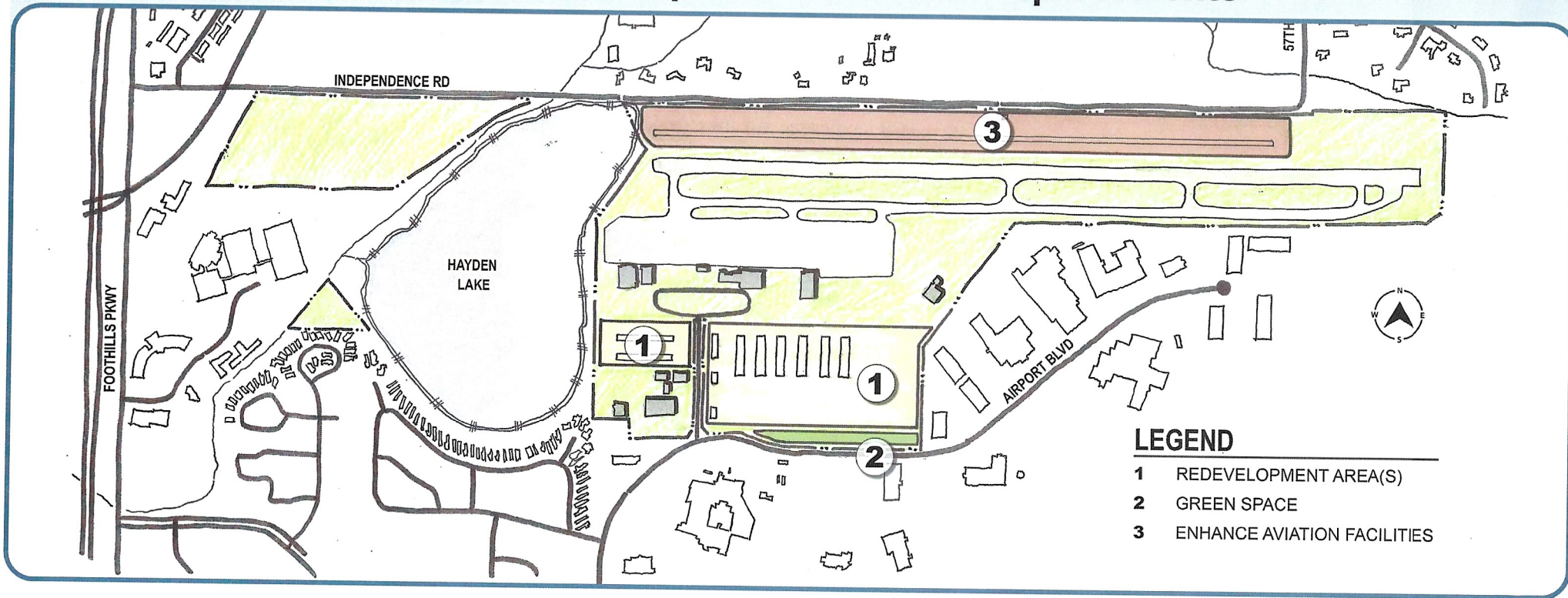
Elements that Change

- No physical changes outside of necessary maintenance of existing facilities

This scenario would bring the current facilities up to a state of good repair.

No new facilities would be built.

Scenario 2 Airport with Aviation Improvements



This scenario would foster aviation development that is responsive to market and community demand.

Includes modernization of general aviation, hangar improvements, and implementing the most recent Airport Master Plan, which may increase flight capacity.

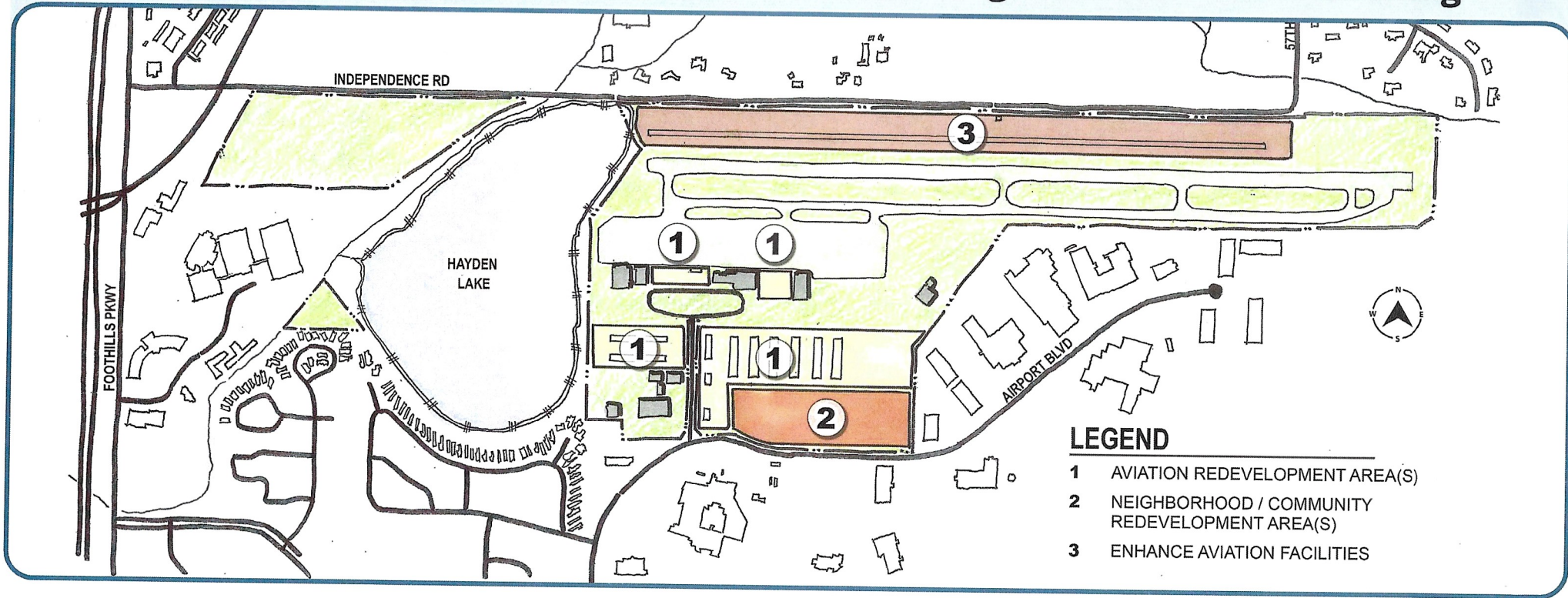
Elements that Remain:

- Existing runways and taxiways
- Existing hangar facilities
- Existing support buildings

Elements that Change

- Upgrade existing hangars
- Development of additional hangars
- Enhance aviation facilities
- Preserve options to accommodate future modes of travel and good movement
- Upgrade public aviation viewing area

Scenario 3 Airport with Neighborhood Serving Uses and Limited Housing



This scenario would foster aviation development and community development that compliment each other. Includes modernization of general aviation and hangar improvements and live/work hangars. Includes a wide range of neighborhood serving uses such as a restaurant or cafe, science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) learning center and vocational opportunities for local youth, and a community center that houses meeting spaces.

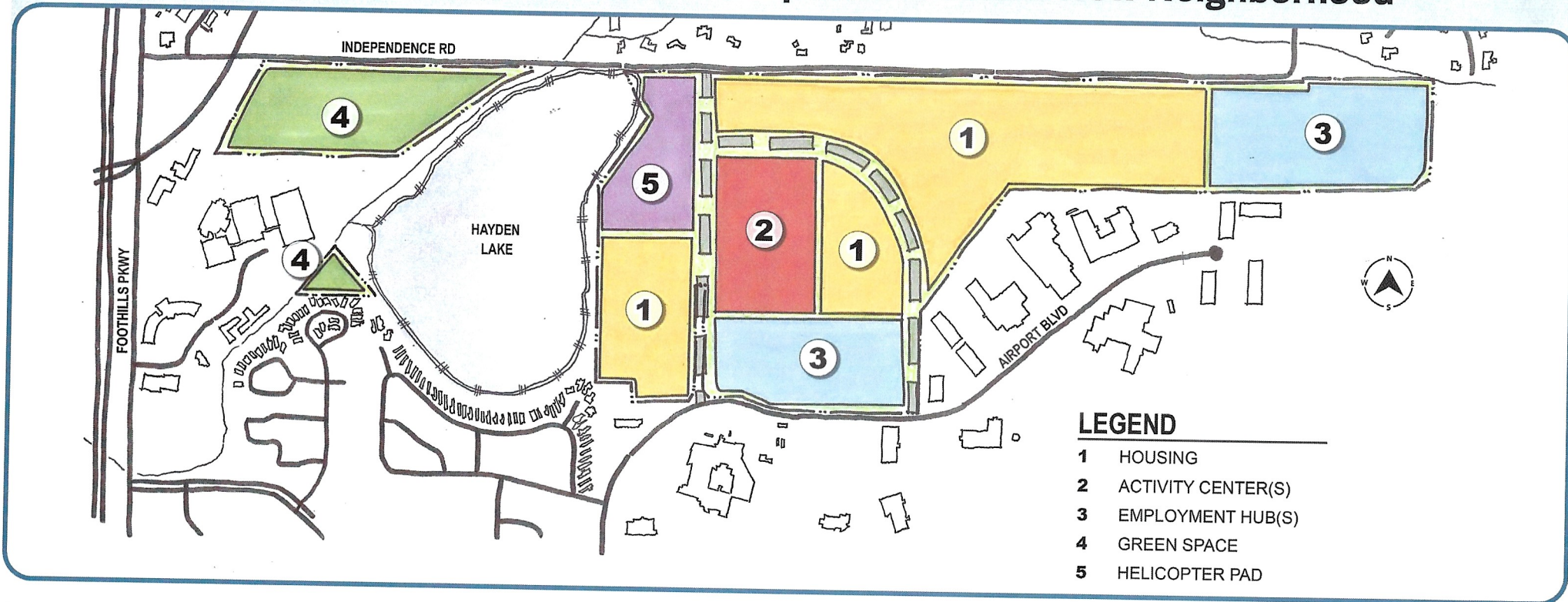
Elements that Remain:

- Existing runways and taxiways
- Existing hangar facilities
- Existing support buildings

Elements that Change

- Upgrade existing hangars
- Develop live/work hangars
- Build a restaurant or cafe
- Create a STEM learning center and vocational opportunities for local youth
- Enhance aviation facilities
- Build a community center that houses meeting spaces

Scenario 4 Decommission Airport and Create New Neighborhood



This scenario would decommission the airport and create a new, mixed-use neighborhood that may include housing, activity centers, employment hubs, and green space.

A portion of land would be set aside for helicopter emergency services that would support resiliency of the region.

Elements that Remain:

- Aircraft landing area for emergency support services

Elements that Change

- Build a range of housing types
- Create activity centers
- Create employment hubs
- Allocate green space for the needs of native plants and animals