



# **Glossary / Acronyms & Appendix**

**IBUP  
IBUP**

## **GLOSSARY**

**Advisory Circular (AC):** A series of external FAA publications consisting of all non-regulatory material of a policy, guidance, and informational nature.

**Air Cargo:** All commercial air express and air freight with the exception of air mail and air parcel post.

**Air Carrier:** A commercial operator providing for the transport of passengers or property by aircraft for compensation or hire utilizing aircraft with greater than 30 seats and certificated in accordance with Federal Aviation Regulations (FAR) Parts 121 or 127.

**Aircraft Mix:** The numerical or percentage breakdown of aircraft into categories based on aircraft engine and weight.

**Aircraft Operation:** Any aircraft arrival or departure, including touch-and-go operations.

**Aircraft Type:** A distinctive model of aircraft, as designated by the manufacturer.

**Airline:** A scheduled air carrier certificated by the Federal Aviation Administration under Part 121 of the Federal Aviation Regulations.

**Airline Operations:** Takeoffs and landings performed by aircraft operated by Part 121 or 127 airlines on scheduled and non-scheduled flights.

**Airport:** A landing area regularly used by aircraft for receiving or discharging passengers or cargo.

**Airport Service Area:** The geographic area that generates demand for aviation services at an airport.

**Airport Surveillance Radar (ASR):** A navigation instrument used to control air traffic within the immediate airport traffic areas.

**Airspace:** The area above the ground in which aircraft travel. It is divided into corridors, routes, and restricted zones for the control and safety of traffic.

**Air Taxi:** The transport of people or property for compensation or hire by a commercial operator (not an air carrier) in an aircraft having a maximum seating capacity of 30 or less and certified under Federal Aviation Regulations Part 135.

**Ambient:** The sum total of existing environmental conditions for any given impact category.

**Ambient Air Quality:** The existing quality of the air.

**Aquatic:** Growing or living in or upon water.

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## RENTON MUNICIPAL AIRPORT

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**Approach Surface:** An imaginary inclined surface longitudinally centered on the extended centerline of a runway, extending outward and upward from the runway. It has a shallower gradient than the corresponding glide slope.

**Apron:** An area on an airport designated for the parking, loading, fueling, or servicing of aircraft.

**Aviation Easement:** A form of limited property right purchase that establishes legal land-use control prohibiting incompatible development of areas required for airports or aviation-related purposes.

**Based Aircraft:** Aircraft stationed at the airport on a permanent basis.

**Beacon:** See rotating beacon.

**Biotic Community:** Recognizable assemblages of vegetation and wildlife organisms generally functioning as a unit.

**Building Restriction Line (BRL):** A clearance restriction which is usually parallel to runway and taxiway centerlines, at varying distances depending on the type of approach to the individual runway or the type of aircraft to use the taxiway.

**Capacity:** The airport operating level, expressed as the number of aircraft movements that can occur at an airport over a specified time period.

**Circling Approach:** A descent used in an approved procedure to an airport for a circle to land maneuver.

**Commercial Aviation:** Aircraft activity licensed by state or federal authority to transport passengers and/or cargo on a scheduled or non-scheduled basis.

**Community:** A city, group of cities, or a Metropolitan Statistical Area receiving scheduled air service by a certificated route air carrier at an airport.

**Commuter Airline:** Commercial operators that operate aircraft with a maximum of 60 seats, and that provides scheduled service, or that carries mail; commuters may be either air taxis or certified air carriers.

**Condemnation:** Proceedings under which a property interest may be forcibly acquired; government may condemn land through the power of eminent domain; an individual may apply inverse condemnation to obtain just compensation for a property interest taken by government without prior agreement.

**Conical Surface:** A surface extending outward and upward from the periphery of the horizontal surface at a slope of 20 to 1 for a horizontal distance of 4,000 feet and extending to a height of 350 feet above the airport elevation.

**Critical Aircraft:** The user aircraft which requires the most sophisticated facilities at the airport; the aircraft for which facilities are designed. Also referred to as the design aircraft.

**Critical Habitat:** An entire habitat, or portion thereof, having any constituent element that is necessary to the normal needs or survival of an endangered or threatened species.

**Decibel (dB):** A unit of measurement used to describe sound pressure level. It is a dimensionless unit, which is commonly expressed as one-tenth of the logarithm of the ratio between two power levels, one of which is nominally a reference level. The human auditory response to a given increase in sound pressure is approximately proportional to the increase in sound pressure in comparison to the pressure already present.

**Displaced Threshold:** Actual touchdown point on specific runways designated due to obstructions which make it impossible to use the actual physical runway end.

**Distance Measuring Equipment (DME):** An airborne instrument which indicated the distance the aircraft is from a fixed point, usually a VOR station.

**Draft Environmental Impact Statement:** FAA's initial evaluation of the environmental impact of a proposed action when coordinated pursuant to Section 102(20(c)) of NEPA is initiated.

**Ecology:** The science or study of the relationship between an organism and its environment.

**Ecosystem:** An ecological community together with its physical environment, considered as a unit.

**Effective Runway Gradient:** The maximum difference between runway centerline elevations divided by the runway length, expressed as a percentage.

**Eminent Domain:** Right of the government to take property from the owner, upon compensation, for public facilities or other purposes in the public interest.

**Endangered Species:** Those species in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of their range.

**Enplanement:** A term applying to passengers and cargo which board a departing aircraft.

**Enroute Airways:** The route a flight follows from departure point to destination.

**Express:** Property transported under published air express tariffs.

**Fauna:** A collective term for the animal species present in an ecosystem.

**Fixed Based Operator (FBO):** A private enterprise engaged in services related to general aviation, such as fuel sales, aircraft maintenance, aircraft storage, aircraft rental and sales, flight instruction and crop dusting.

**Flora:** A collective term for the plant species present in an ecosystem.

**Floodplain:** That area which would be inundated by storm runoff which would occur under a given recurrent frequency flood condition.

**Fleet Mix:** See Aircraft Mix.

**Flight Service Station (FSS):** FAA facility used for pilot briefings on weather, airports, altitudes, routes, and other flight planning data.

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**General Aviation (GA):** All aviation activities except those performed by commercial air carrier or military.

**General Aviation Aircraft:** All civil aircraft except those owned by and classified as air carriers.

**General Obligation Bond:** A form of public indebtedness backed by the full faith and credit of the municipality or other appropriate public body.

**Glide Slope (GS):** Electronic vertical guidance provided the pilot while on the final approach to landing; usually an angle between two degrees and three degrees and intersecting the runway in the touch down area.

**Horizontal Surface:** A horizontal plan 150 feet above the established airport elevation, the perimeter of which is constructed by swinging arcs of specified radii from the center of each end of the primary surface of each runway and connecting the adjacent arcs by tangent lines.

**IFR Conditions:** Weather conditions below the minimum prescribed for flight under VFR.

**Indirect Source:** A facility, building, structure, or installation which attracts mobile air pollution source activity that results in emissions of a pollutant for which there is a national standard.

**Instrument Landing System (ILS):** A landing approach system that establishes a course and a decent path to align an aircraft with a runway for final approach.

**Instrument Flight Rules (IFR):** Rules that govern flight procedures when ceiling and visibility are below 1,000 feet and three miles respectively.

**Instrument Approach:** A landing approach using electronic aids and made without visual reference to the ground.

**Itinerant Operations:** Arrivals and departures of aircraft to or from an area greater than 20 miles from the airport. Itinerant operations may involve an aircraft based at the airport or an aircraft from another airport.

**Localizer (LOC):** An electronic instrument that is part of an ILS and emits radio signals which provide the pilot with course guidance to the runway centerline.

**Local Operations:** Operations performed by aircraft which: (1) operate in the local traffic pattern or within sight of the tower; (2) are known to be departing for or arriving from +/- light in local practice areas located within a 20 mile radius of the control tower; and (3) execute simulated instrument approaches or low passes at the airport.

### **Medium Intensity Approach Lighting System With**

**Runway Alignment Indicator Lights (MAIS-R):** A facility by which the pilot is provided visual reference to the instrument runway during transition from instrument to visual flight.

**Microwave Landing System:** A new instrument landing system using VHF radio signals to guide the aircraft's approach instead of the VHF system still widely used. The microwave system provides for fewer ground reflections, takes up less space, and uses small aerials.

**Minimum Descent Altitude (MDA):** The lowest altitude, expressed in feet above MSL, to which descent is authorized on final approach or during circling-to-land maneuvering in execution of a standard instrument approach procedure where no electronic glide slope is provided.

**Middle Marker (MM):** An electronic beacon which indicates a position approximately 3,500 feet from the landing threshold.

**Military Operations:** An operation by military aircraft.

**Missed Approach:** A prescribed procedure to be followed by aircraft that cannot complete an attempted landing at an airport.

**Nautical Mile:** A measure of lineal distance equal to one minute of a great circle at the equator and is the length of one minute of latitude, (6,076.1155 feet). To convert to statute miles multiply by 1.150779.

**Navaid:** Any navigational aids, such as PAPI, MALS, REIL, etc.

**Noise Contour:** A line connecting points of equal noise exposure.

**Non-precision Approach Procedure:** A standard instrument approach procedure in which no electronic glide slope is provided.

**Non-scheduled Service:** Revenue flights that are not operated in regular scheduled service such as charter flights and all non-revenue flights incident to such flights.

**Operation:** Any airborne arrival or departure of an aircraft at or from an airport. "Touch-and-go" practice landings are considered as two operations.

**Origination:** The initial enplanement of any passengers and cargo; total originations include all enplanements except transfers and stop-overs.

**Outer Marker (OM):** An electronic beacon that indicates a position at which aircraft will intercept the ILS glide path.

**Parts 25 and 121 Criteria:** Those applicable portions of the Federal Aviation Regulations within which criteria for operational takeoff flight paths are defined.

**Part 77:** The applicable portions of Federal Aviation Regulations which define obstructions to air navigation.

**Peak Hour:** Represents that highest number of operations or passengers during the busiest hour of an average day of a peak month.

**Precision Instrument:** The term used to describe an approach using both horizontal and vertical guidance. This term also describes the runway with this type of approach and the markings on the runway.

**Primary Runway:** That runway which provides the best wind coverage, etc.; this runway receives the most usage at an airport.

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**Primary Surface:** A surface longitudinally centered on a runway. When the runway has a hard surface, the primary surface extends 200 feet beyond each runway end; but when there is no hard surface, or planned hard surface, the primary surface ends at the end of the runway. The width of the primary surface of a runway will be that width prescribed in FAA Part 77 for the most precise existing or planned approach to that runway end.

**Revenue Bonds:** A form of public indebtedness backed by the revenue generated by the facility for which the debt was incurred.

**Rotating Beacon:** A visual NAVAID displaying flashes of white and/or colored light used to indicate the location of an airport.

**Runway (RW):** A defined area on an airport prepared for landing and takeoff of aircraft.

**Runway Protection Zone (RPZ):** The inner portion of a runway approach surface.

**Runway Safety Area:** An area symmetrical about the runway centerline and extending beyond the ends of the runway that must be free of obstructions.

**Scheduled Service:** Transport service performed by a commercial operator on a regular basis.

**Segmented Circle:** An airport aid identifying the traffic pattern direction.

**Socioeconomic:** Data pertaining to the population and economic characteristics of a region.

**Special Use Airspace:** Airspace of defined dimensions, within which flight of aircraft, while not wholly prohibited, is subject to restrictions or to hazards that may exist to non-participating aircraft.

**Straight-In Approach:** A descent in an approach procedure in which the final approach course alignment and descent gradient permits authorization of straight-in landing minimums.

**Student Activity:** Any aviation activity by student pilots.

**Taxiway (TWY):** A defined area on an airport prepared for the surface movement of aircraft to and from the runway.

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**Terminal Airspace:** The controlled airspace normally associated with aircraft departure and arrival patterns to or from airports within a terminal control system.

**Terminal Building:** That building on an airport which is used in making the transition between surface and air transportation.

**T-Hangar:** A T shaped aircraft storage building which provides economical shelter for a single aircraft.

**Threshold:** The physical end of a runway's pavement.

**Tie Downs:** An area on an airport specifically designed for the outdoor storage of aircraft.

**Total Operations:** The total of all operations (domestic and international) performed at an airport.

**Touch-and-Go Operations:** An aircraft operation for practice or testing purposes characterized by a landing touch down and then continuing takeoff without stopping.

**Traffic Pattern:** The flow of traffic that is prescribed for aircraft landing at, taxiing on, or taking off from an airport.

**Transition Surface:** An imaginary surface extending to the sides of the approach surface and inclined at a specified gradient 90 degrees to the extended centerline of the runway. Any object penetrating this surface would be an obstruction to air navigation.

**Turnaround:** A taxiway designed for turning around or holding aircraft at the end of a runway when a full parallel taxiway is not provided.

**UNICOM:** A ground radio communications station which provides pilots with pertinent airport information at specific airports.

**Visual Approach Slope Indicator (VASI):** A lighting system providing a visual flight path, within the airport approach zone, so that an approaching pilot can establish a more positive controlled descent. Also PAPI.

**Vector:** A heading issued to an aircraft to provide navigational guidance by radar.

**Visual Flight Rules (VFR):** Rules under which aircraft are operated by visual reference to the ground, and fly on a "see and be seen" principle.

**Very High Frequency**

**Omni-Directional Range (VOR):** Air navigation aid which provides bearing information to aircraft.

**Wind Cone (Sock):** Conical wind direction indicator.

**Wind Coverage:** Refers to orientation of runway in relationship to direction of prevailing winds (concerns usability of runway for takeoffs and landings).

**Wind Rose:** A diagram indicating the prevalence of winds from various directions, at a specific place.

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**Wind Tee:** A visual device used to advise pilots about wind direction.

**ACRONYMS**

AC:	Advisory Circular
ADF:	Automatic Direction Finder
AGL:	Above Ground Level
AIP:	Airport Improvement Program
ASR:	Airport Surveillance Radar
ALP:	Airport Layout Plan
ALS:	Approach Lighting System
ARFF:	Aircraft Rescue and Fire Fighting
ARTCC:	Air Route Traffic Control Center
ASDA:	Accelerate - Stop Distance Available
ASV:	Annual Service Volume
ATC:	Air Traffic Control
ATCT:	Air Traffic Control Tower
AWOS:	Automated Weather Observing System
BRL:	Building Restriction Line
BWR:	Bucher, Willis & Ratliff
CAT:	Category
CWY:	Clearway
dB:	Decibel
DME:	Distance Measuring Equipment
DNL:	Day/Night Average Sound Level
DOT:	Department of Transportation
FAA:	Federal Aviation Administration
FAR:	Federal Aviation Regulation
FIS:	Federal Inspection Service
FBO:	Fixed Base Operator
FSS:	Flight Service Station
FTZ:	Foreign Trade Zone
GA:	General Aviation
GVGI:	Generic Visual Slope Indicator
GS:	Glide Slope
HIRL:	High Intensity Runway Lights
HUD:	U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
IFR:	Instrument Landing System
ILS:	Instrument Flight Rules
IMC:	Instrument Meteorological Conditions
INM:	Integrated Noise Model
KHz:	Kilohertz
LDA:	Landing Distance Available
LIRL:	Low Intensity Runway Lights
LOC:	Localizer
MALSF:	Medium Intensity Approach Lighting System
MALSR:	Medium Intensity Approach Lighting System with Runway Alignment Indicator Lights
MDA:	Minimum Descent Altitude

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MHz:	Megahertz
MIRL:	Medium Intensity Runway Lights
MITL:	Medium Intensity Taxiway Lights
MM:	Middle Marker
MOA:	Military Operations Area
MSA:	Metropolitan Statistical Area
MSL:	Mean Sea Level
NAVAID:	Navigational Aid
NDB:	Nondirectional Beacon
NOS:	National Ocean Survey
NPI:	Nonprecision Instrument
NPIAS:	National Plan of Integrated Airport System
NWS:	National Weather Service
OAG:	Official Airline Guide
OC:	Obstruction Chart
OM:	Outer Marker
OPBA:	Operations Per Based Aircraft
PAPI:	Precision Approach Path Indicators
PIR:	Precision Instrument
PLASI:	Pulsating Light Approach Slope Indicator
RAIL:	Runway Alignment Indicator Lights
REIL:	Runway End Identifier Lights
RNAV:	Area Navigation
RNT:	FAA three letter designation for Renton Municipal Airport
RPZ:	Runway Protection Zone
RVR:	Runway Visibility Range
RW:	Runway
SSALF:	Simplified Short Approach Light System with Sequenced Flasher Lights
SSALR:	Simplified Short Approach Light System with RAIL
TACAN:	Tactical Air Navigation
TAP:	Terminal Area Plan
TCA:	Terminal Control Area
TERPS:	Terminal Instrument Procedures
TVOR:	Terminal Very High Frequency Omni Range
TW:	Taxiway
UHF:	Ultra-High Frequency
USGS:	United States Geological Survey
VASI:	Visual Approach Slope Indicator
VFR:	Very High Frequency
VMC:	Visual Meteorological Conditions
VOR:	VHF Omni-Directional Range