



# AIRPORT SUSTAINABILITY: Achieving Success



LeighFisher brings a multidisciplinary and international perspective to airport sustainability. We help airport operators develop strategic, practical, and appropriate solutions for integrating sustainability across the airport, including planning, operations, facility development, and financial management.

## SUSTAINABILITY IS A CORE PRINCIPLE OF OUR PLANNING PROCESS

LeighFisher integrates the principles of sustainability into all of our planning projects. A prime example is the *Master Plan Update for Portland International Airport* where we employed sustainability as a core objective in developing the recommended plan.

## SUSTAINABILITY AND COLLABORATION

During development of the Master Plan Update, LeighFisher used a highly collaborative approach between the Port of Portland and stakeholders, including the local communities. This approach integrated sustainability as a core focus area, which was facilitated through a Sustainability Subcommittee. The input provided by this specially focused group guided the ways in which sustainability was integrated into the process, including identification of the following:

- **SUSTAINABILITY VISION AND VALUES** – mutually understood definitions regarding sustainability objectives
- **SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGIC GOALS** – measurable milestones to evaluate long-term progress toward achieving the Port's sustainability goals
- **SUSTAINABILITY EVALUATION CRITERIA** – a means of evaluating alternatives to identify those that would be the most sustainable

One specific example of integrating sustainability into the process was the use of sensitivity tests to develop the demand forecasts. Here, we measured the effects of 25 emerging issues and trends, including increased awareness of climate change, modal shifts, congestion at other airports, changes in aviation fuel prices, and the effect of new technologies to develop growth forecasts that received stakeholder concurrence.



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## SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION

The dynamic integration of sustainability led to a successful conclusion of the Master Plan Update. The final plan meets the region's aviation needs, is flexible to changing circumstances, enhances operational efficiency and affordability, and favors reuse and redevelopment over new construction.

## SUSTAINABILITY FOR AIRPORTS

Sustainability typically involves balancing environmental, financial, and social needs while efficiently operating the airport. However, the specific aspects of sustainability for each airport can vary widely, as local conditions must be reflected in the approach to ensure effectiveness.



## IMPLEMENTING A SUSTAINABILITY MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK

Optimal benefits from sustainability can be achieved by integrating appropriate environmental, financial, and social principles into an airport operator's business strategies and routine operations. However, incorporating sustainability as a way of doing business requires a commitment from the highest levels of the organization.

LeighFisher works with airport operators to help deliver a comprehensive framework that incorporates sustainability as a fundamental business practice. Further, we develop strategic sustainability plans that establish continuous improvements.

### LEIGHFISHER KNOWS SUSTAINABILITY

Our services are tailored to meet our clients' individual needs, including:

- Identifying and assessing baseline sustainability activities
- Reviewing business strategies and priorities and identifying where sustainability can be integrated into existing policies and operations
- Identifying and evaluating stakeholder interests, influences, and concerns regarding sustainability
- Engaging stakeholders in sustainability decision-making and activities
- Clearly communicating sustainable initiatives to enhance public perceptions and stakeholder relationships



### EXPERIENCE ACROSS THE WORLD

Our project experience spans the globe, providing insights wherever we work. Recent and current sustainability projects include:

- *Sustainability Assessment and Recommended Management Framework*, Calgary International Airport, Canada
- *Sustainability Report, Airport Futures*, Portland International Airport, USA
- *Long-term Energy Strategy*, London Gatwick Airport, UK
- *Energy Master Plan*, Massachusetts Port Authority, USA
- *Corporate Sustainability Framework*, Infratil Airports Europe, Ltd.
- *Sustainability Management System*, Albuquerque International Sunport, USA

### OUR APPROACH ADDS VALUE

Designing and implementing OUR sustainability management framework results in business and organizational improvements, such as:

- Reduced costs via identification of opportunities to increase operational efficiency
- Effective environmental integration by reducing resource usage and impacts
- Enhanced community support through integration of appropriate social measures in concert with outreach
- Improved communications, teamwork, and partnerships
- Enhanced business focus through a shared understanding of the airport's strategic objectives



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