

Chapter 5

Agency Correspondence and Public Involvement

5.1 Early Agency Coordination Summary

As part of this EA, early coordination letters were distributed to relevant federal, state, and local governments and agencies identified in consultation with the FAA. On May 29, 2025, Mead & Hunt solicited initial comments from the identified governments, agencies, and local organizations via electronic mail and physical letters. Agencies were asked to submit comments for consideration during the environmental review process. Agencies receiving this correspondence are included in **Table 5-1**, and if a response was received, the date of response is included in the table. The early coordination letter template, as well as agency responses, can be found in **Appendix E**.

TABLE 5-1
SOV DISTRIBUTION LIST

Agency Type	Agency Contacted	Date Of Response
STATE	AL Department of Conservation of Natural Resources, Wildlife And Freshwater Fisheries Division	June 30, 2025
	AL Department of Conservation Of Natural Resources	
	AL Department of Environmental Management	August 14, 2025
	AL Water Division	
	AL Land Division	
	AL State Parks Division	
	AL Department of Public Health (Jefferson County)	
	AL Geological Survey	
	AL Soil & Water Conservation Committee	
	AL National Resources Conservation Service	
	AL Department of Economic and Community Affairs, Office of Water Resources	
	AL Association of County Commissioners	
	AL Nature Conservancy	
FEDERAL	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers	In-person coordination meeting held on April 22, 2025
	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	July 7, 2025 September 23, 205
		Virtual coordination meeting held on August 5, 2025
	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Community Health and Environmental Review Division	June 27, 2025
	U.S. Department Of Agriculture	June 2, 2025
	U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development	
	Federal Emergency Management Agency	

LOCAL	City of Birmingham Department of Planning And Zoning Administration	
	AL Emergency Management	
	Jefferson County Agricultural Department	
	City of Birmingham Planning, Engineering, and Permits	June 12, 2025 Continued coordination in July and August 2025
	Jefferson County Assessor's Office	
	Village Creek Society	
	Black Warrior Riverkeepers	June 28, 2025
	Freshwater Land Trust	September 26, 2025

5.2 Public Involvement

5.2.1 Local Organization Meeting

An in-person meeting with virtual access for two local organizations, the Black Warrior Riverkeeper and the Village Creek Society, was held on Thursday, August 28, 2025. The meeting was located at the Birmingham-Shuttlesworth International Airport in meeting room A at 5900 Messer Airport Hwy, Birmingham, AL 35212. The meeting was held at 11:00 a.m. CST, beginning with an informational presentation and ending with an opportunity for the local organizations to ask questions. Refer to **Appendix E** for more information about the local organization meeting, such as the sign-in sheet, and PowerPoint presentation slides.

5.2.2 Draft EA Availability

The Draft EA was made available for public review and comment from Thursday, July 2, 2026 through Thursday, July 23, 2026. The document was available for viewing online at <https://meadhunt.com/client-access/bhm-taxiway-relocation/>. Additionally, details about the project and a link to the project website were included on the Airport's Planning & Development webpage at <https://www.flybirmingham.com/planning-and-development/>.

The document was available for in-person viewing at the following locations:

- Birmingham-Shuttlesworth International Airport, Administration Office, 5900 Messer Airport Highway Birmingham, Alabama 35212 United States, Monday – Friday from 9 am to 4 pm
- Birmingham Public Library – Avondale Regional Branch, 509 40th St. S., Birmingham, Alabama 35222, Monday, Wednesday – Saturday, from 9 am to 6 pm, Tuesday, from 9 am to 8 pm

Public comments could be submitted until Thursday, July 23, 2026 at 5:00 pm via the following formats:

- The online comment form found on the project website,

- Email the Airport’s Planning and Development Manager, Ocean Boyd, at oboyd@flybhm.com, or
- Send physical mail to Ocean Boyd at 5900 Messer Airport Highway, Birmingham, AL 35212

A public notice of the Draft EA Availability and Public Meeting was published in *The Birmingham Times* on July 2, 2026 and July 9, 2026. Refer to **Appendix G** for the affidavit and copy of the public notice/advertisement.

5.2.3 Public Meeting

A virtual public meeting was held on Thursday, July 16, 2026. The public meeting was held via the Microsoft Teams platform, available by phone or online access. The meeting began with a presentation at approximately 4:00pm CT and ended with an opportunity for the public to ask questions. There were fifteen (15) attendees including Airport staff, FAA representatives, the consultant team, and members of the public.

The presentation included discussions on the existing conditions at the Airport; the project schedule; the purpose and need for the proposed project; the alternatives considered; information about the creek design, environmental analysis results, mitigation and permitting, and public comment period; and the next steps for the Final EA. The meeting concluded at approximately 5:00pm CT after all questions from attendees had been answered. Questions and comments received during the public meeting were not considered official public comments for the project record. Attendees were encouraged to submit official comments if they wished to be included in the project record. Refer to **Appendix G** for more information about the public meeting, such as an attendee list and PowerPoint presentation slides.

5.2.4 Summary of Comments Received

The Draft EA was made available to the public and was sent to the following agencies and organizations for review:

- Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
- Alabama Department of Environmental Management
- Alabama Water Division
- Alabama State Parks Division
- Alabama Department of Public Health (Jefferson County)
- Alabama Geological Survey
- Alabama Natural Resources Conservation Service
- Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs, Office of Water
- Alabama Association of County Commissions
- Alabama Historical Commission, State Historic Preservation Office
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

- U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
- Federal Emergency Management Agency
- City of Birmingham Department of Planning and Zoning Administration
- Alabama Emergency Management Agency
- Jefferson County Agriculture Department
- City of Birmingham Planning, Engineering, and Permits
- Jefferson County Assessor's Office
- Birmingham Neighborhood Association
- Village Creek Society
- Black Warrior Riverkeepers
- The Nature Conservancy
- Freshwater Land Trust

One comment was received during the public comment period of July 2, 2026 through July 23, 2026. Refer to **Table 5-2** for a summary of the comment and **Appendix G** for the full comment. The FAA took this comment into consideration when making the final determination.

TABLE 5-2

SUMMARY OF PUBLIC COMMENTS RECEIVED

Comment Type	Name	Summary Of Comment
ONLINE COMMENT FORM	Senator Linda Coleman-Madison	Senator Coleman-Madison supports the project and expressed the need to consider indigenous wildlife and plants and downstream impacts.
EMAIL	None received	N/A
MAIL	None received	N/A