



Bessemer Airport Authority

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Bessemer Municipal Airport Reclassified as a National Airport

Bessemer, Alabama — The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) has reclassified the Bessemer Municipal Airport (EKY) as a National Airport, marking a significant development in the airport's role in the National Plan of Integrated Airport Systems (NPIAS) and its ability to handle increased air traffic and larger aircraft. The NPIAS includes 3,287 public use aviation facilities across the U.S. EKY is one of only 122 General Aviation airports to be awarded the National Airport designation.

Strategically located in Jefferson County, EKY has served as a vital regional hub for General Aviation for over fifty years. This National Airport reclassification elevates EKY's status, acknowledging its service of connecting communities nationwide, supporting passenger travel, air cargo and flight training.

"This is a monumental step forward for our city," stated Kenneth E. Gulley, Mayor of the City of Bessemer. "The reclassification of the Bessemer Municipal Airport as a National Airport will not only expand its operational capabilities but also catalyze economic development in our area."

The reclassification is expected to attract more based aircraft and increase the frequency of transient flights, thus boosting the economic impact of the airport. The National Airport designation provides additional Federal funding making EKY an even more attractive access point for nationwide travel and international departures.

"We are thrilled and honored by this new classification," said Karen Wadlington, President of the Bessemer Airport Authority Board of Directors. "This recognition underscores our commitment to safety, efficiency, and customer service. It will open new opportunities for economic growth and community development in the City of Bessemer, the Birmingham metropolitan area and throughout Central Alabama."

The reclassification process involved analysis by the FAA, including a review of EKY's safety record, number of based aircraft, historical airport usage and potential for growth. EKY met the NPIAS criteria, showcasing its capability to handle increased air traffic and larger aircraft.

For more information about the reclassification and future developments at the Bessemer Municipal Airport, please contact Andrew Edwards at 205-428-9292, Andrew@BessemerAirportAuthority.com or visit <https://www.BessemerAirportAuthority.com>.

About the Bessemer Municipal Airport

Located in southwest Jefferson County, the Bessemer Municipal Airport serves as a pivotal node in the Central Alabama transportation network, offering state-of-the-art facilities and services for General Aviation business travel, air cargo and flight training.