



Aspen/Pitkin County Airport (ASE)

Airport Modernization:

Program Update



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This Airport Was Just Named the Most Stressful in the U.S., According to a New Analysis

With 9% of flights canceled and average delays of 45 minutes, this airport scored worst for traveler stress.

By [Kristine Hansen](#) | Published on September 29, 2025

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Private planes at the Aspen/Pitkin County Airport.
Credit: Michael Edwards/Getty Images

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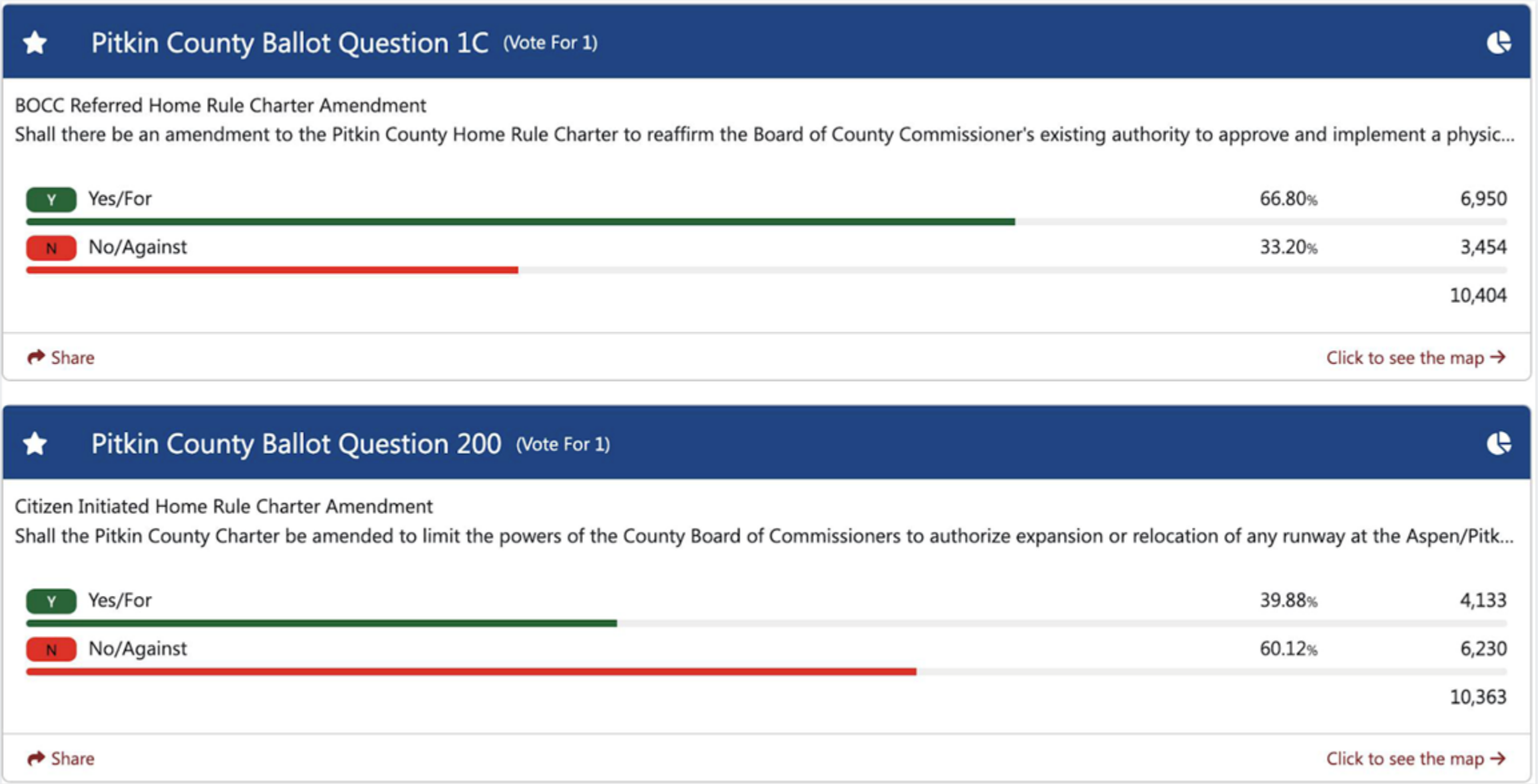
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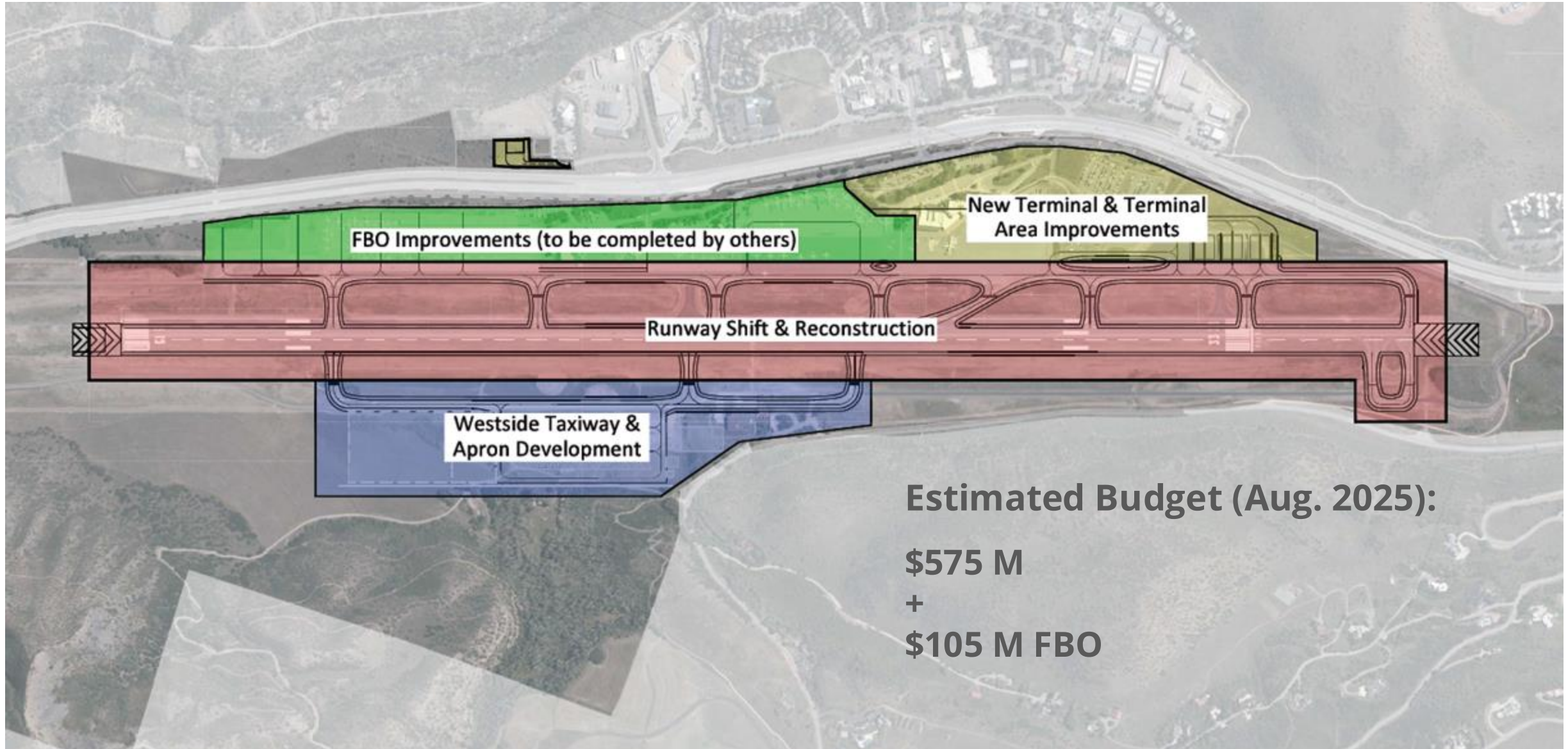
Let's face it: big cities tend to be more stressful—and that includes their airports. Crowds, lines, and congestion are the name of the game. But some airports are more stressful than others.

A new analysis of 384 U.S. airports found that the most stressful airport in the country isn't located in one of the three largest cities (New York City, Los Angeles, or Chicago), nor is it a major hub like Atlanta, Phoenix, Newark, or Houston. Topping the list at No. 1 is Aspen/Pitkin County Airport (ASE).

The Mandate



ASE Redevelopment: Program Components



What's Informing Airport Design & Connectivity Planning?



Safety in the Air
and on the Ground



Adaptable, Flexible,
Future-Proof



Environmental
Responsibility



Community – Reflect
Local Culture & Values



Economic
Vitality



Warm and
Welcoming



Design
Excellence



Efficiency – An Airport
That Works Well



Preserve High
Quality of Life



Convenient & Easy
Ground Transportation

ASE Vision and Values



Aspen/Pitkin County Airport (ASE)

Airport Modernization: *Timeline*

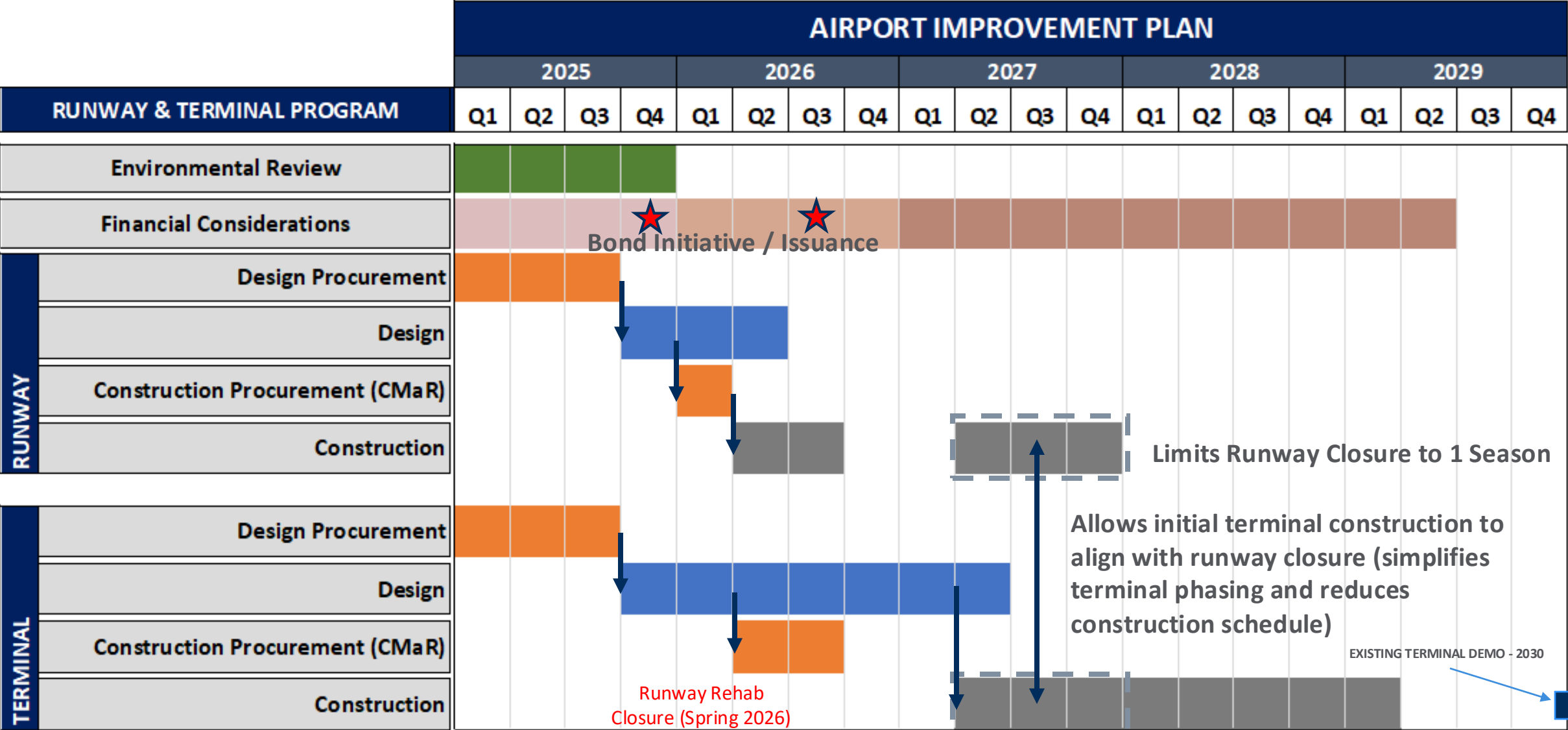
ASE Redevelopment Process (as of Aug. 2025)



ACTIVITY	STATUS
Airport Planning (Common Ground Recommendations, ALP, etc.)	☑
Airport Layout Plan (ALP) Update	☑
Environmental Approval	☑
Project Funding (FAA Grants, Bonds, PFC's, Airport Funds)	In-Process
Design Phase (Terminal and Runway)	Mid 2025 – Late 2026
Ballot Issue for Airport Bonds Without Imposing any New Tax	Nov. 4, 2025
Airport Construction Closure (One Construction Season)	Early/Mid to Late 2027
New Terminal Completion (Deconstruction of Existing Terminal)	2029
Construction/Commissioning/Operations	2026 - 2030

Target Program Timeline

Limiting the runway closure to one season will require two shifts of work. We will need to bring a resolution approving nighttime and weekend work.





Aspen/Pitkin County Airport (ASE)

Airport Modernization:

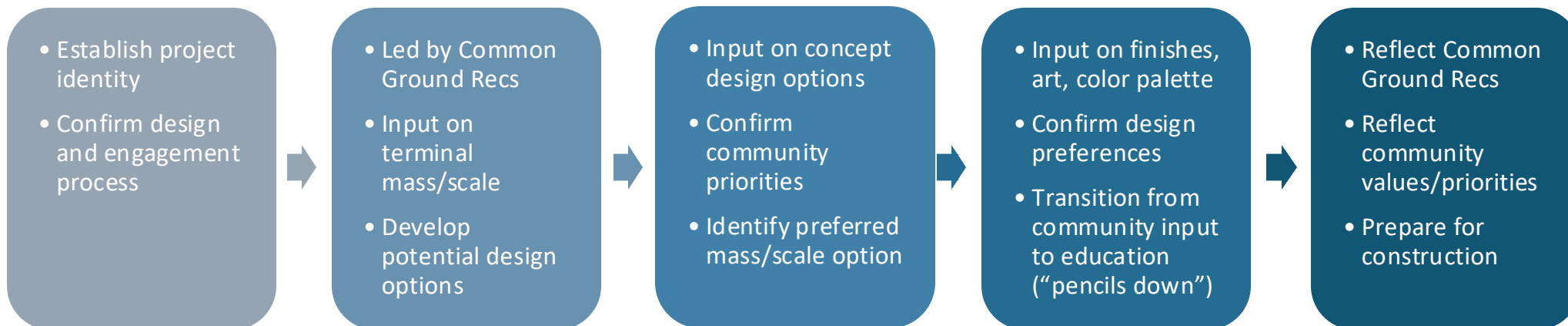
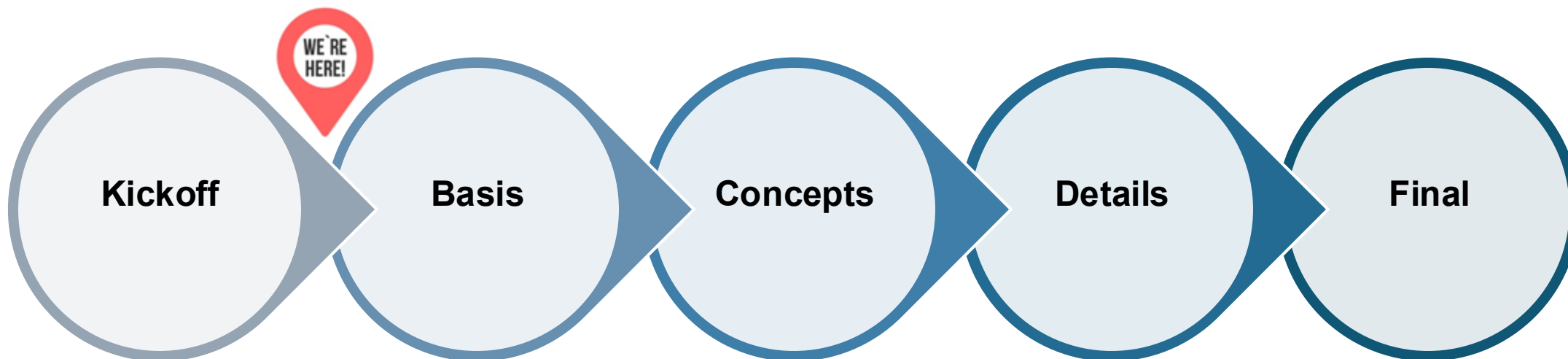
Public Engagement

ASE Terminal Design Process: Key Milestones

Programming, Concepts & Schematic Design

Design Development

Construction Docs

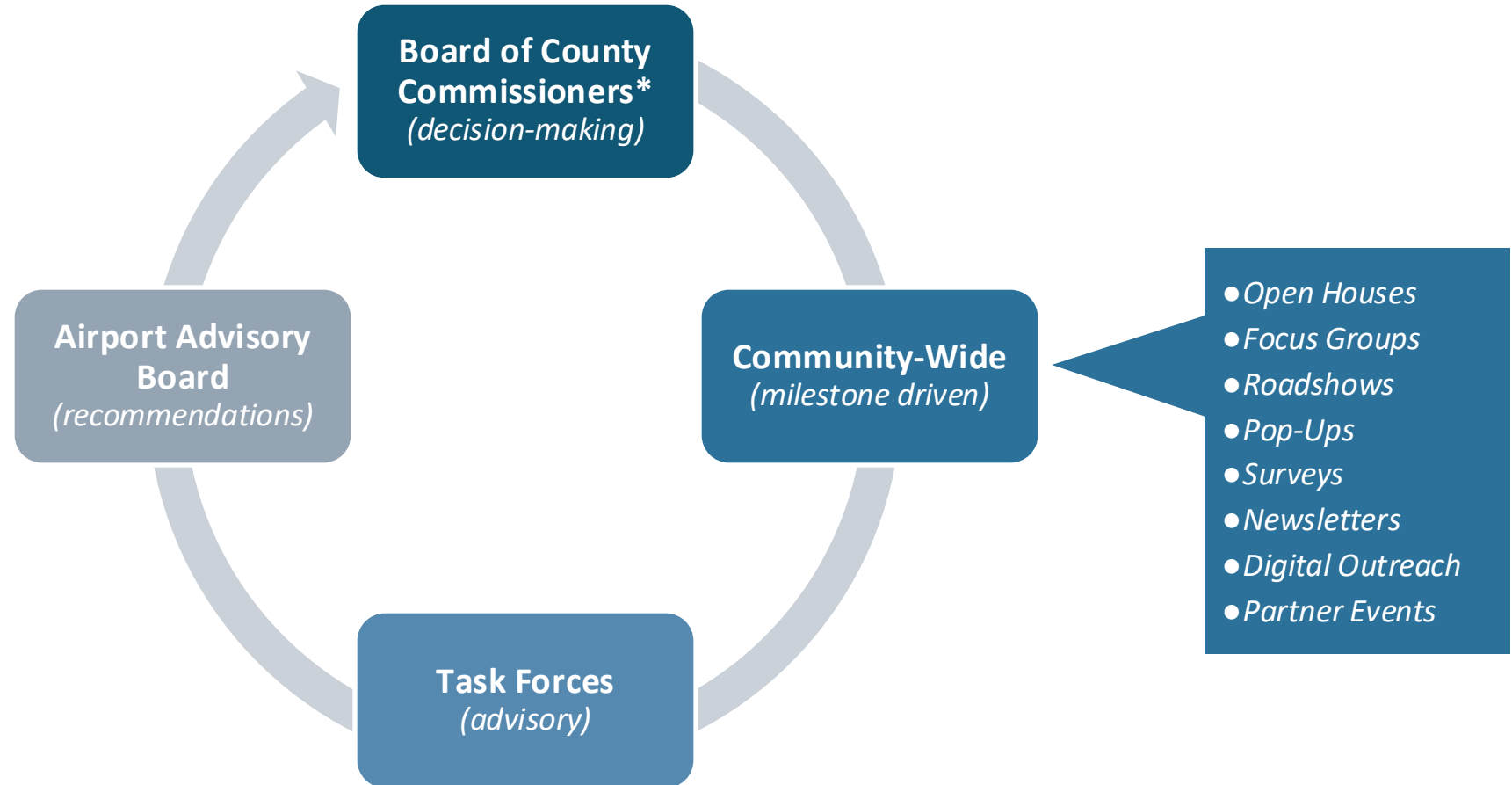


How well does this reflect CGRs?

This is how CGRs are being implemented

Upcoming Public Meetings: Oct. 15, Oct. 30, Dec. 4

Milestone-Driven Decision-Making Process



Engagement/Education Cycle Repeated at Key Milestones

**as needed at major decision points*



COMMUNITY OPEN HOUSES

Join us to learn about the Aspen/Pitkin County Airport modernization project and how the Common Ground Recommendations (CGRs) are guiding the design process.

 **Tuesday, October 15**

 **5-7 PM**

 **Aspen Fire Station**

420 East Hopkins Avenue, Aspen, CO 81611

 **Thursday, October 30**

 **5 - 7: PM**

 **The Hoffmann Hotel**

30 Kodiak Drive, Basalt, CO 81621



Ways to Get Involved

Frequent Flyer Updates, Request a Presentation and How to Learn More...



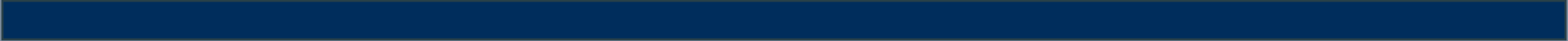
Get Involved at AspenAirport.com/Modernization

- View upcoming Task Force and Airport Advisory Board meetings
- Sign up for the ASE Newsletter
- Subscribe to Frequent Flyer Updates
- Request a presentation for your organization
- Contact the team: ASEinfo@AspenAirport.com

A wide-angle landscape photograph showing a valley with a long, straight runway or road stretching across the middle ground. The valley is flanked by rolling hills and mountains, some with patches of yellow and orange foliage. The sky is filled with large, white, fluffy clouds against a blue background. The foreground is a grassy field with some low-lying vegetation.

Thank You

Aspen/Pitkin County Airport (ASE) Modernization Program

A thick, dark blue horizontal bar located at the bottom of the slide, partially enclosed by a grey rectangular frame.