What is a Public Hearing?

The purpose of tonight’s hearing is to receive public comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) issued a Notice of Availability of the Draft EIS on March 16, 2018. The Notice of Availability initiated the public comment period and announced the public hearings. The hearings are part of the ongoing public involvement process associated with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

What is NEPA?

NEPA is our national charter for making informed decisions while considering environmental impacts. NEPA requires all federal agencies making a proposal that may significantly impact the environment to develop an EIS and consider:

- A range of reasonable alternatives.
- Potential environmental or human health consequences.
- Public and government agency input.

FAA Order 1050.1F, Environmental Impacts: Policies and Procedures contains the FAA’s NEPA implementing requirements. These requirements apply to actions directly undertaken by the FAA and to actions undertaken by non-Federal entities (such as commercial launch site operators and commercial launch operators) that are licensed by the FAA.