Administration

New England Region Airports Division 12 New England Executive Park Burlington, Massachusetts 01803

October 17, 2012

James Doar Town Manager PO Box 1660 Bethel, Maine 04217

Dear Mr. Doar:

This is to notify you that our office has approved your airport layout plan marked FINAL February 2011 with revision and accepted the *Airport Master Plan Update Report* draft dated May 2009, subject to the following comments and conditions and revisions.

The master plan recommends use of Airport Reference Code B-II to reflect the approach speeds (less than 121 knots) and wingspan (less than 79 feet) characteristics of aircraft that commonly use the airport (500 annual operations is the usual guidance for this determination). The forecast of operations growing from the current 4,520 operations to a 2029 level of 7,500 operations is accepted. There is not any proposed development that would be affected by any error in these operations. Similarly the forecast for based aircraft to grow to 15 is also very modest. While the master plan identifies aircraft parking areas in excess of this forecast, this is prudent to avoid loss of opportunity should demand increase. Changes in based aircraft can change rapidly especially relative to this scale.

I do not approve of any future terminal facility to the terminal area as indicated on the current plan submitted by Oest Associates (AMEC). First, there has been a new hangar built on a location that voids their concept and second, I am in receipt of a revised airport layout plan dated September 2012 by Stantec. The proposed revisions are too extensive for approval without further justification and review and signature approval by the Town,, Maine DOT and FAA.

To resolve this transition I am approving a pen and ink change (see attached drawing) to the May 2009 plan to include the following portions of Stantec's proposed revision:

- Hangar 7 should be shown as "existing".
- Hangars sites 8,9 and 10 are approved subject to airspace review (FAA Form 7460)
- Terminal Building 11 and associated auto parking lot and driveway access to North Road. The existing terminal building should be shown as "to be demolished" with proper restoration of the site.

No new apron pavement or taxiway development is approved until submission and acceptance of a narrative report that justify the depicted facilities and pavement. I request

an alternate layout to depict development of a more limited taxilane /taxiway system to support the next phase of hangar development.

There is a need to clarify the status of Lot 1A which had been released as airport land to the Town and remains in that status on the current Exhibit A. No grant can be issued for the terminal building until we receive an Exhibit A that documents the transfer of this land back to the status of airport property.

The master plan does not provide sufficient evidence to support the runway extension. This requires substantiated evidence that you have 500 or more operations of aircraft that depart with payload penalties or aircraft using other airports for trips originating or ending in your area. We do approve acquisition of any parcels within the current RPZ including the private haul road which obstructs any runway extension. We will accept its depiction as an ultimate airport development and enter its coordinates into our NASR database as a proposed runway end. This will protect its airspace.

Per the Town's request the FAA has conducted the obstruction survey to support developing a public instrument approach. We have airspace approval for the marking of terrain obstructions to Part 77 surfaces. The following projects should receive your priority to support your requested instrument approach and night operations:

- Mark the runway with non-precision markings (required even with daytime only operations).
- Install hazard beacons on terrain as indicated (subject to study).
- Install obstruction lights on on-airport penetrations of Part 77 surface.
- Install an airport rotating beacon (need to identify location).
- Install MIRLS (coincident with required runway reconstruction)
- Install REILS.

The recommendation for PAPIs to provide visual vertical guidance to pilots is encouraged. However these systems must be maintained by the town and will require a certified technician to properly set the lights' alignments.

Advancement of the terminal building in advance of these higher priority projects is approved. These projects require a finding that it is practical to mark the terrain and environmental assessment. This is also in recognition that the town has already transferred expiring entitlement dollars waiting for resolution of the Part 77 analysis.

I urge the next master plan update to evaluate the feasibility of clearing the GQS surface to support instrument approaches with vertical guidance. Although obstructions to the missed approach surface preclude lowering minimums, vertical guidance can significantly enhance safety on a short runway near mountainous terrain.

This approval does not exempt the town or its tenants from obtaining a determination of "No Objection" from the FAA prior to construction of any proposed structure or facility. An airspace study of proposed construction can be entered on line (https://oeaaa.faa.gov).

In addition to the preceding comments, approval of this Airport Layout Plan does not imply any commitment on the part of the federal government to provide financial assistance for any of the proposed projects depicted on this plan. This approval is subject to review of the criteria requiring environmental assessment under NEPA prior to initiating any project. Such determination should be submitted either on the New England Region's Project Readiness Form or by separate documentation.

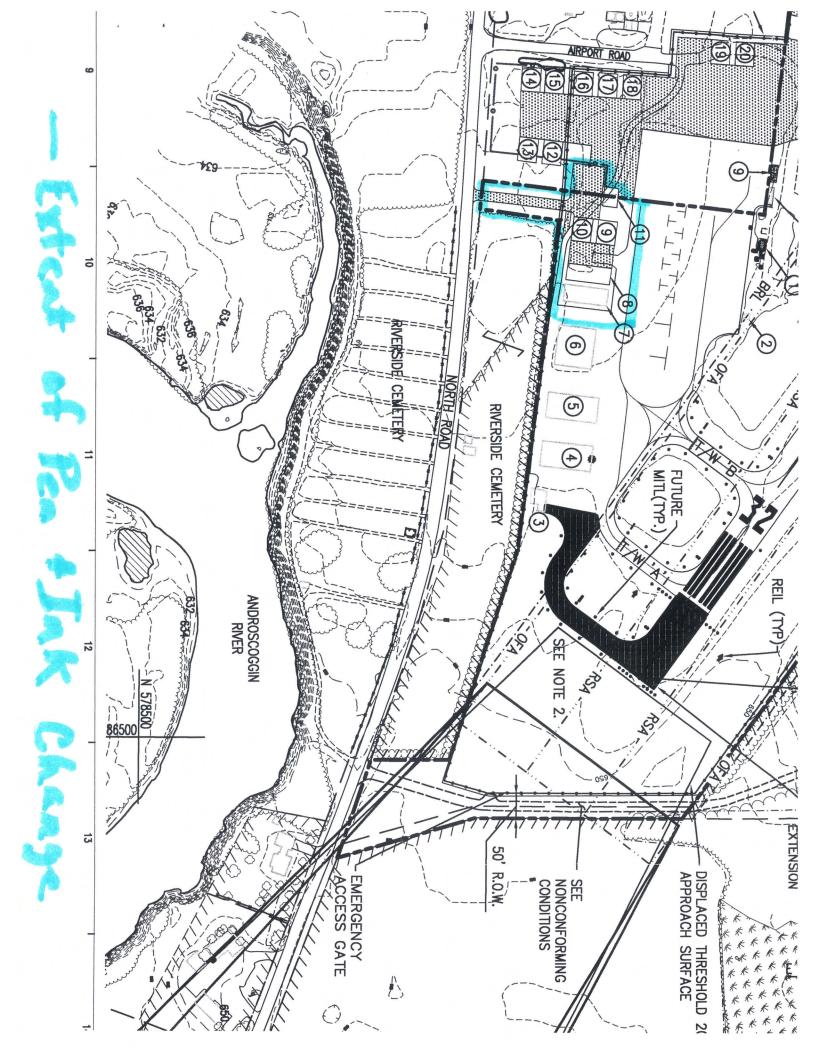
Sincerely

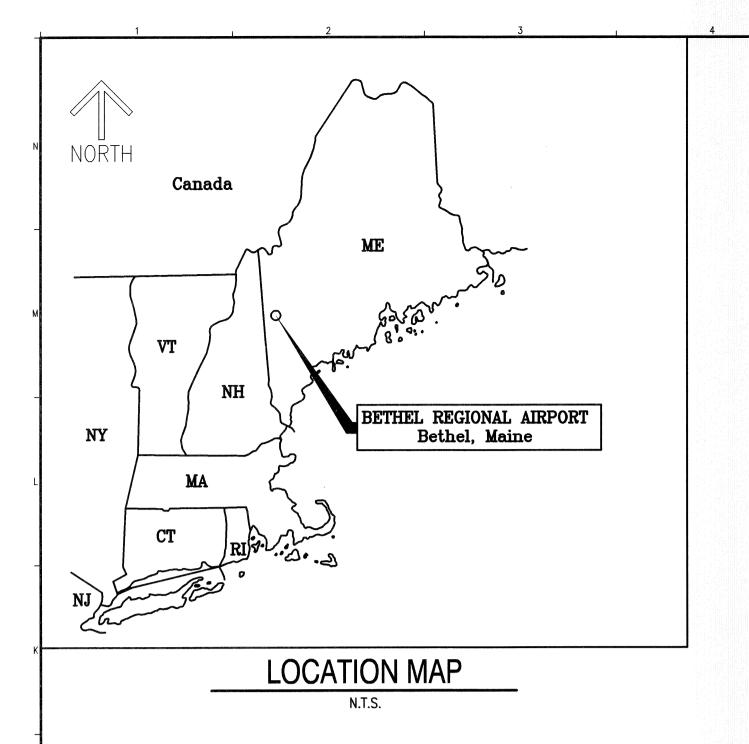
Ralph Nicosia-Rusin

Airport Capacity Program Manager

Airspace 2011-ANE-104-NRA

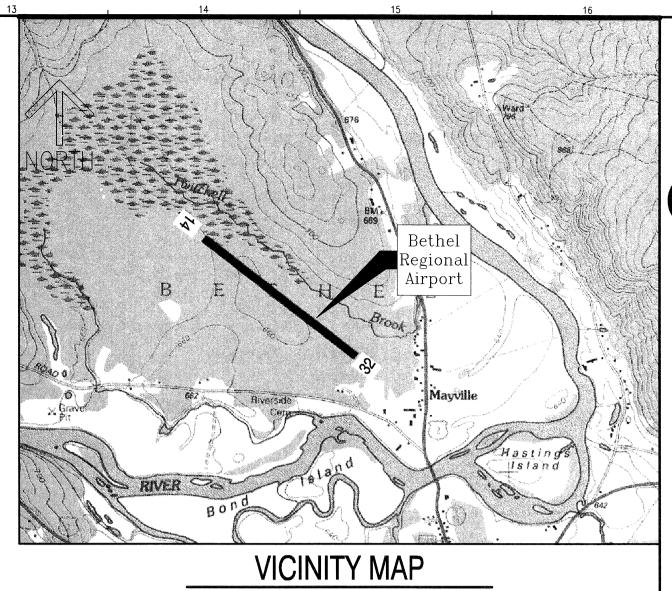
Attached drawing of pen and ink revision approved by this letter,





BETHEL REGIONAL AIRPORT

Bethel, Maine



BETHEL AIRPORT MASTER PLAN UPDATE AIP Project No. 3-23-0008-10-2009

Index of Drawings		
SHEET	TITLE	DRAWING NO.
1	TITLE SHEET	G-101
2	EXISTING AIRPORT FACILITIES PLAN	C-101
3	ULTIMATE AIRPORT LAYOUT PLAN	C-102
4	TERMINAL AREA PLAN	C-103
5	RUNWAY 14 APPROACH PLAN AND PROFILE	C-104
6	RUNWAY 32 APPROACH PLAN AND PROFILE	C-105
7	FAR PART 77 IMAGINARY SURFACES PLAN	C-106
8	LAND USE PLAN	C-107

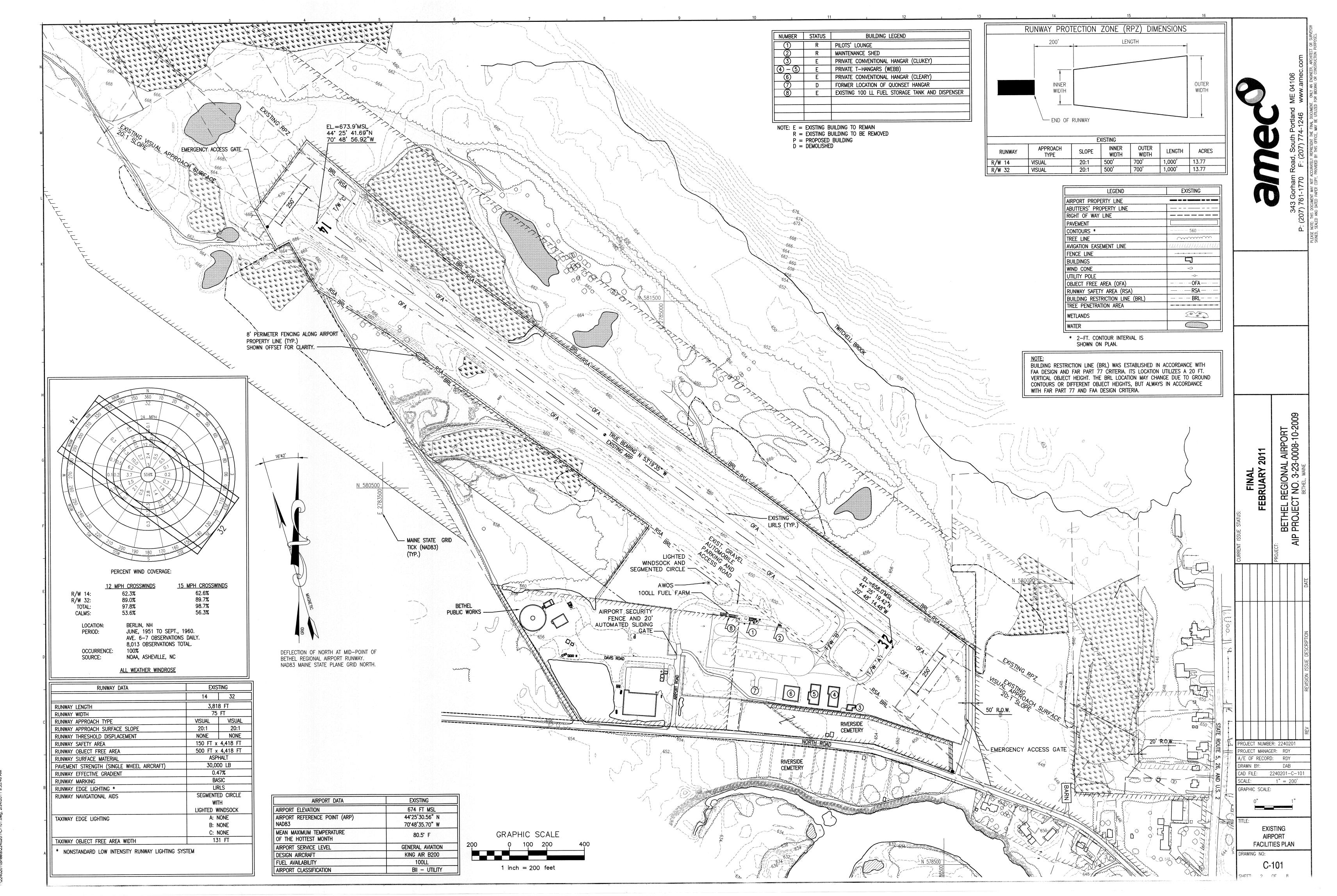


Earth & Environmental, Inc. 343 Gorham Road, South Portland ME 04106 P: (207) 761-1770 F: (207) 774-1246 www.amec.com

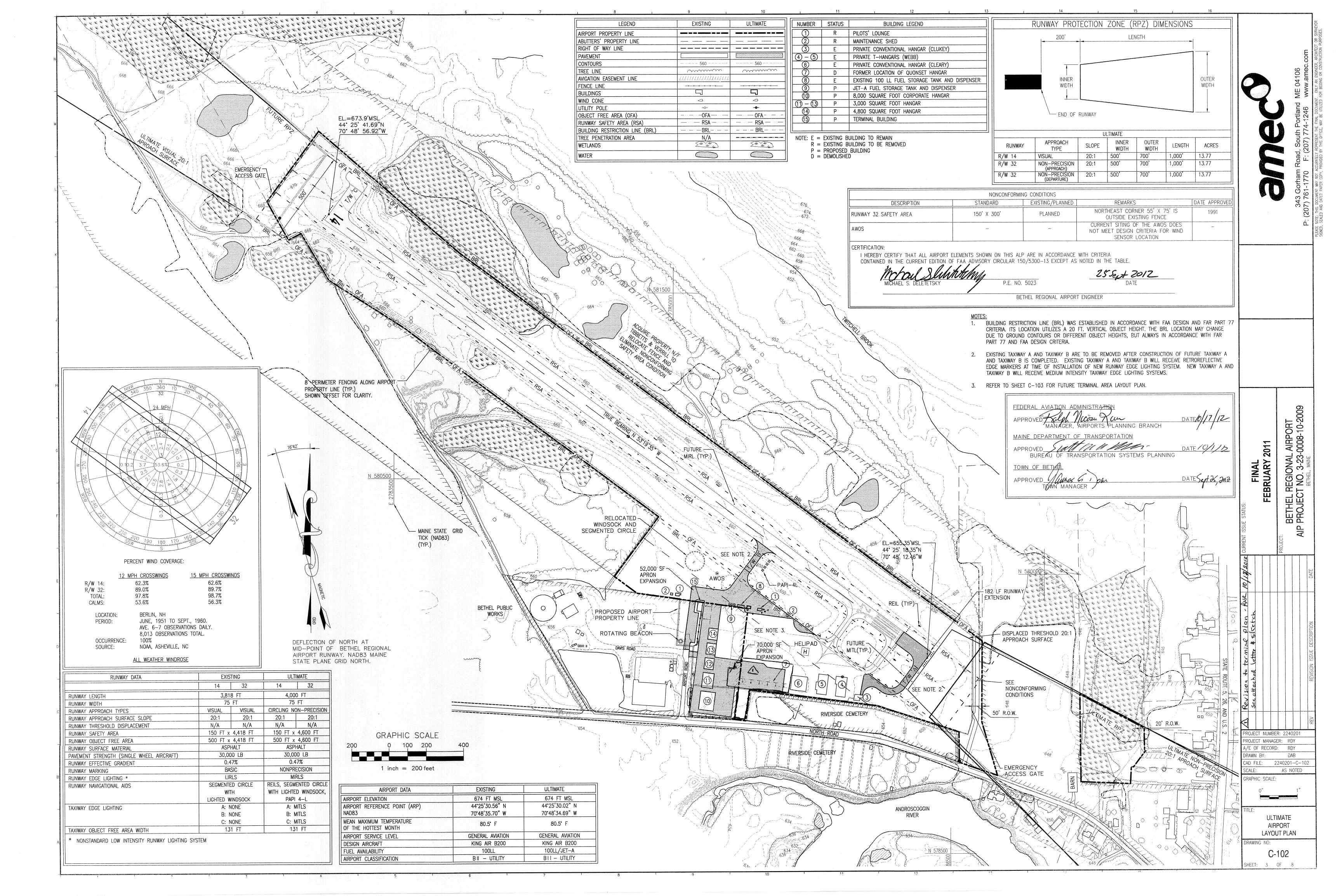
PROJECT MANAGER: RDY GRAPHIC SCALE: TITLE SHEET

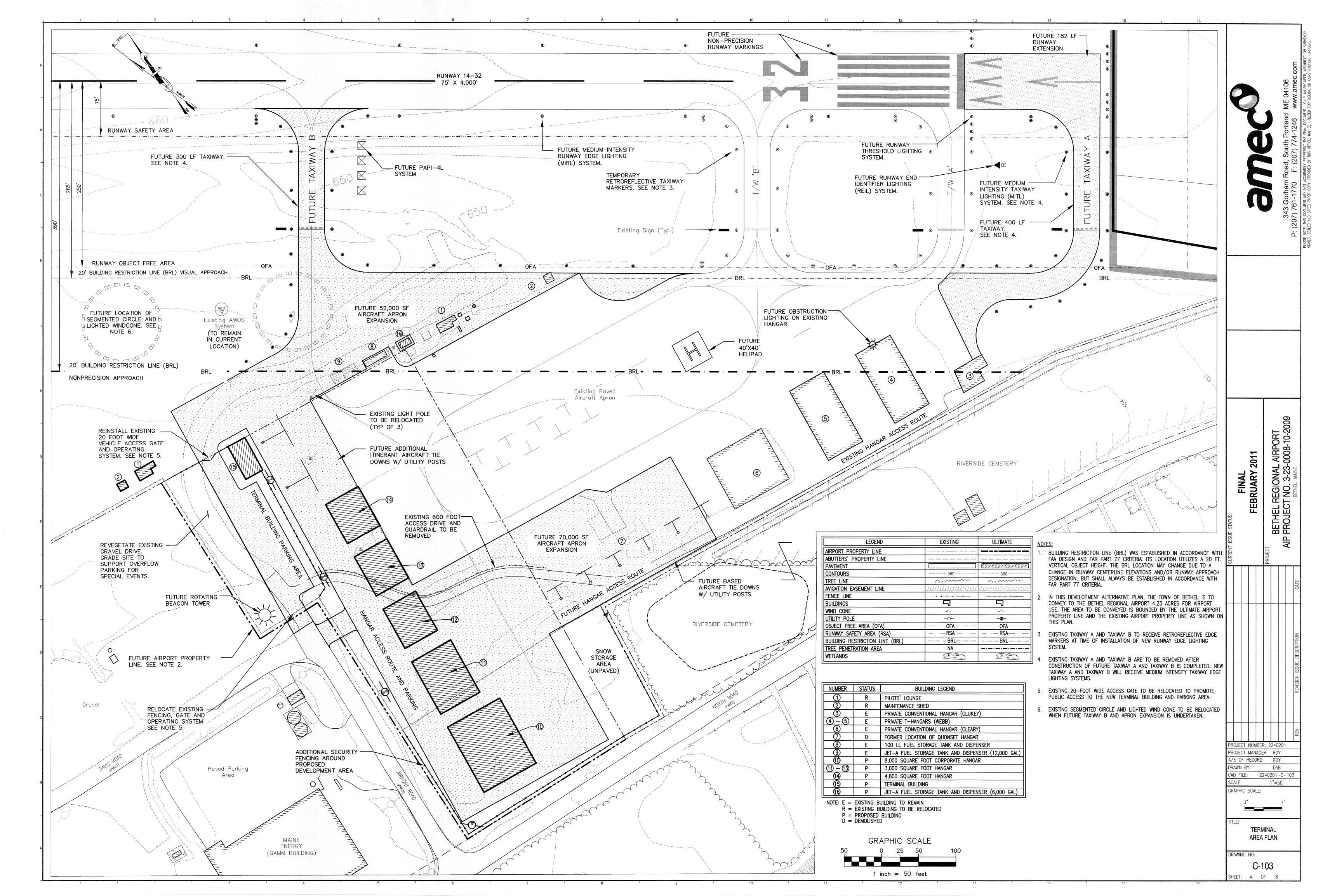
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G-101

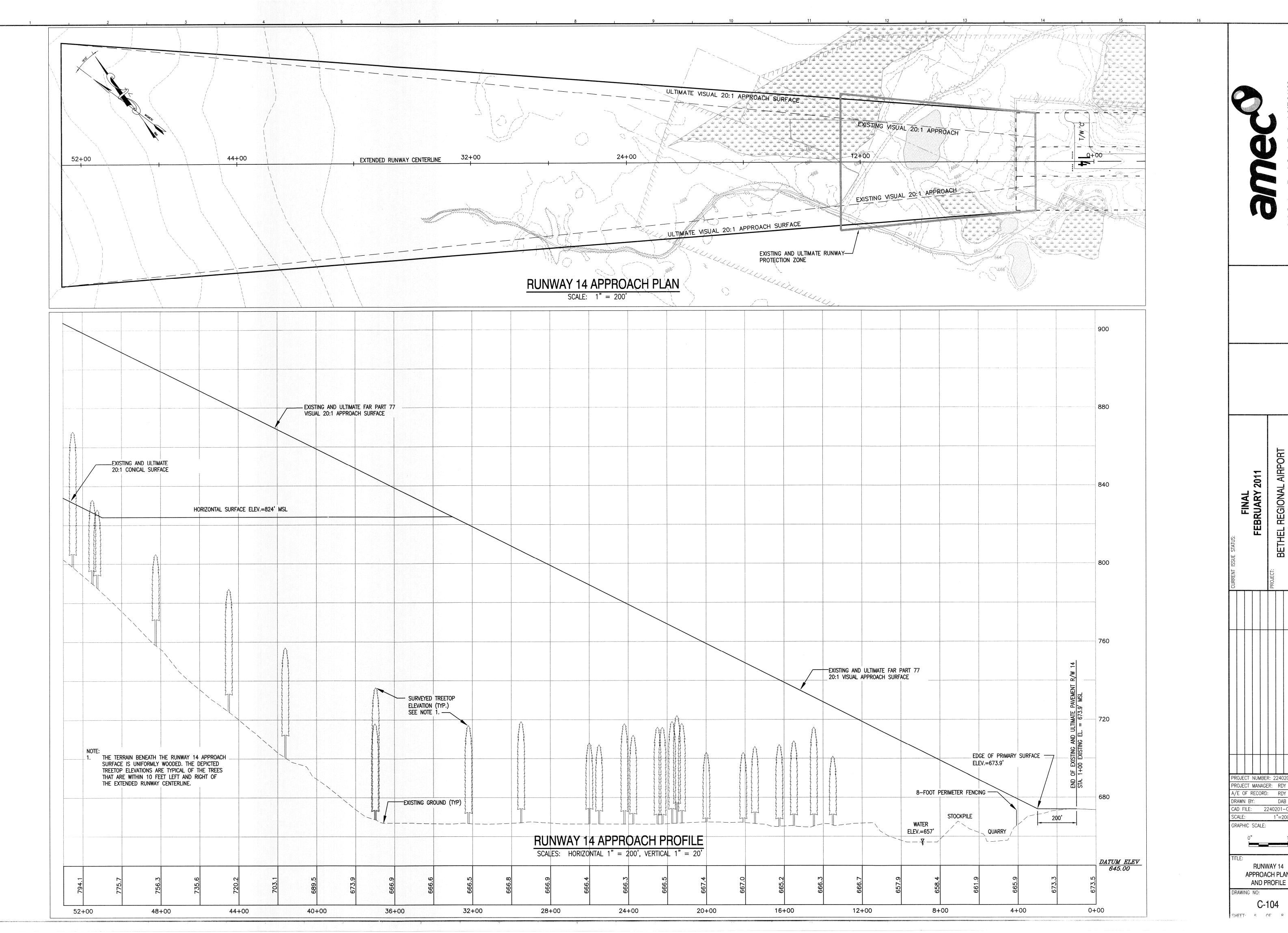


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BETHEL REGIONAL
AIP PROJECT NO. 3-23-(
BETHEL, MAINE FINAL FEBRUARY

PROJECT NUMBER: 2240201

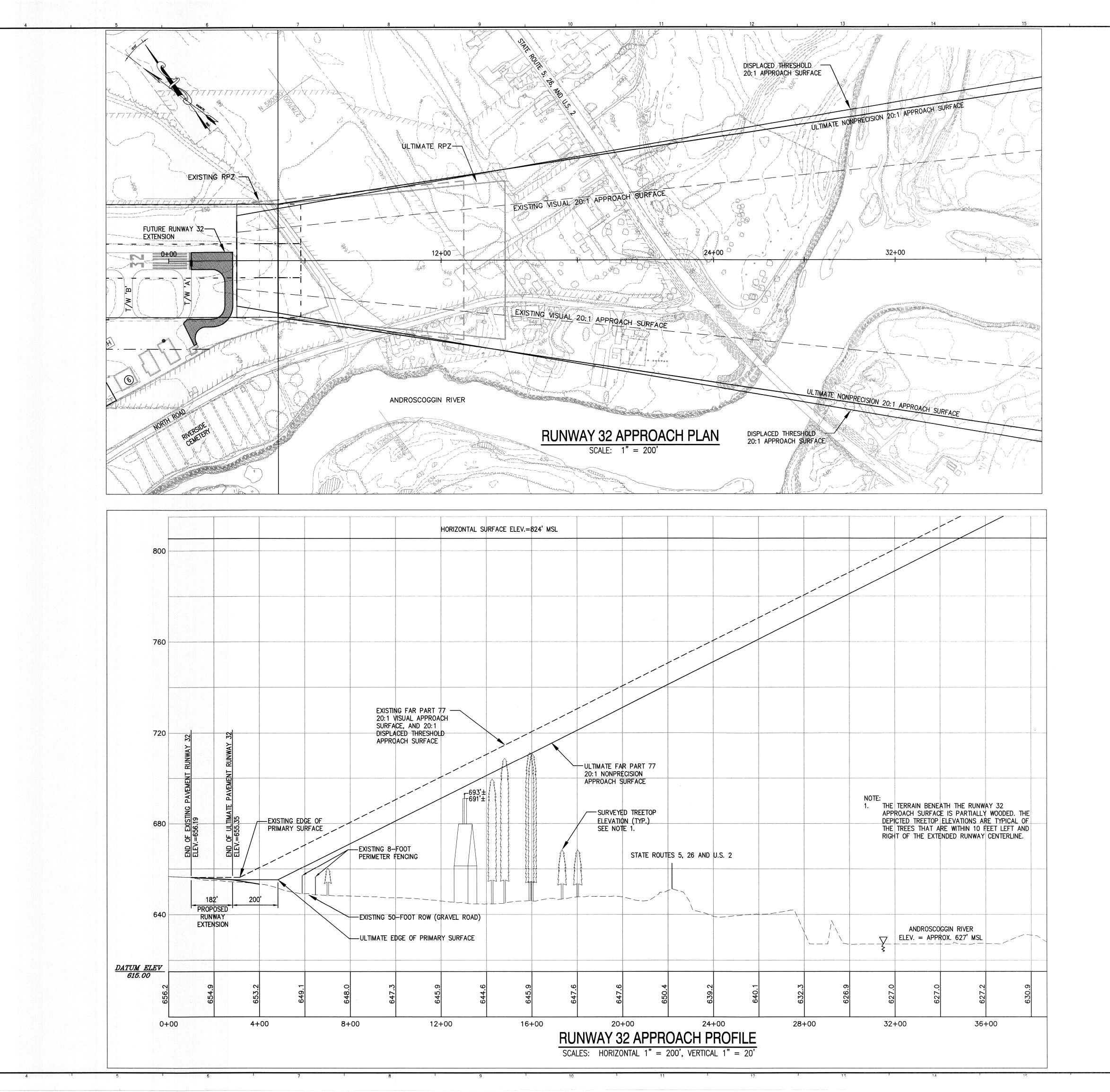
PROJECT MANAGER: RDY A/E OF RECORD: RDY DRAWN BY:

CAD FILE: 2240201-C-104 SCALE: 1"=200' GRAPHIC SCALE:

> **RUNWAY 14** APPROACH PLAN

AND PROFILE DRAWING NO:

C-104



BETHEL REGIONAL PROJECT NO. 3-23-FINAL FEBRUARY 2

PROJECT NUMBER: 2240201
PROJECT MANAGER: RDY
A/E OF RECORD: RDY
DRAWN BY: DAB
CAD FILE: 2240201—C—105

DRAWN BY: DAB

CAD FILE: 2240201—C—105

SCALE: AS NOTED

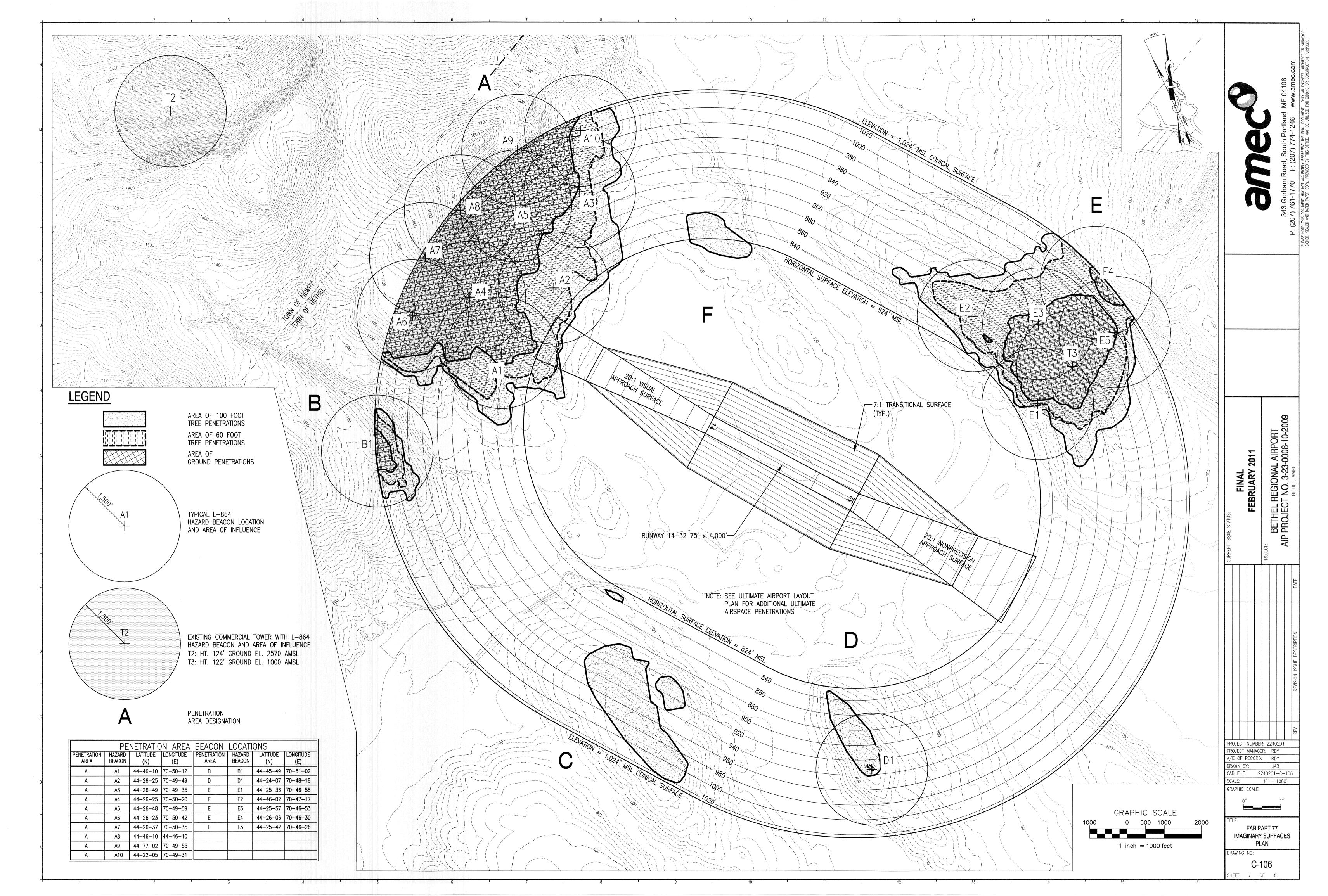
GRAPHIC SCALE:

0" 1"

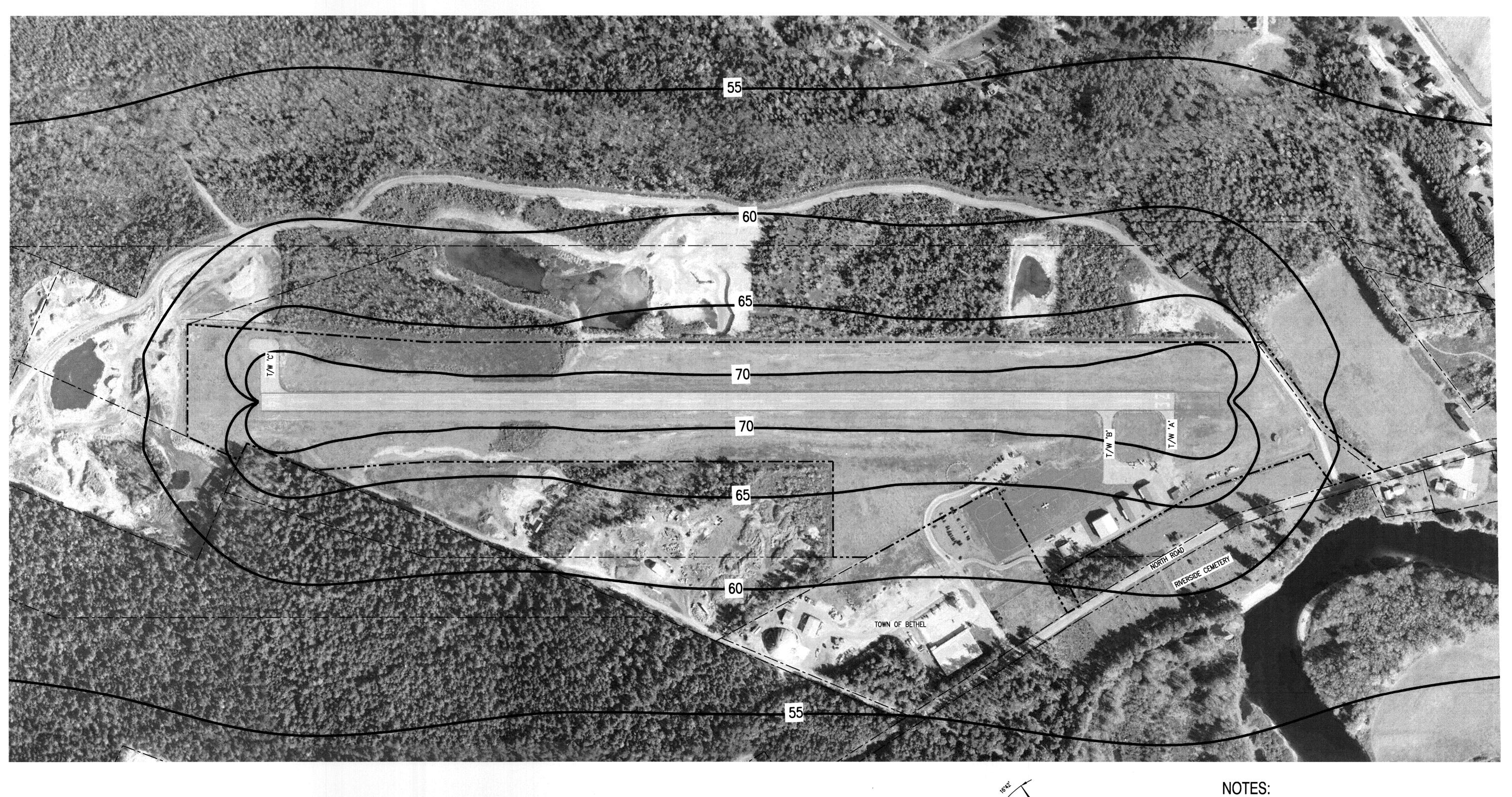
RUNWAY 32
APPROACH PLAN
AND PROFILE

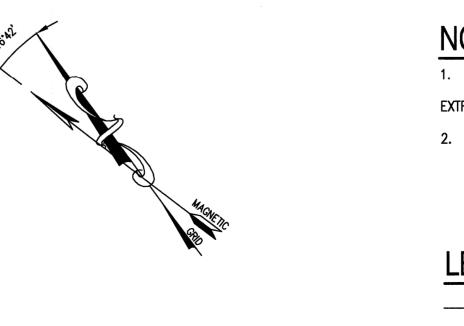
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DRAWING NO:



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GRAPHIC SCALE

1 inch = 200 feet

LEGEND:

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AS OF JUNE, 2010 THE TOWN OF BETHEL HAS NO ADOPTED ZONING ORDINANCES AND VARIES IN USE FROM RESIDENTIAL, OFFICE, LIGHT COMMERCIAL AND GRAVEL EXTRACTION.

2. DATA SOURCE: BASE IMAGE BY KAPPA MAPPING, INC. DATED OCTOBER 2009.

<u>-EGEND:</u>

ABUTTING PROPERTY LINE
AIRPORT PROPERTY LINE

AIRPORT PROPERTY LINE

LDN NOISE CONTOUR

DRAWING NO:

DRAWING NO:

C-107

SHEET: 8 OF 8

PROJECT NUMBER: 2240201
PROJECT MANAGER: RDY

A/E OF RECORD: RDY

DRAWN BY: DAB

CAD FILE: 2240201-C-107

GRAPHIC SCALE:

1"= 200'

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