



Port Columbus Area Development Plan Joint Economic Development Strategy

**City of Columbus
City of Gahanna
City of Whitehall
Columbus Regional Airport Authority**

Prepared by the Department of Development, Planning Division



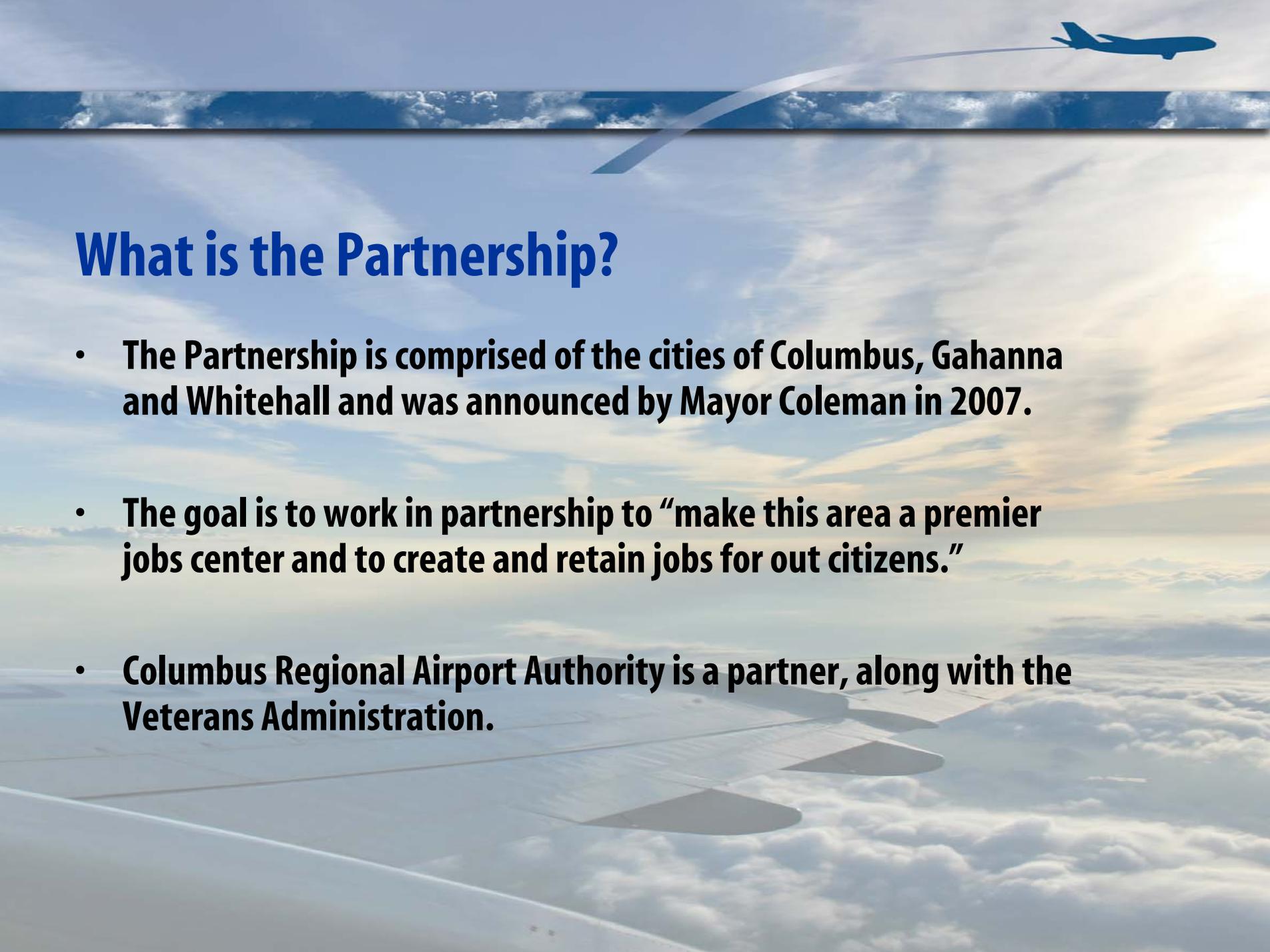
**City of Columbus
Michael B. Coleman, Mayor**

Boyce Safford III, Director of Development



Why airport-related economic development?

- **Airports serve as important economic engines for local communities.**
- **As business markets have become more national and international in scope, airports have been increasingly serving in a catalytic role for local economic development.**
- **Columbus Chamber has noted that aviation and aviation services is a logical focus because it leverages important regional assets and capitalizes on and supports four of the region's strongest existing clusters:**
 - **transportation and logistics**
 - **advanced business services/information technology**
 - **advanced manufacturing**
 - **arts, entertainment and tourism**



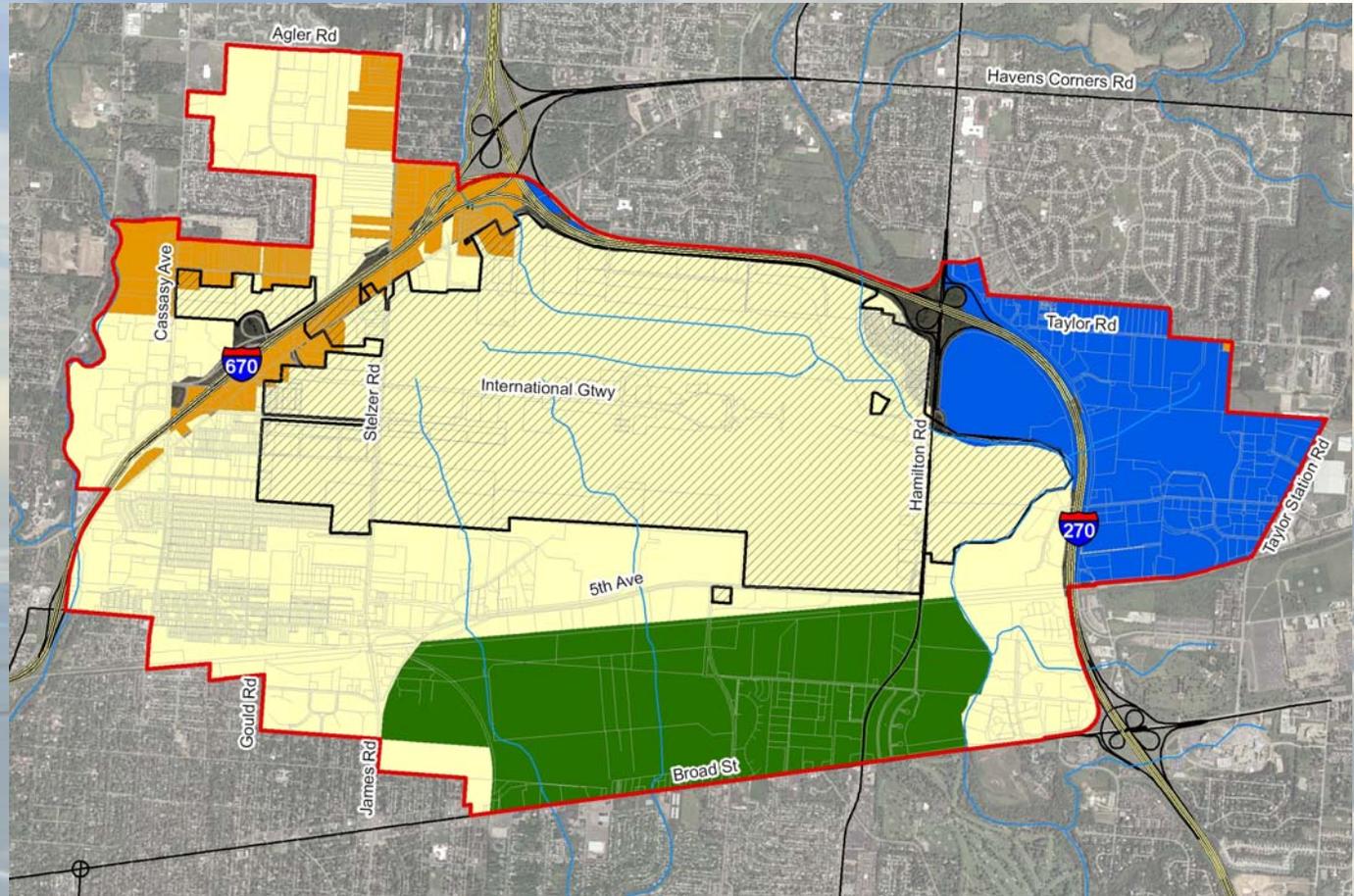
What is the Partnership?

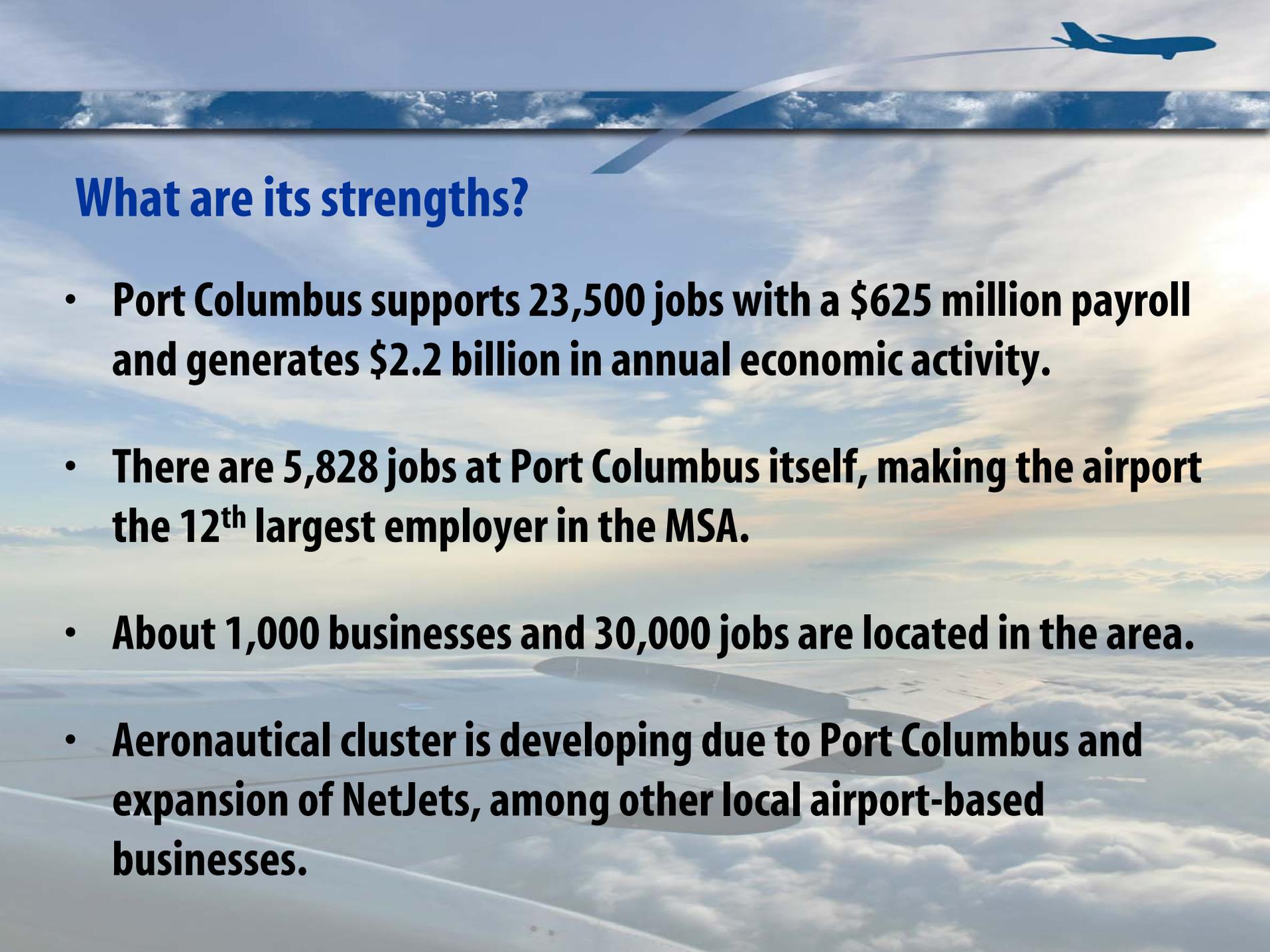
- **The Partnership is comprised of the cities of Columbus, Gahanna and Whitehall and was announced by Mayor Coleman in 2007.**
- **The goal is to work in partnership to “make this area a premier jobs center and to create and retain jobs for our citizens.”**
- **Columbus Regional Airport Authority is a partner, along with the Veterans Administration.**

What is the economic development area?

The Airport economic development area contains 6,000 acres (9.4 square miles) in four jurisdictions (Columbus, Gahanna, Whitehall, and Mifflin Township).

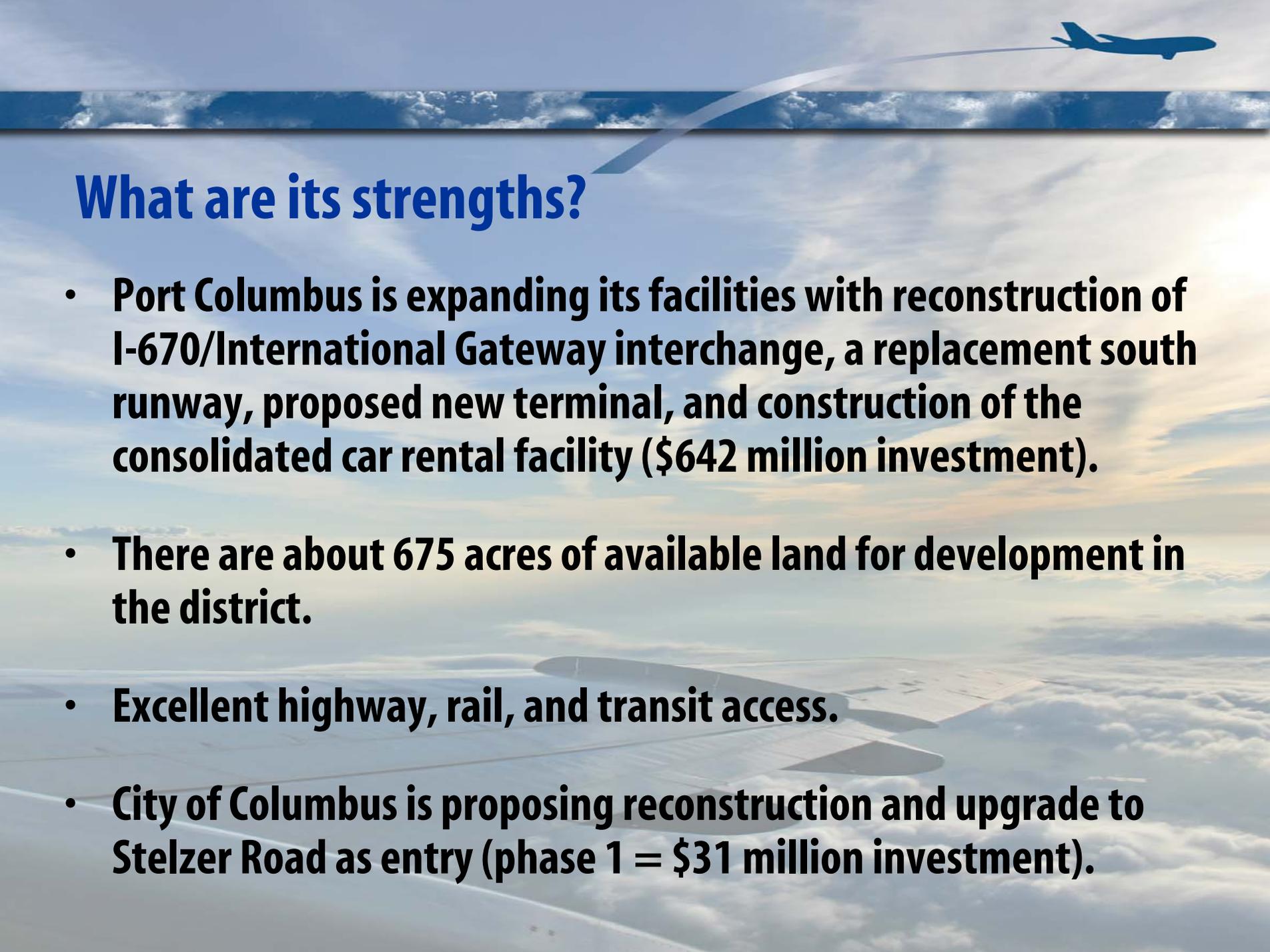
-  Study Area
-  Columbus
-  Gahanna
-  Whitehall
-  Mifflin Township





What are its strengths?

- **Port Columbus supports 23,500 jobs with a \$625 million payroll and generates \$2.2 billion in annual economic activity.**
- **There are 5,828 jobs at Port Columbus itself, making the airport the 12th largest employer in the MSA.**
- **About 1,000 businesses and 30,000 jobs are located in the area.**
- **Aeronautical cluster is developing due to Port Columbus and expansion of NetJets, among other local airport-based businesses.**



What are its strengths?

- **Port Columbus is expanding its facilities with reconstruction of I-670/International Gateway interchange, a replacement south runway, proposed new terminal, and construction of the consolidated car rental facility (\$642 million investment).**
- **There are about 675 acres of available land for development in the district.**
- **Excellent highway, rail, and transit access.**
- **City of Columbus is proposing reconstruction and upgrade to Stelzer Road as entry (phase 1 = \$31 million investment).**



What is the vision?

- **The goal is to work in partnership to “make this area a premier jobs center and to create and retain jobs for our citizens” by:**
 - **Promoting investment, cooperation, and coordination for business development opportunities.**
 - **Positioning the area to compete effectively for new jobs through new business growth and recruitment of companies outside Central Ohio.**



What does the plan recommend?

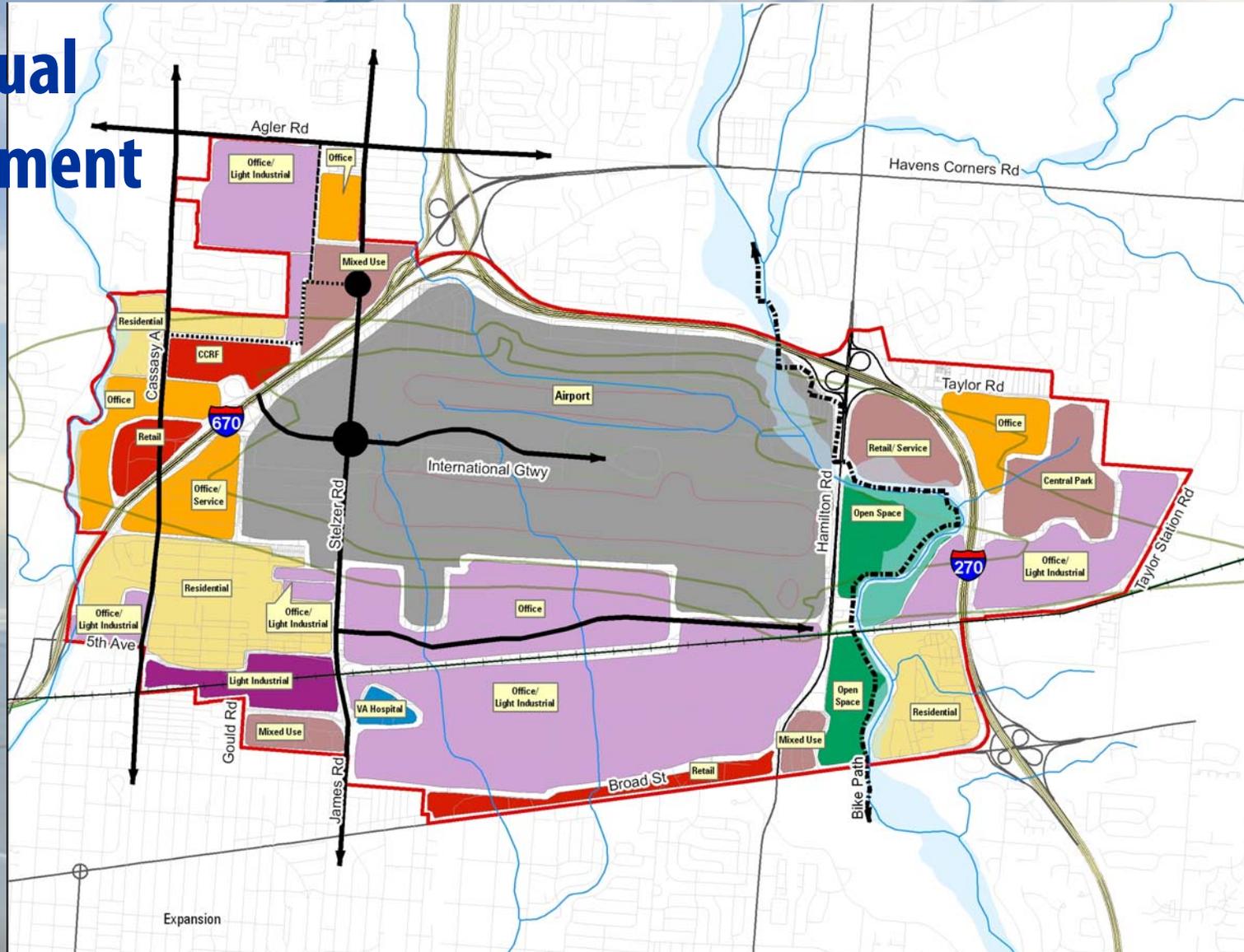
- **Establishing business sector priorities (aeronautical-related; professional, scientific, technical; light/high tech manufacturing; wholesale trade; accommodation, food, retail).**
- **Joint business retention and expansion.**
- **Maximizing investments in economic and infrastructure assets.**
- **Supporting airport operations and improvements through expansion and land use controls.**
- **Joint marketing.**
- **Higher development standards and environmental enhancements.**



What does the plan recommend?

- **The land use plan recommends:**
 - **Strengthening existing commercial nodes.**
 - **Establishing new mixed-use nodes.**
 - **Strengthening light industrial and office uses.**
 - **Supporting airport expansion.**
 - **Maintaining sensitivity to noise contours.**
 - **Connectivity through improvements to the road network and bikeways.**

Conceptual Development Plan



What does the plan recommend?

- The plan identifies 15 separate opportunity sites totaling 757 acres.
- Detailed development concepts are provided for five priority sites in Columbus that support light industrial, office and related uses.

Opportunity Site L: VA Triangle





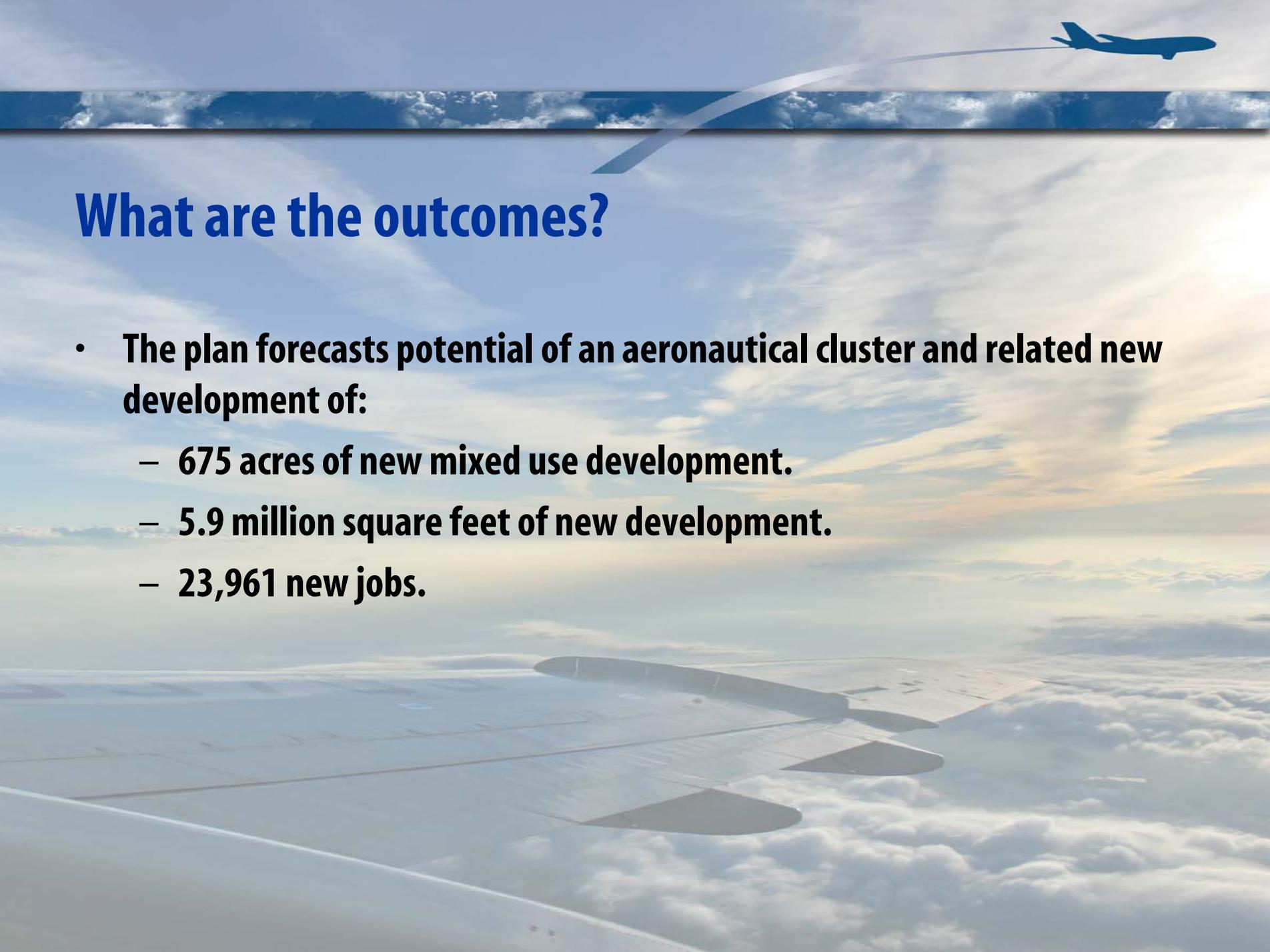
What does the plan recommend?

- **Development standards:**
 - **Urban design**
 - **Office development**
 - **Light industrial development**
 - **Mixed use development**
 - **Site design**
 - **Landscaping and screening**
 - **Lighting**
 - **Signage**



What does the plan recommend?

- **Infrastructure improvements:**
 - **Community gateway improvements**
 - **Road reconstruction and improvement projects (Stelzer, Fifth Avenue, etc.)**
 - **Transit centers and light rail connections to Downtown**



What are the outcomes?

- **The plan forecasts potential of an aeronautical cluster and related new development of:**
 - **675 acres of new mixed use development.**
 - **5.9 million square feet of new development.**
 - **23,961 new jobs.**

The background of the slide is an aerial photograph of an airport runway, showing the runway surface, taxiway, and surrounding landscape. In the upper right corner, there is a silhouette of an airplane in flight, leaving a white contrail that curves across the sky. The sky is filled with soft, white clouds, and the overall lighting suggests a bright, clear day.

How will it be implemented?

- **Mayor Coleman announced the creation of the Airport Area Development Corporation at the 2008 State of the City.**
- **Key tasks:**
 - **Formalizing the joint working group.**
 - **Establishing an annual work program.**
 - **Establishing a brand and marketing strategy.**
 - **Prioritizing opportunity sites.**
 - **Facilitating major infrastructure projects.**



City Contacts

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