



## Santa Cruz County News

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**For Immediate Release**

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Santa Cruz County recently received nearly \$2 million in State grant funds for upgrades at the Nogales International Airport. Five projects were approved which will modernize the aging airport electrical systems and enhance pilot and aircraft safety and navigation.

Among the improvements is the replacement of the rotating beacon visible at the airport entrance. This guidance light has been inoperative for months because the replacement light fixtures are outmoded, making them expensive to replace. The new beacon will feature LED lighting that is more cost effective.

Also included in the upcoming projects: a new Runway End Identifier Lights system (REIL), runway edge lighting, runway guidance signage and a new visual approach guidance system for pilots landing at the airport.

Grant projects approved by the State typically require matching County funds. However, due to funding availability within the State airport fund, these projects will be 100% funded with no local share required unless the bids exceed the grant amount.

The County expects to solicit bids this winter for all five projects combined, which could result in lower construction costs. Construction should begin in the summer of 2022, but the actual schedule will be dictated by materials availability.

**#End**