



NATIONAL SAFE SKIES ALLIANCE

Program for Applied Research in Airport Security

PARAS 0062 Project Summary

Project Title:	Mitigating Impacts to Airport Security and Operations from Locally Hosted Major Events
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BACKGROUND

When a city hosts a major event, such as a national sports championship, a nationally significant conference, or other mass gathering, many attendees travel to and from the event via surrounding airports. This often results in a significant increase in commercial and general aviation traffic, which can have far-reaching operational and security impacts. These events can also have an impact on the overall level of security at the airport, as security resources must be reallocated to manage the disruption rather than conducting their normal duties.

Additionally, factors such as frequency of occurrence, amount of advance notice, and security ratings (e.g., National Special Security Events and DHS-designated special events) contribute to event complexity. Thorough planning is essential to successfully assess and mitigate impacts of major events on airport security and operations.

OBJECTIVE

The objective of the research is to create comprehensive guidance to help airports mitigate the impacts of locally hosted major events. At a minimum, the guidance should address:

- Overview of event types
- Pre-planning considerations, including establishing a knowledge base
- Planning process, including essential steps, decision points, and command structure
- Assessing event scope and potential areas of impact
- Stakeholder coordination, including roles and responsibilities
- Strategies to mitigate areas of impact
- Contingency considerations during events
- Post-event evaluation and improvement planning
- Leveraging available technology
- Relevant templates, checklists, and sample language
- Example scenarios for tabletop exercises

The resulting guidance should be applicable to airports of all sizes.