Introduction

Position of the Airport with regard to the Varaždin County and the Wider Region; Potential

The City of Varaždin is situated in North-Western Croatia, on the right bank of the river Drava, about 80 km far from Zagreb, in the lowland area at the altitude of about 166 m, covering a surface of 59.45 km².

Položaj  - 30 min drive time: Ivanec, Prelog (Hr), Slovenia border
       - 1 hour drive time: Zagreb, Koprivnica, Trakošćan (Hr), Ptuj (Slo)
       - 2 hours drive time: Karlovac, Virovitica, Bjelovar (Hr), Graz (A), Celje (Slo), Balaton (Hun)

Catchment area

- 30 min drive time  - 280,000 inhabitants
- 1 hour drive time  - 1,700,000 inhabitants
- 2 hours drive time - 3,650,000 inhabitants
The Varaždin County encompasses 6 towns and 22 municipalities, with Varaždin as its centre. Due to its geotraffic, economic, cultural and historic significance, the Western part of the Koprivnica-Križevci County, the Northern part of the Krapina-Zagorje County as well as the Međimurje County gravitate towards it.

Accordingly, the Varaždin Airport is a traffic facility of importance not only for the City of Varaždin but also for the wider region, with the aim of long-term development of the economy and tourism since in the immediate vicinity of Varaždin there are some major business zones such as the one in Trnovci, Knežinec, Jalžabet, Ivanec etc., as well as the tourist destinations Varaždinske Toplice (health tourism) and Sv. Martin na Muri (spa and golf) in the neighbouring Međimurje County.

The airport is located in the Eastern part of the City of Varaždin South of the D2 state road and North of the R202 Varaždin-Koprivnica railroad; it is surrounded by towns from three sides.

In 2009 it was fenced; within the fence it encompasses a surface of approximately 35.37 ha, of which only about 1 ha is in private ownership, whereas all the rest is owned by the City of Varaždin and Varaždin Airport d.o.o. Outside of the fence, in the immediate vicinity of the airport and owned by Varaždin Airport d.o.o., there are several plots of a total surface of 24.7 ha.
The Existing Condition of the Airport’s Infrastructure

The airport’s infrastructure consists of a runway, a traverse taxiway connecting the Northern part of the runway with the apron, the apron, and, in the land part, a hangar for airplanes, the airport’s administration building with an office for check-in and registration, a VIP lounge, a room for the border police control and customs and the air traffic control tower, as well as a restaurant and access road with a parking lot. All the facilities are located at the Northern part of the runway, i.e. to the West. The capacity of the runway is apt for commercial airplanes weighing up to do 50 tons. The runway in its length of 1,730 m and width of 30 m belongs within the 3C reference code and has a non-instrumental access; it is laid in the 160°-340° direction, i.e. 16-34. The only taxiway in the length of 200 m and of a width of about 30 m has a capacity that meets the needs of the existing air traffic. It is input-output, along the Northern threshold 16, laid at an angle of 50° with regard to the central runway; it connects the runway with the apron of a surface of approximately 2,500 m². The hangar for sports airplanes is of a size of 40 x 15 m and 4-6 m high, while the airport building is of a size of 48 x 10-12 m and 10.5 m high, with an air traffic control tower that is 13 m high. The access road that is about 150 m long is two-way, with one lane in each direction connecting the airport with the Varaždin-Koprivnica state road. At its expanded part there is a parking lot.

Infrastructure u neposrednoj okolini

Road traffic
- highway - A4 - Hungary - Zagreb
- state road - D2 - Slovenia - Srbija
- D3 - Hungary - Rijeka
- D35 - Varaždin - Lepoglava

Railroad
- regional traffic - Zaprešić - Čakovec
- regional traffic - Varaždin - Koprivnica - Osijek
- technical terminal in business zone (planned)

Customs office - 5 min drive time
Veterinary station - 10 min drive time
Truck parking lot (cca 14,000 m²) - 5 min drive time
The Varaždin Airport within the Framework of Physical Planning Documents:

The air traffic development has been defined on the state level through the PURH Strategy and Programme based on which the Varaždin Airport has the status of a sports airport.

The Physical Plan of the Varaždin County (“Official Gazette of the Varaždin County” number 8/00, 29/06 and 16/09) and accordingly the Physical Development Plan of the City of Varaždin (“Official Gazette of the City of Varaždin” number 2/05), carries the Varaždin Airport under the 2C category.

In 2013 based on the Air Traffic Law (“Official Gazette” number 69/09 and 84/11) and the Ordinance on the conditions to be complied with by an airport operator for the issuing and the manner of issuing an airport certificate and approval for the utilization of an airport (“Official Gazette“ number 41/13), the Croatian Civil Aviation Agency has issued a permanent Airport Certificate for the Airport with the 3C Reference Code, non-instrumental access to the airport’s operator Varaždin Airport d.o.o. (copy of the certificate attached).

Since the process of adopting Amendments to the Physical Development Plan for the City of Varaždin – hereinafter IiD PPUG, (the adopting of the Plan has been planned for December of this year), based on the Certificate, in the Amendments of the Plan the airport has been planned as an airport of a reference code 3C, non-instrumental access.

During the public debate on IiD PPUG, the Physical Planning Institute of the Varaždin County (creator of the Physical Plan of the Varaždin County) supported that the airport be re-categorised so that the new code number will be entered in the Amendments of the Physical Development Plan of the Varaždin County, the preparations of which are under way.

Development Possibilities pursuant to Varaždin IiD PPUG:

Pursuant to the guidelines of dr.sc. Stanislav Pavlin PhD from the Faculty of Transport and Traffic Sciences of the University of Zagreb, author of the “Varaždin Airport Development Plan”, IiD PPUG provides for possibilities to develop the airport and the space around it through a textual part, i.e. Implementation Provisions and a cartographic part.

The airport and the business zone M1:5000 the surfaces of limited barriers are drawn in the map 4.2. Donji Kućan, Kućan Marof and Varaždin – as well as the purpose of the area for the narrow (airport zone) and the wider (business zones) area of the airport covering the following zones:

1. Varaždin Airport
   - manoeuvre surfaces are comprised of the existing runway and the planned parallel taxiway (a zone of a width of approximately 166 m) and several transverse input-output paths for the taxi ride that will connect the runway with the parallel taxiway, i.e. the apron. The apron has been envisaged along the parallel taxiway (taxi track),
   - the zone for the planned airport building construction (content encompassing regular maintenance and servicing of the aircrafts, carrying out of postal and commodity services and the construction of production, warehouse, commercial and other business buildings pursuant to the Urban Development Plan for the entire airport area for which the Plan provides that it must be made);

2. Planned business zones:
   - Zone 1, surface of about 26.4 ha (264,000 m²) is situated to the North-West of the airport along the D2 state road; the planned road along its Western edge will connect it to Kućan Marof; production/service/tourist purpose; it is necessary to create the Urban Development Plan
Zone 2, surface of about 3.65 ha (36,500 m²) is situated to the South-East of the airport, near the planned Trnovec business zone; it has roads connecting it with Donji Kucan and Trnovec; it is necessary to make an Urban Development Plan

ARP height: 165.6 m (543 ft)
ARP coordinates: 46°17’39” N; 16°23’00.50” E
Runway: 1.730 m x 30m
Airport category: 3C non-instrumental
Fire category: cat 1., upon request cat. 2 and 3
Border police: upon request 2 hours in advance
Opening hours: summer 8,00 - 20,00; winter 8,00-16,00

Long-Term Development Goals of the Varaždin Airport:
Long-term development goals have been planned for the Varaždin Airport as a potential centre for the maintenance of aircrafts, a flight school, aero clubs, business air carriers, a year-round airplane hangaring (it is necessary to increase the capacity of the hangar surfaces due to the expressed interest for hangaring in the winter period), the year-round use by private airplane users, to receive and clear passengers of airplanes with the 3C reference code (passenger terminal), to receive and clear cargo (cargo terminal) and the accompanying facilities and content (receipt and clearance of airplanes, rescue and firefighter teams, the air traffic control tower and accompanying facilities, re-fuelling and warehousing, a restaurant, administration...).