SECTION 5. Policy.

A. Tree Replacement Standards.

(1) **Regulated Tree.** A regulated tree must be replaced according to the standards herein. Regulated trees meet one of the following criteria:

a. equal to or greater than six inches diameter at breast height (6” DBH); or

b. any tree planted by design as part of landscaping for existing development.

(2) **Tree Retention.** The intensive industrial/commercial land use supporting airport operations provides limited opportunity for retaining existing trees on development sites. Therefore, projects with clearing impacts will not be subject to a minimum retention requirement but shall retain existing trees to the extent practicable.

(3) **Tree Replacement.** If a Regulated Tree is to be cleared:

a. It must be replaced at a 4:1 ratio.

b. Replacement uses a “stewardship credit” approach for which a replacement credit can be generated the following ways:

   i. **Tree Planting.** Plant one tree in an on-site or off-site location, or

   ii. **Invasive removal.** Remove 200 square feet of invasive vegetation from an off-site location and replanting the area with native understory vegetation, or

   iii. **Tree Protection.** Protect the life of one tree using one of the following means:

      a. Retain one regulated tree within the development footprint through project design and construction methods, or

      b. Protect the life of one high-value tree in an off-site location from invasive threats (e.g., removing English ivy from the tree trunk and vicinity).

B. The tree replacement standards shall be supplemented by specific design criteria, to be applied as part of capital project planning and design. The criteria ensure that tree replacement concepts and designs are consistent with Environmental Land Stewardship Principles, operational requirements, and equity policy.

(1) Tree replacement requirements are to be evaluated using site inventories for
the development site and potential adjacent and off-site planting areas. Site inventories are required to be completed as part of the project planning and design.

(2) Stewardship credits generated by tree planting shall account for greater than 50% of the replacement requirement.

(3) Tree replacement shall be prioritized and maximized first on-site, then adjacent to the development footprint before utilizing off-site locations.

(4) For tree replacement that occurs on-site or at adjacent locations, projects shall consider the potential for employee access to tree replacement areas to improve project equity and employee wellness benefits.

(5) Designed tree replacement shall be consistent with rules for safe aviation, including the Wildlife Hazard Management Plan; Flight Corridor Safety Program; vegetation height limits and regulatory requirements; and all applicable environmental laws and regulations.