RIX Riga Airport Master Plan 2025-2050

Riga Airport Today

The main airport in the Baltics and an emerging air traffic hub of Northern Europe

7,2 milj. passengers in 2024

90+ direct destinations

30+ unique destinations not offered by regional competitors

Home base airlines

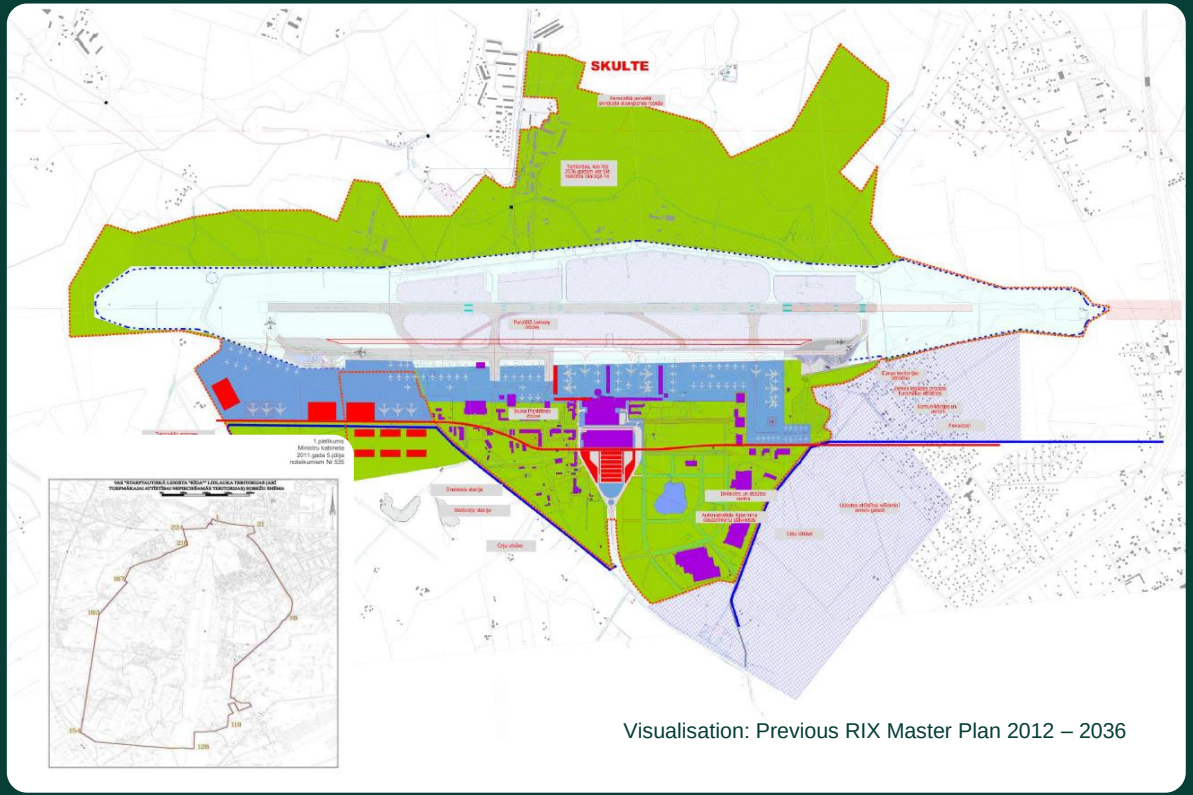
airBaltic, Ryanair, Norwegian, Smartlynx

RIX Master Plan 2025–2050 and It’s Strategic Environmental Impact Assessment

- The Master Plan includes information on the airport’s long-term development, its environmental impact, effects on surrounding areas, and necessary measures.
- The Master Plan has been discussed with stakeholders and affected parties to ensure integration into national, regional, and local planning documents.
- A strategic environmental impact assessment is being carried out for the plan and the Environmental Report is prepared.
- Public consultation on the draft Environmental Report will take place in November 2025.

RIX Master Plan: why now?

- The previous Master Plan was prepared 13 years ago under different economic and geopolitical conditions.
- The importance of sustainability and innovation has significantly increased.
- Other key infrastructure facilities around the airport have developed or undergone changes:
  - Rail Baltica;
  - cargo handling and logistics infrastructure;
  - RIX Airport City;
  - other facilities.
- It is necessary to balance and integrate the development plans of RIX, surrounding municipalities, and other institutions (Mārupe Municipality Development Plan, the National Armed Forces development initiatives near the airport, etc.).



Visualisation: Previous RIX Master Plan 2012 – 2036

RIX Master Plan: Main Principles

- Future development needs
- Positive passenger experience
- Sustainability and innovation
- Growth opportunities for business partners

RIX Master Plan: Current Situation

Demand

- Stable regional position, significant growth in direct passenger numbers, and expected increase in transit passenger flows.
- Historically high commercial load factors – in 2025, direct passenger numbers are projected to exceed 2019 levels, while aircraft movements will be approximately 25% lower.
- Challenging flight schedule structure with pronounced and isolated peak periods.

Starting Point

- Significant investment projects have been launched for airport development (Stage 6 of passenger terminal expansion, air traffic control tower, Rail Baltica railway connection, Apron 4).
- Assessment of the required investment volume for future infrastructure development as well as for the renovation and maintenance of existing facilities.
- Limited apron capacity and shortage of space in the contact stand (first-line) area.

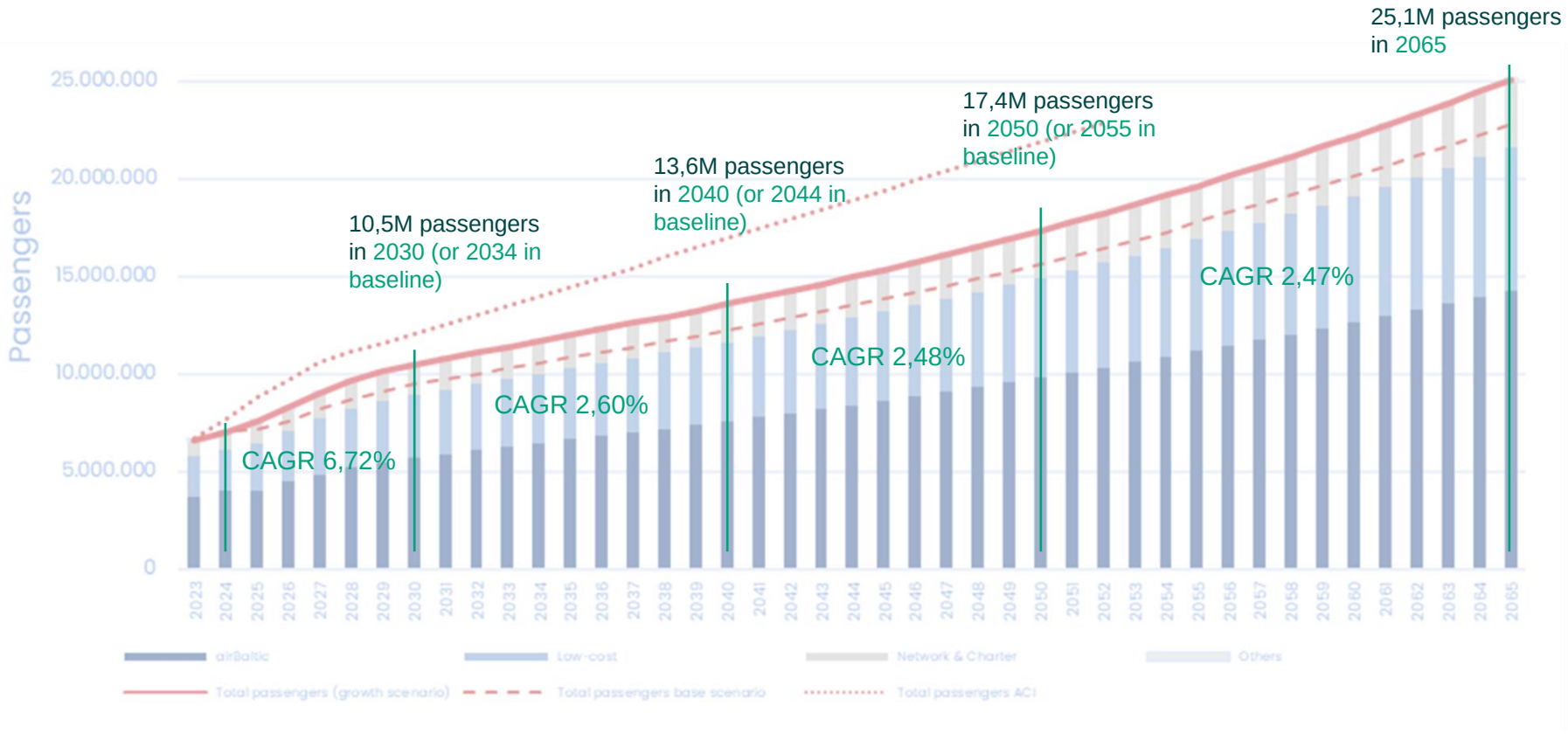
Regulatory Framework

- The process of land acquisition for development needs to be improved to avoid delays in airport expansion.
- Insufficient protection of land reserved in the Master Plan 2013–2036 approved in 2013. The area is designated as a national interest territory under Cabinet Regulation No. 535.

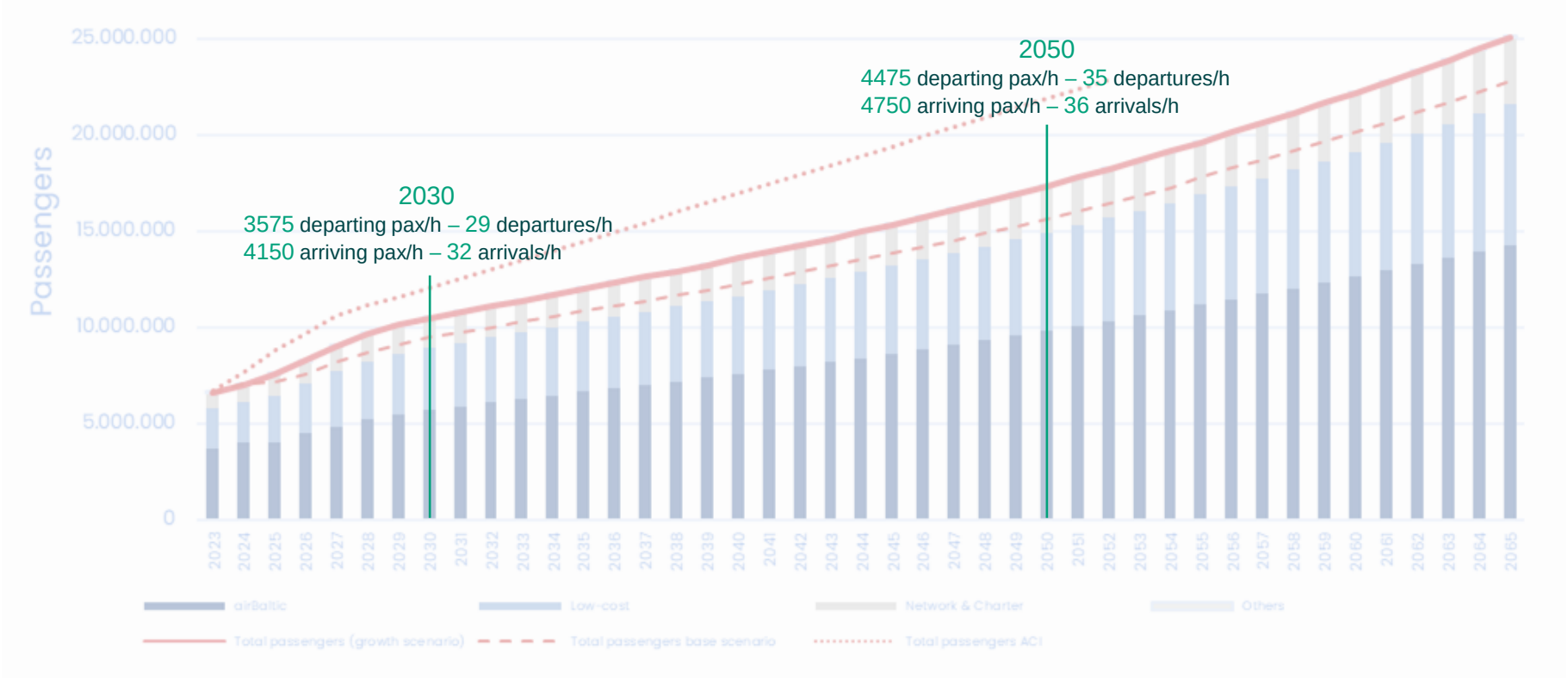
Consequences

- Parts of Riga Airport's territory are characterized by fragmented land use.
- Adjacent areas host a mix of industrial, logistics, and commercial activities.

RIX Master Plan: Traffic Forecast – Annual Figures



RIX Master Plan: Traffic Forecast – Design Hour Figures



RIX Master Plan: Development Stages

Stage I: 2030 or 10,5M passengers

- Terminal extention Stage 6
- Integration of Rail Baltica railway connection
- Development of access roads
- Renovation of surface of runway and existing taxiways
- Reconstruction of Apron 4
- Modernisation of technical area
- Initial development of RIX Airport City

Stage II: 2040 or 13,6M passengers

- Construction of new taxiway and rapid exit taxiways (RET)
- Construction of new South Pier
- Re-configuration of Apron 1, south extention of Apron 2
- Relocation of the MRO area to the Western Apron
- Relocation of the isolated aircraft stand
- Redesign of de-icing areas
- Development of parking facilities and intermodal access

Stage III: 2050 or 17,4M passengers

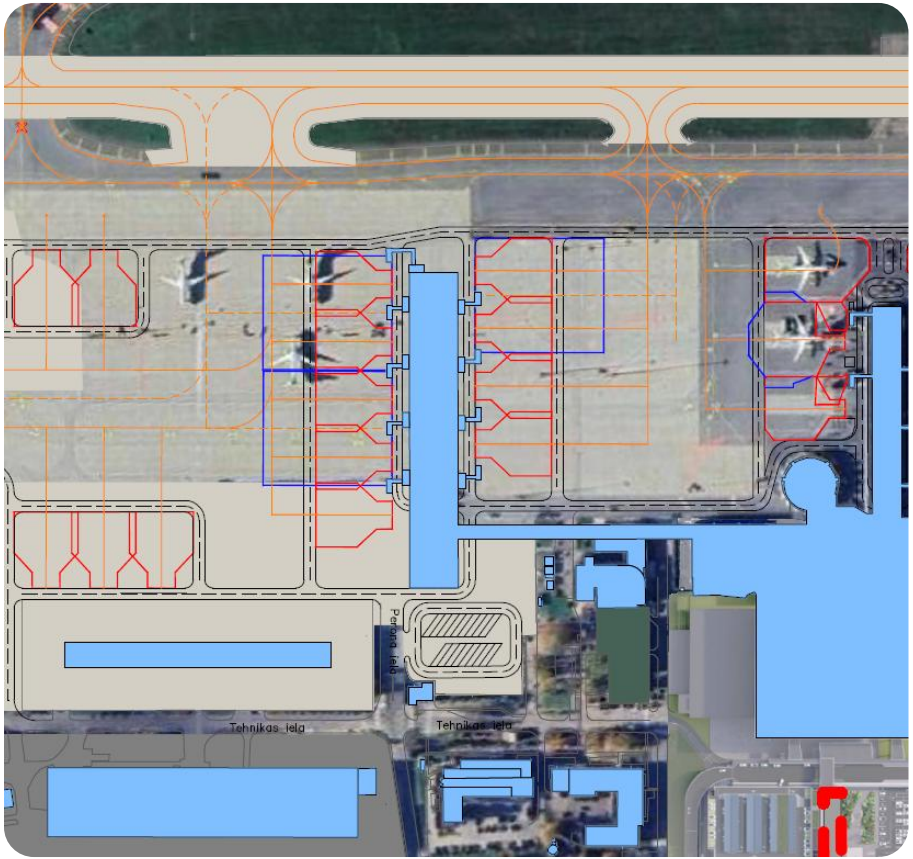
- Extension of the western parallel taxiway
- Further extention of Apron 2
- Further extention of MRO area on the Western Apron
- Relocation of FBO and general aviation (GA) area to the Western Apron, new access roads to this area
- RIX Airport City long-term development

Riga Airport in 2030 or 10,5M passengers

Riga Airport in 2040 or 13,6M passengers

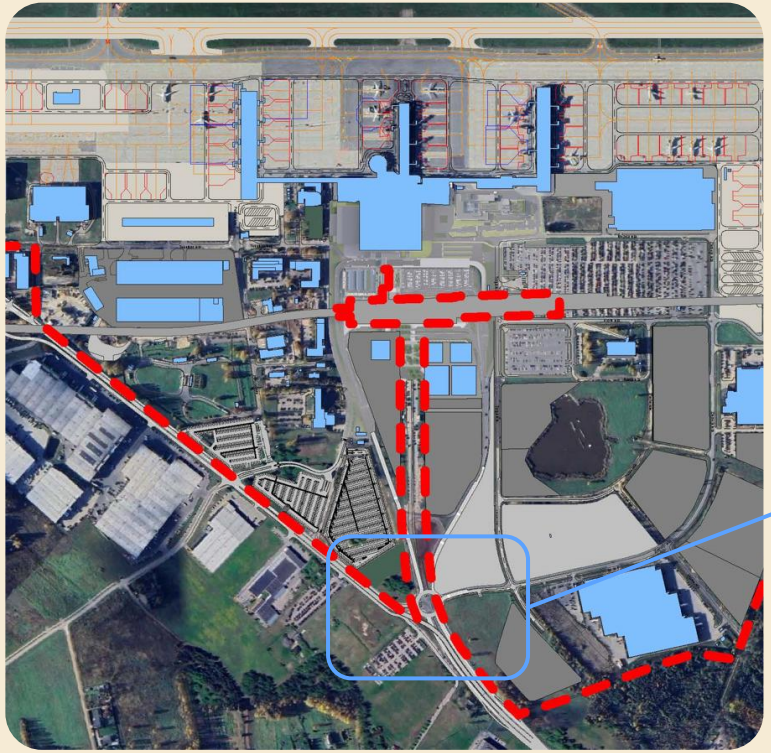
New South Pier

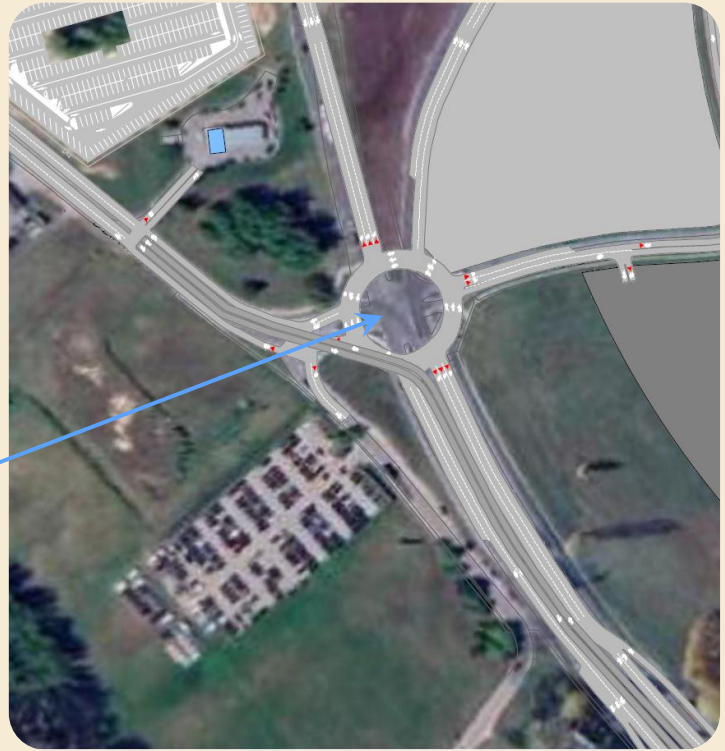
- Three-story double sided parallel pier
- 9 Code C contact stands / 3 Code E + 3 Code C stands
- Meets contact gate requirements for both Schengen and Non-Schengen
- Allows for stand capacity upgrade from Code C stands to Code E providing Non-Schengen growth flexibility in the future
- Supports mixed operations
- Centralized security screening checkpoint and passport control



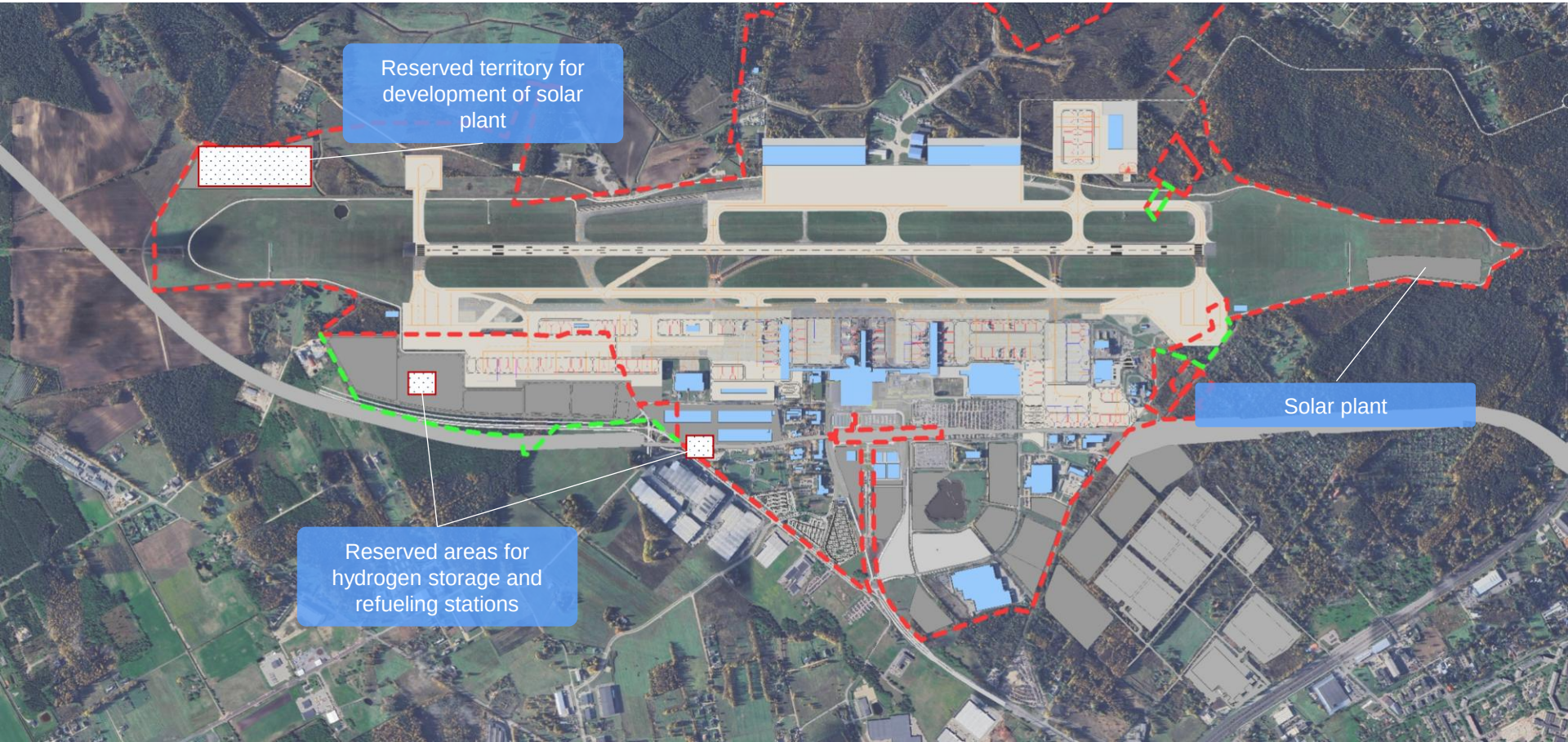
Riga Airport in 2050 or 17,4M passengers

Access Roads: New Roundabout and Overpass until 2050

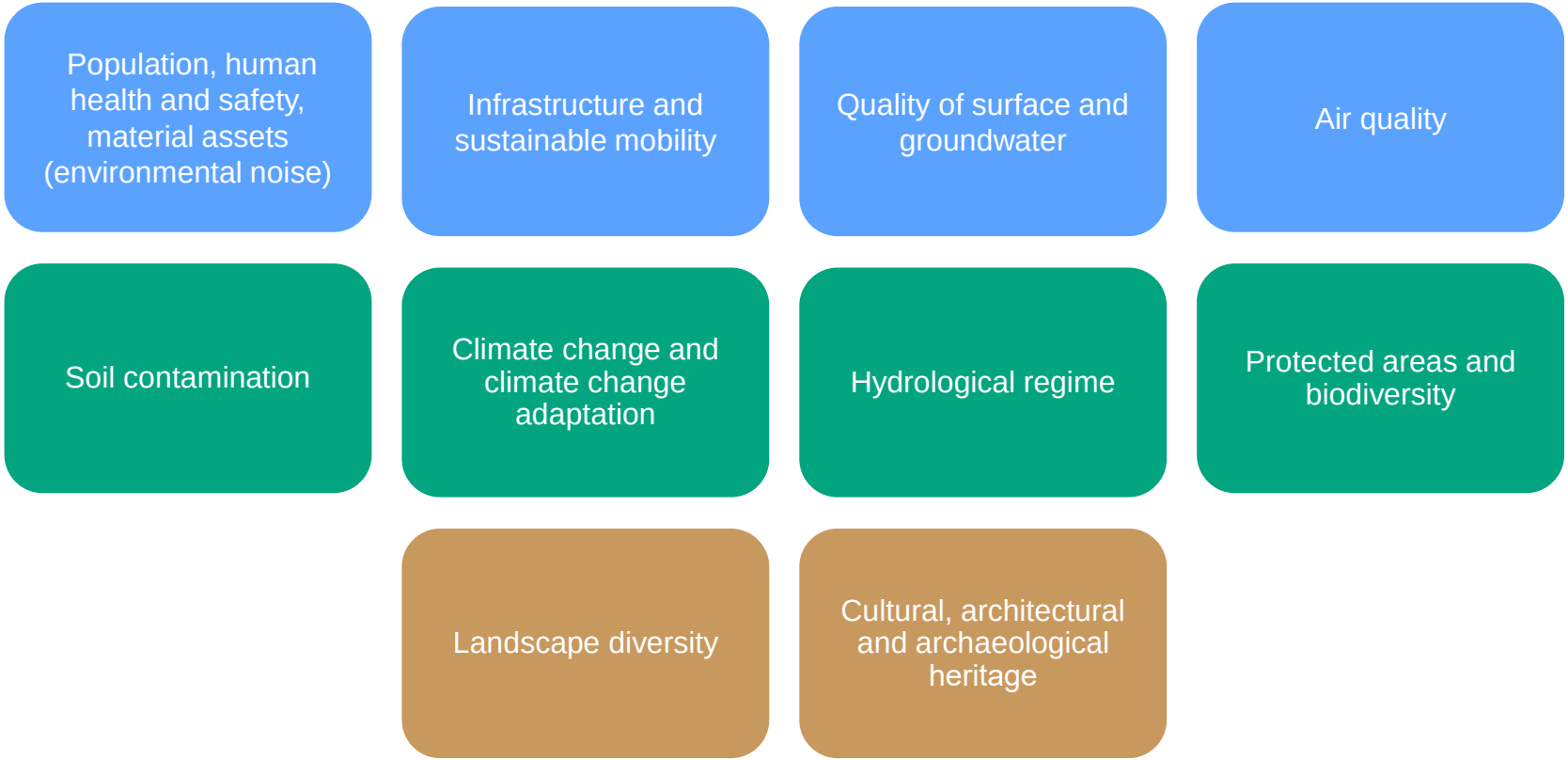




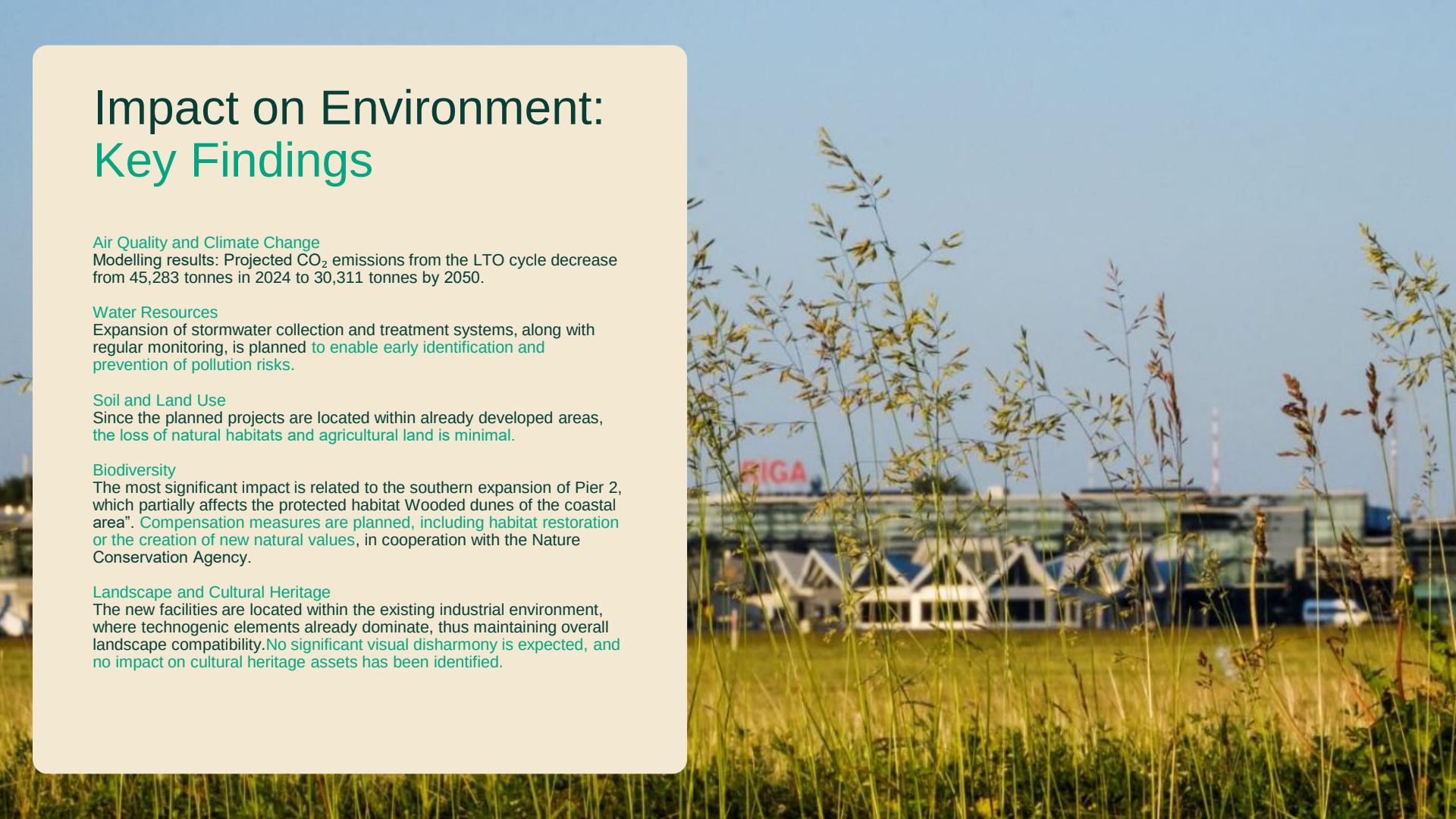
Sustainability and Innovations



Main Environmental Aspects



Impact on Environment: Key Findings



Air Quality and Climate Change

Modelling results: Projected CO_2 emissions from the LTO cycle decrease from 45,283 tonnes in 2024 to 30,311 tonnes by 2050.

Water Resources

Expansion of stormwater collection and treatment systems, along with regular monitoring, is planned to enable early identification and prevention of pollution risks.

Soil and Land Use

Since the planned projects are located within already developed areas, the loss of natural habitats and agricultural land is minimal.

Biodiversity

The most significant impact is related to the southern expansion of Pier 2, which partially affects the protected habitat Wooded dunes of the coastal area". Compensation measures are planned, including habitat restoration or the creation of new natural values, in cooperation with the Nature Conservation Agency.

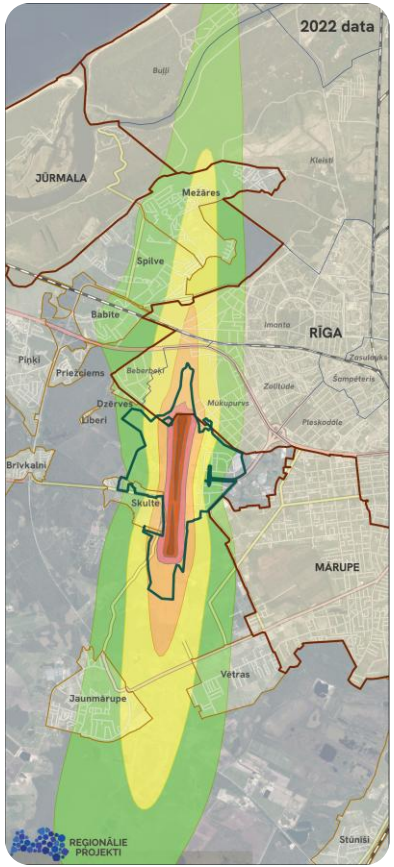
Landscape and Cultural Heritage

The new facilities are located within the existing industrial environment, where technogenic elements already dominate, thus maintaining overall landscape compatibility.No significant visual disharmony is expected, and no impact on cultural heritage assets has been identified.

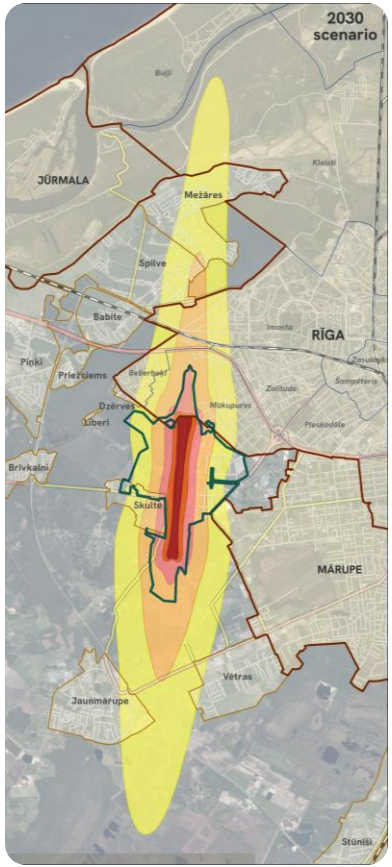
Environmental Report: Environmental Noise

- 2017–2024: noise levels have decreased due to fleet modernisation, with newer and quieter aircraft models (e.g. Airbus A220-300).
- Long-term trend until 2050:
  - the increase in noise levels is not directly proportional to the growth in air traffic,
  - noise levels stabilize and gradually decrease per flight or per passenger.
- Main challenge: night-time noise, which requires continuous monitoring and mitigation actions.
- Planning considerations: in territorial plans and other documents, noise-sensitive areas (L_{dvn} > 55 dBA) should be designated as zones with special conditions, introducing additional protection measures, such as:
  - Integration of quiet façade design solutions;
  - Window replacement or improved sound insulation;
  - Restrictions on new noise-sensitive developments within these zones.

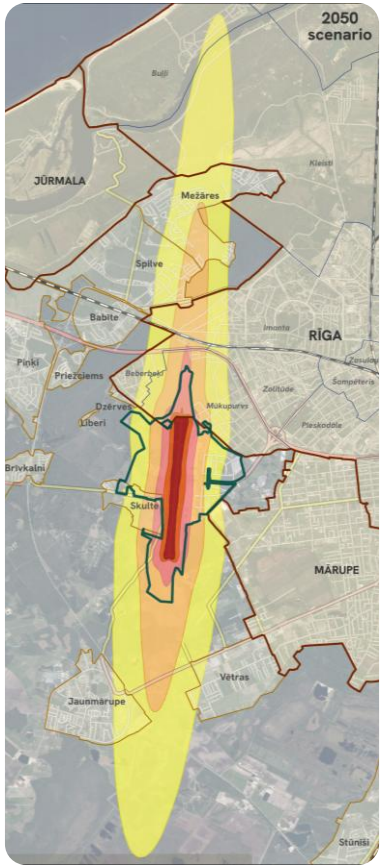
2022 data



2030 scenario



2050 scenario



Legend

Day-Night Average Sound Level (DNL), dB(A):

- 50 - 54
- 55 - 59
- 60 - 64
- 65 - 69
- 70 - 74
- > 75

Other Symbols

- State main road
- State regional road
- State local road
- Street
- Railway
- Riga International Airport (RIX) Administrative Territory
- City Boundary
- Village Boundary
- Neighborhood Boundary

0 1,25 2,5 km

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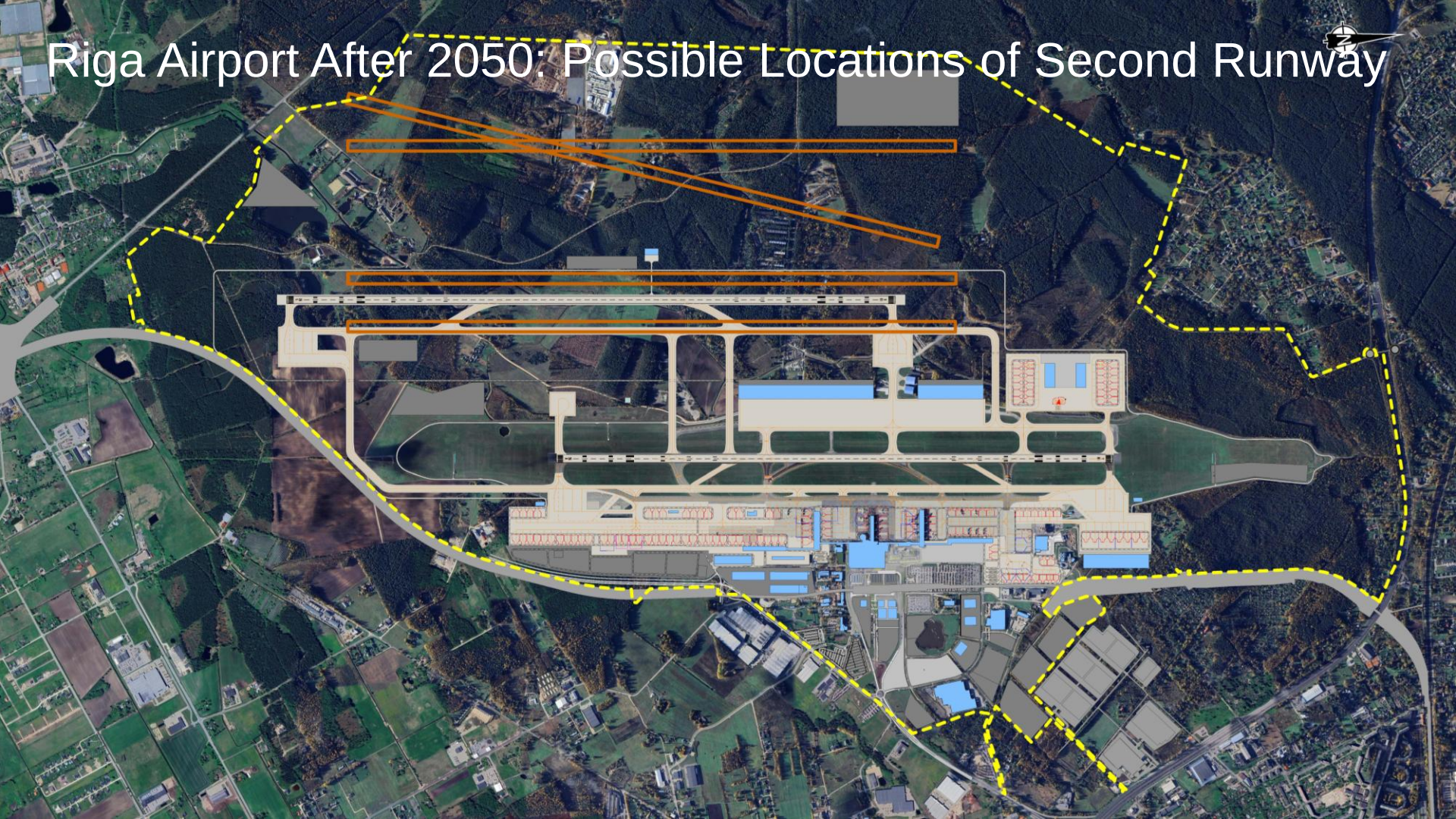
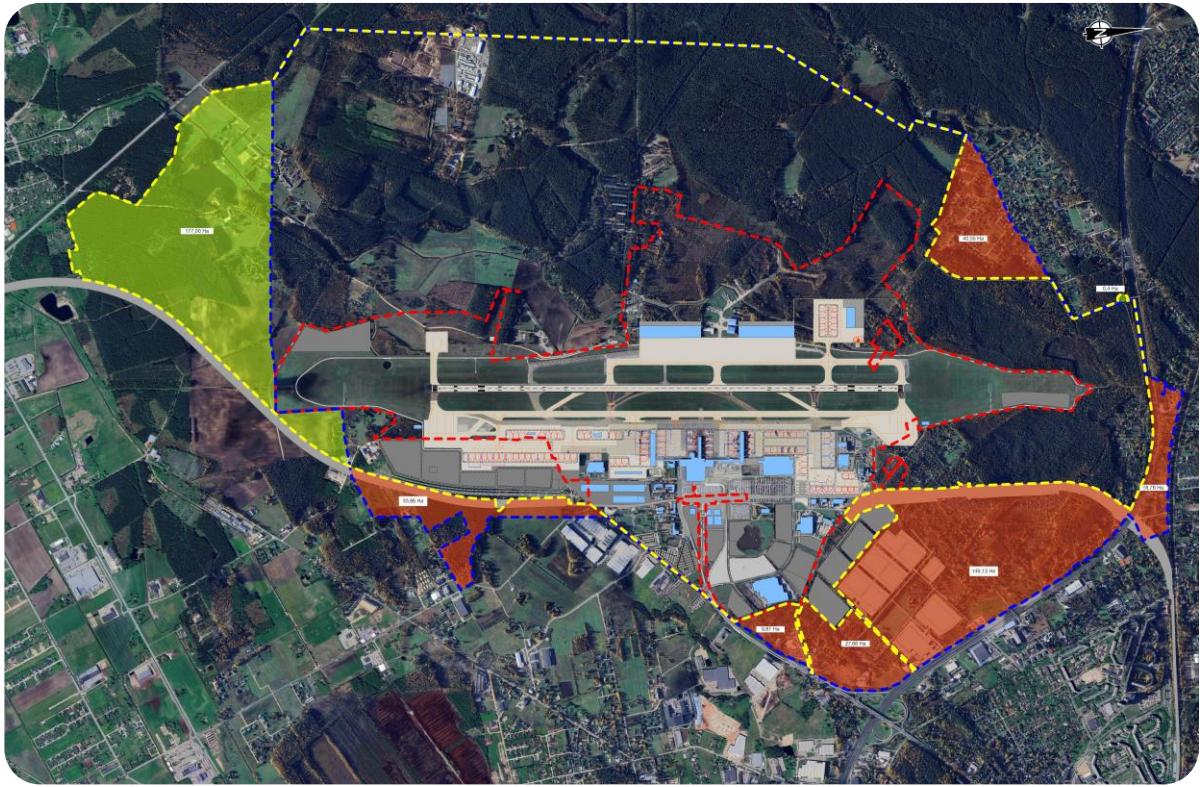
Riga Airport After 2050: Possible Locations of Second Runway



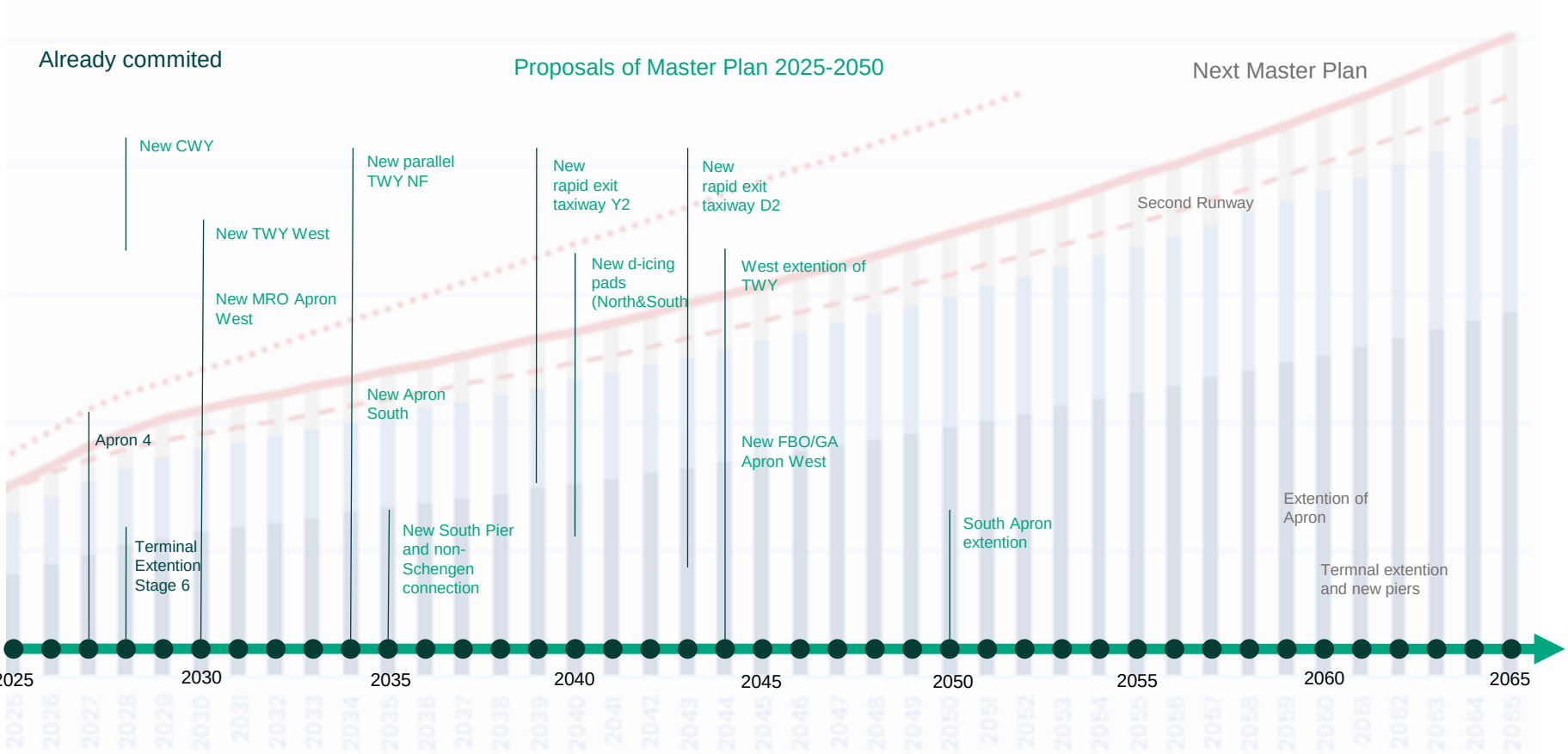
RIX Master Plan 2050: Reserved Territory

- Current territory: 636 ha
- Reserve of previos Master Plan: 1906 ha
- Reserve of new Master Plan: 1803 ha

- 177 ha new territory
- 280 ha relinquishment of territory



RIX Master Plan: Investments Roadmap



Public Consultations

Public Consultations on the Environmental Report project: November 3 – December 3

Public Consultations Meetings

- November 12, 17:00–19:00 – Mārupe Music and Art School and online
- November 13, 17:00–19:00 – Babīte Secondary School and online
- November 19, 17:00–19:00 – Riga Neighborhood Center in Imanta and online

Detailed information

About Master Plan and Environmental Report:

Riga Airport website

www.riga-airport.com

About Airport/Master Plan

About Environmental Report:

AS “Ventko” website

www.venteko.lv

Aktuāli

SIA “Reģionālie projekti” website

www.rp.lv

Jaunumi