## **Featured Story**

## Brooksville Tampa Bay Regional Airport (KBKV) Undergoes Runways Decoupling June 2021

By Paul Bryant

Last month the project manager told me the first phase of the runway decoupling would begin soon. And so, it does begin. Last week the barricades, heavy equipment, and personnel finally arrived to begin the long-awaited runways decoupling project. The first phase of the project begins with activity just north of the Chapter 1298 hangar. It is identified by the yellow area



marked TWB1 on this chart. It will eventually become the taxiway to access runway 03/21. The plan is to scrape away the grassy area north of our hangar and tie the east ramp by the American Aviation fuel tanks to the existing taxiway "Bravo".

Once that is complete, they will then begin the shortening of RW03 by a

few hundred feet. Here are some pics of the project start.

The taxiway must be completed before any of the other decoupling phases begin in order to provide access to runway 3/21. The airport management has emphasized the necessity to keep all runways open as best they can during the entire project



timeline. That is not to say there will be times one of the runways may be closed for short periods of time as the different phases evolve. As pilots operating into and out of KBKV, we all need to keep a close eye on the NOTAMS. As it stands right now, the northeast end of RW03 will be shortened a few hundred feet and the eastern portion of RW09 will be lengthened. The main purpose for the decoupling and extension of Brookville airport runways is to provide uninterrupted ground movement of aircraft during IFR approaches, eliminate the crossing



congestion at the north end of runway 21 mitigating aircraft incursions onto that runway and to enhance the landing capability of larger aircraft. If you are taxiing into or out of the EAA area, be mindful of the movement of heavy equipment, the barricades and most importantly be looking for any foreign object debris (FOD). Included in the heavy equipment repertoire is a huge sweeper. I will continue to update the membership at our monthly meetings as best I can, but the responsibility lies with each pilot to check all NOTAMS.