



DuPage announces \$11M widening of primary runway

Chicagoland's second longest runway to better accommodate large business jets

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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WEST CHICAGO, IL – DuPage Airport will kick off a \$11.4 million capital improvement project to widen and rehabilitate its primary runway, allowing for enhanced operational capability for large business jets, the Airport Authority has announced. The airport, which is a premiere business aviation airport and home to numerous corporate flight departments, reports that construction is slated to begin this spring with completion in December of this year.

At 7,570 feet long, DuPage's primary runway is the longest in Chicagoland outside of O'Hare and handles approximately 70 percent of the facility's aircraft operations. The project includes widening the runway from 100 feet to 150 feet – providing a greater crosswind capability for aircraft up to the size of the Boeing Business Jet – as well as pavement rehabilitation. The contractor for the project is Elgin, Ill.-based Martam Construction, Inc.

"Widening Runway 2L/20 gives us additional operational capacity and continues with our capital improvement program to build for the future," said Executive Airport Director David Bird. "As the industry grows, we continue to invest in our facility so DuPage is well positioned to capture that growth in business aviation that has been forecasted by the FAA and others."

The \$11.4 million cost for the project is one hundred percent funded with Airport Authority revenue and is expected to have nominal impact flight operations. Last year, the airport completed a project to lengthen its secondary runway to 6,430 feet, allowing it to serve as a backup when maintenance and construction is being performed on the primary runway.

Additional improvements currently underway include a new 30,000-square-foot transient hangar designed for storage of G650/Global aircraft, scheduled for completion in 2015.

Recently Completed Projects

Earlier this year, DuPage unveiled a new \$1.6 million Aircraft Rescue & Fire Fighting (ARFF) station. The 4,700-square-foot station – located closer to the airfield for improved response – operates 24/7 and houses two ARFF vehicles including a 1500-gallon Rosenbauer Panther that the DAA purchased in 2007 for \$600,000. ARFF services are provided by trained personnel in the West Chicago Fire Protection District through an intergovernmental agreement between the two agencies. This spring, the Airport Authority and Flight Center each launched new websites that streamline vital information and services for pilots and corporate flight

About DuPage Airport and Flight Center

Located just one hour west of the heart of Chicago and minutes from major suburban business districts, DuPage Airport and Flight Center is the only facility of its kind in Illinois with four active runways, two ILS approaches, and a 1 million-square-foot apron. DuPage's primary runway is the longest in Chicagoland outside of O'Hare Airport, providing operational flexibility to accommodate any business-class aircraft, including Boeing Business Jets. Home to many corporate flight departments, the airport experiences more than 80,000 takeoffs annually and has had no closures due to snow in 30 years. To learn more, visit www.dupageflightcenter.com.

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