

Press Office
City of Chicago
Department of Aviation



News Release

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NEW AVIATION COMMISSIONER CONFIRMED

City Council Approves Richard L. Rodriguez to Lead Chicago Airport System

The Chicago City Council today approved Mayor Richard M. Daley's nomination to appoint Richard L. Rodriguez as Commissioner of the Chicago Department of Aviation, which operates O'Hare and Midway International Airports.

"Richard L. Rodriguez's strong and effective management style as head of the Departments of Buildings and Construction and Permits has earned him a reputation for excellence in running large operations," said Mayor Daley. "I'm confident the Chicago Airport System will continue to grow and prosper under his watch."

Prior to his appointment as Aviation Commissioner, Rodriguez had been Commissioner of the Department of Buildings. He was responsible for enforcing the Chicago Building Code and integrating the functions of the Buildings Department with the Department of Construction and Permits, saving the City nearly \$2 million.

Rodriguez also served as the Executive Director of the Department of Construction and Permits, the Managing Deputy Commissioner of Real Estate and Planning for the Department of Aviation, and the Managing Director of Operations for the Chicago Housing Authority.

"It is an honor to have been appointed by Mayor Daley as Commissioner of Aviation," said Rodriguez. "I look forward to working to ensure the airports' economic growth and to fulfill Mayor Daley's vision to make Chicago's airports the best in the world."

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The Chicago Airport System is self-supporting, using no local or state tax dollars for operations or capital improvements at O'Hare and Midway International airports. Together, Chicago's airports generate more than \$45 billion in annual economic activity and create 540,000 jobs for the region. Please visit www.flychicago.com to learn more about the Chicago Airport System.

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