



Richard M. Daley, Mayor



Rosemarie S. Andolino, Commissioner

CDA Web Alert

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Mayor Daley, Secretary LaHood, Senator Durbin and Governor Quinn Announce \$410 Million in Funding for O'Hare Modernization Program

The U.S. Department of Transportation has issued a Letter of Intent (LOI) to provide \$410 million toward funding the completion phase (Phase 2) of the O'Hare Modernization Program, Chicago Mayor Richard M. Daley, U.S. Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood, U.S. Senator Dick Durbin (D-IL) and Illinois Governor Pat Quinn announced today at a news conference held at O'Hare International Airport.

The funding will be used for construction of three OMP Completion Phase runway projects: new Runway 9C-27C, new Runway 10R-28L and the extension of Runway 9R-27L. These projects are estimated to create about 13,000 jobs.

"This is a very substantial investment that shows how strongly the federal government supports the O'Hare Modernization Program," Mayor Daley said. "During these tough times, completing the OMP is more important than ever. Its efficient operation is essential to our ability to compete in the new economy that emerges from the recession and to make Chicago the kind of place where people want to live, work and raise a family."

"The O'Hare Modernization Program is the largest airport reconstruction project in U.S. history. It's fitting that the federal commitment is similarly historic. The funding we're announcing today, along with the FAA's commitment of \$337 million in 2005, brings the total federal support to \$747 million, which is the largest federal investment in an airport reconstruction project in history," said Senator Durbin. "With this funding, we will be able to reduce delays, increase capacity and boost operations and safety at one of the busiest airports in the world, all while putting people to work right here in Chicago in jobs that pay well. This investment will help keep Chicago competitive in the global economy and move us closer to making O'Hare the busiest, biggest and safest airport in the world."

"This funding and the continued and firm support we have received from the Department of Transportation demonstrates that the federal government recognizes the tremendous benefits the OMP has already, and will continue to deliver," said Rosemarie S. Andolino, Commissioner of the Chicago Department of Aviation.

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The Chicago Department of Aviation (CDA) 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 Department of Aviation.

The CDA continues to incorporate and expand sustainable initiatives for airport planning, operations and maintenance, concessions and tenants in accordance with the CDA Sustainable Airport Manual (SAM), released in August 2009. To view case studies, lessons learned and new technologies, and for more information on the SAM, please visit www.airportgoinggreen.org.

The O'Hare Modernization Program (OMP), introduced by Mayor Richard M. Daley in June 2001, transforms O'Hare's airfield from an outdated system of intersecting runways into a modern parallel runway configuration. The program will reduce overall delays at the Airport by 79 percent, and bad weather delays by 95 percent. It will create 195,000 new jobs and \$18 billion in additional economic activity each year. Please visit www.oharemodernization.org to learn more about the OMP.

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