



News Release

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Google Launches New Android Feature To Provide Travelers with Indoor Maps of O'Hare and Midway International Airports

Chicago airport visitors see where they are in relation to gates, restaurants, ATMs and more with the help of Google Maps

CHICAGO – The Chicago Department of Aviation (CDA) is pleased to announce that Google Maps has launched a new feature to help travelers more easily determine their location and discover points of interest within Chicago's O'Hare (ORD) and Midway International (MDW) Airports.

By simply zooming in to ORD and MDW, users of Google Maps for Android will be able to view detailed floor plans for each of Chicago's airports, including gates, food vendors and restrooms. Google launched the indoor maps feature today as part of a broader expansion of the popular online mapping service, which now offers floor plans for participating department stores, shopping malls and large retailers, in addition to airports. Users can use the My Location feature to pinpoint their indoor location, represented by a "blue dot" on the map, and use it to guide their movement through the airport. The indoor maps are currently available for Android phones only.

"Chicago-area airport travelers now have more information at their fingertips, with this faster and easier way to find where they are and where they want to be," said Mayor Rahm Emanuel. "Chicago's airports are an important part of our city's economic engine and this kind of innovation helps to keep these national transportation hubs on the cutting edge."

"This new Google maps feature will give travelers more opportunity to enjoy their time at our airports by visiting restaurants or getting a cup of coffee, getting some last-minute shopping done, or just get to their gates more easily." said Chicago Department of Aviation Commissioner Rosemarie S. Andolino.

Indoor maps are part of the Google Maps 6.0 release for Android-powered devices. Users will need to update the Google Maps application on their device in order to access these maps, but no updates will be required after that one-time installation to get new or updated indoor maps.

“Travelers can now use Google Maps for Android to more quickly and effortlessly figure out where they are and what’s around them when they’re indoors,” said Steve Lee, Director of Product Management at Google. “We’re thrilled to work with the Chicago Department of Aviation to improve people’s experiences at O’Hare and Midway, and help them determine various places within the venue they might want to go – be it a specific gate, ticket counter, restaurant, or just a restroom or ATM.”

For more information or press interview requests, please email requests to press@google.com.

ABOUT THE CHICAGO DEPARTMENT OF AVIATION (CDA)

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.