



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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N E W S R E L E A S E

**\$2.4 MILLION IN RECOVERY ACT
FUNDING FOR ABRAHAM LINCOLN CAPITAL AIRPORT**

SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS... Assistant Senate Majority Leader Dick Durbin (D-IL) today announced that the Department of Transportation has awarded \$2,448,855 the Abraham Lincoln Capital Airport located in Springfield, IL. Today's funding from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act will create jobs in Illinois and strengthen the region's infrastructure to serve passengers safely and efficiently.

Springfield Airport Authority: \$2,448,855 in funding to reconstruct a ramp at Abraham Lincoln Capital Airport. This ramp is one of the older pavements on the airfield and reconstructing it will reduce the potential for foreign object debris (FOD) damage to aircraft that can occur as older pavements deteriorate. This project will create a safer operating environment for the aircraft and personnel on this ramp. Recently this ramp area has seen an increase in activity and usage, primarily by larger aircraft, and the expansion will better accommodate the current demand as well as anticipated future use for ramp space. The current and future corporate and general aviation tenants in this area will also have improved access to the airfield when the project is completed.

The Pavement Condition Index, which measures the pavement's life cycle, for this particular section of pavement ranges from the mid to upper 60's to the low 40's. Guidance from the FAA and IDOT suggest planning for pavement rehabilitation begins when PCI's reach the low 70s.

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The project could begin as soon as May and be completed by the end of August 2009. The contractor bid was under the engineering estimate, which was provided by Illinois Valley Paving, Inc.

“This project has been in the airport's capital improvement planning cycle with IDOT and the FAA for a number of years. We were able complete the design work and acquire bids earlier this spring, which we believed helped us to attract these stimulus dollars at this time since work can begin with virtually no delays,” said Mark Hanna, Executive Director of the airport. “This project will advance our airport capital improvement program and save us approximately \$60,000 locally, or over \$120,000 between the airport and the State of Illinois, since there are no local or State matching dollars required.”

Typically, projects like this require a 5% local match, 2.5% local airport and 2.5% IDOT - State of Illinois.

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