



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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N E W S R E L E A S E

Capital Airport Awarded \$2.5 Million for Airfield Improvements.

SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS... Abraham Lincoln Capital Airport has been awarded a Federal Aviation Administration discretionary Airport Improvement Grant of \$2,515,315 to widen Taxiway Golf from Taxiway Foxtrot and the Foxtrot Ramp intersection to the threshold of Runway 22. The ultimate taxiway width of 75 feet will allow larger jet aircraft to use and access the north quadrant of the airport and will enhance taxi route options for aircraft of all sizes entering and exiting the airport's most used runway.

The widening project will call for 17.5 feet of new concrete, 13 inches thick, to be added to both sides of the existing 40 foot pavement. With fall/winter approaching enough construction days do not remain for construction be completed by winter. However, some work is anticipated before winter and the remainder of the project will be completed in the spring of 2010.

Several other improvements necessary to complete the widening of the area are:

- Filling in two grass islands to increase the capacity of the ramp and eliminating areas that aircraft could not previously utilize.
- Installing new airfield edge lighting, signage and cabling.
- Update taxiway pavement marking.
- Install a new subsurface drainage system as associated edge drains.

This project will be funded with 95% federal dollars, 2.5% state dollars, and 2.5% local airport dollars. Frank Vala, Chairman of the Springfield Airport Authority hailed the grant award saying, "This is the kind of infrastructure improvement we must make in order to insure that safety and capacity are maintained in a way to support the future growth of this airport. It will create some new construction jobs and will ensure Abraham Lincoln Capital Airport is poised for future expansion and business development."

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