



For Immediate Release

March 24, 2008

Contact: Office of Public Affairs, 703-417-8370

Parking Garage Expansion Project Begins at Reagan National Airport

Construction will affect available garage parking spaces

A major project to add parking to the garages is now underway at Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport. The Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority has contracted with Sigal Construction Company to build a new, fifth level with 1,424 new parking spaces on Garages A, B and C. The \$54 million project will be divided into phases to minimize the temporary loss of parking during construction. Throughout the project, the Airports Authority is advising the public to check parking availability before driving to the airport and keep alert for traffic pattern changes near the garages.



"We are pleased to move forward with this project that will significantly benefit our customers at Reagan National," said Jim Bennett, President/CEO of the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority. "Our passenger numbers have reached record levels, so increasing the available parking at the airport will contribute to a smoother travel experience for everyone."

Last year, 18.7 million passengers flew at Reagan National, compared to about 15 million per year at the time when the garages first opened. The garages currently have 5,204 public spaces and this project will increase that amount by about 27 percent. Construction is expected to be complete in 2010.

The contractor is now in the process of setting up equipment staging areas around the garages. Once that is complete, passengers should anticipate the closure of a 162-space section on the roof of Daily Garage C. The Airports Authority has established a web page at www.mwaa.com/reagan where updates will be posted throughout the phases of construction. The page also links to a real-time display of available parking space. Customers can also call 703-417-PARK (7275) to speak to a live parking representative.

To alleviate the loss of parking during construction, the Airports Authority will open a temporary parking lot near the Economy Lot. The lot will have over 700 spaces with free shuttle service to all Terminals as is available at the other lots and garages. The Airports Authority is working to complete the temporary lot this summer and will announce the opening on the Authority website.