



PRESS RELEASE
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Transportation Secretary Mineta Pledges Federal Funding For New Runway at Dulles Airport

U.S. Department of Transportation Secretary Norman Y. Mineta came to Washington Dulles International Airport on Tuesday, February 21 to personally sign a Letter of Intent for federal funding in the amount of \$200 million to help pay for the construction of a new runway at the Airport.

The new runway—Dulles Airport’s fourth—will be a north-south runway, approximately 9,500 feet long and 150 feet wide with high-speed exit taxiways and equipped with an instrument landing system and associated lighting systems. Secretary Mineta is pledging federal funds for the runway expansion program.

“This is a very important day for Dulles Airport,” said James E. Bennett, President and CEO of the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority. “We set new records in 2005, serving 27 million passengers and accommodating more than 509,000 flight operations. As the demand for air service in the Washington region continues to grow, so must our facilities. This new runway, and a future fifth runway, will provide additional airfield capacity at Dulles to serve both current and projected growth, and help to avoid aircraft delays now and in the future.”

In 2005, the Federal Aviation Administration completed an environmental impact study for the fourth, and a future fifth, runway at Dulles. Work is expected to begin on the fourth runway later this year for an expected completion date of 2008. This project is part of the Airports Authority’s nearly \$4 billion construction program known as Dulles Development, or d2.

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