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Gary/Chicago International Airport unveils vision for future

GARY (March 9, 2015) – Gary/Chicago International Airport leaders presented their vision for the airport’s future at a board meeting today. The Vision, illustrated in a 64-page book, lays the foundation for continued economic growth at and around the airport and focuses on investment and development goals for the coming years.

The result of a collaborative effort and the review of numerous studies on economic development in Gary, the Vision includes plans to:

1. Leverage the airport’s strategic location to grow corporate client-base from Chicago
2. Market and promote the expanded 8,900 foot runway throughout the industry, slated to open in June 2015
3. Return commercial service to the airport by 2017
4. Explore investments for surrounding infrastructure, like roads, water and sewer service, and passenger rail stations
5. Pursue a customs facility

“The Vision lays the groundwork for good things to come at the Airport,” said Airport Authority Chairman Stephen Mays. “We remain committed to growing new opportunities, attracting investment, and creating the best environment to drive economic growth for Gary and the region.”

It has been a little over one year since the Airport signed a public-private partnership (P3) with AFCO/AvPorts. In a “Year in Review” presentation, the airport management company highlighted progress and accomplishments over the past 12 months including assisting the Airport in securing a bond to finance the Runway Expansion Project and improving operational efficiencies, such as invoicing and processing, resulting in additional revenue.

“This past year was one of transition while AvPorts dedicated the time to implement AvPorts best practices and industry best-in-class policies at the Airport,” said AvPorts President and CEO Ozzie Moore. “As we move into year two, AvPorts will continue to improve operational strategies and work aggressively toward the goals outlined in the Vision plan.”

The P3 transition was successfully completed in late 2014, and AvPorts is now fully operational.

Read the Gary/Chicago International Airport Vision on the airport’s [website](#).

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