



# News Release

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## **San José Airport Receives \$7.2 million from FAA and Stimulus Funding for Airfield Safety Improvements** *One main runway to close for two weeks at start of project*

**SAN JOSÉ, CA** – Federal stimulus funding and grants totaling \$7.2 million for airfield improvements at Mineta San José International Airport (SJC) have been approved by the Federal Aviation Administration. Construction of the first phase of the new taxiway extension on the west side of the airfield is scheduled to start September 8.

The Taxiway W project will enhance the safety of movements of general aviation aircraft and further reduce the risk of accidents on the airfield. The funded project is the first phase of a long-term plan to complete a new taxiway that also will help support the future development of the west side of the airport for general and corporate aviation activities.

The stimulus funding share of the project is \$5.2 million through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. In addition, the FAA already awarded \$2 million for the taxiway through the federal Airport Improvement Program. The airport's local matching grant share is \$482,000.

More than 80 construction jobs are estimated to be supported by the project, which involves the removal of existing pavement, construction of new concrete pavement for the taxiway extension, installation of airfield signage and lighting, and related activities.

“This project is creating local jobs and making our airport safer,” said San José Mayor Chuck Reed. “The new taxiway also will help us support more general aviation, which will be good for the airport, San José and Silicon Valley.”

*[more]*



As part of the project, the airport will close its principal commercial approach runway, Runway 30 Left, for about approximately two weeks beginning late September, which will allow crews to begin work on the first portion of the new taxiway. The 11,000-foot runway is usually used for commercial aircraft landing at San José. As a result of the closure, Runway 30 Right will be used for both arrivals and departures at San José while R30L is closed.

During the period that the runway is closed, southern approaches to the airport, generally over the intersection of Highway 101 and Highway 85, will shift approximately one mile to the east of the normal flight path. Residents in South San José may notice an increase in aircraft operations over their communities.

Closer to the airport, aircraft approaches will shift approximately 600 to 1000 feet to the east, which residents in neighborhoods near the airport may notice.

The runway is scheduled to reopen by early October, provided there are no delays due to weather or other factors. Once reopened, Runway 30 Left will return to service as the primary runway for arrivals and Runway 30 Right again will be the primary runway for departures.

The construction also will require the closure of Runway 11/29, SJC's 4600-foot runway used by small aircraft, until the project is completed in January 2010. During this period, all aircraft operating at SJC will use the airport's two main runways.

The taxiway construction will not delay regular operations, affect safety, or change schedules of commercial air service. The FAA air traffic control system will coordinate landings and take-offs to maintain scheduled operations as it has done in the past when a runway is temporarily out of service.

The contractor on the project is Granite Rock Company. The remainder of Taxiway W is scheduled to be built in stages over the next several years. The total project cost is currently estimated to be approximately \$80 million, and the airport anticipates that funding will come from future AIP grants from the FAA.

### **About Mineta San José International Airport**

Mineta San José International Airport, a self-supporting enterprise, is owned and operated by the City of San José. SJC served 9.7 million passengers and handled approximately 162 million pounds of air cargo in 2008. SJC has approximately 145 flights a day on 13 domestic and international carriers to 27 nonstop destinations.

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**San José Airport Receives \$8 Million Federal  
Funding for Airfield Improvements**

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Mineta San José International Airport is located in San José, California's third largest city and the nation's tenth largest city (population 1,007,000).

For more airport information, visit [www.flysanjose.org](http://www.flysanjose.org), or call Airport Customer Service at (408) 501-0979. Motorists can also tune their radios to 530 AM within two miles of SJC for current information on airport traffic, parking and security.

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