# MAC board approves MSP Airport's 2040 Long-Term Plan

The plan outlines proposed improvements to MSP terminals, parking facilities and airfield to accommodate growth



Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport (MSP). Courtesy of the Metropolitan Airports Commission.

MINNEAPOLIS-ST. PAUL, Minn. — The Metropolitan Airports Commission (MAC) board approved the long-term plan for Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport (MSP) today. The MSP Airport 2040 Long-Term Plan outlines potential projects to improve the terminals, parking facilities and airfield to accommodate passenger growth and other changes in aviation activity over the next two decades.

MSP is the 19th busiest airport in North America by passenger traffic based on the latest annual data by Airports Council International. The long-term plan is based on a forecast that the airport will serve approximately 56 million passengers by 2040, compared to the current all-time record of 39.5 million passengers set in 2019. MSP's runway system has sufficient capacity to meet that demand based on the operations forecast through 2040. Total aircraft operations are expected to increase to approximately 510,000 by 2040, compared to 2023 total operations of 323,929, and well below the high mark of 540,727 annual operations in 2004.

"Our focus through this multi-year process has been to make sure we're prepared to meet growing demand in air service, cargo and other flight operations while maintaining our commitment to the highest standards in service to our travelers and stakeholders, while minimizing environmental impacts." said Brian Ryks, CEO of the MAC, which owns and operates MSP Airport. "MSP has the ability to accommodate the projected growth without new runways, but we've identified the need to expand terminals, gates and other areas to improve operations for our airlines and make the passenger journey easier throughout the airport."

Highlights of the long-term plan include new gates that are part of a near-term need to expand Terminal 2 to the south and a long-term project to extend Concourse G in Terminal 1. There are mid- and long-term projects to reconstruct concourses E and F and to create a passenger connector between Terminals 1 and 2. Other proposed projects focus on improving parking and reducing roadway congestion in front of the terminals. Recommended airfield changes include new taxiways to improve operational efficiency and safety, as well as projects for additional aircraft parking and expanded cargo facilities. Click here to see a summary of proposed projects.

"This plan allows us to begin design work for these new projects that will still require appropriate environmental review, capital planning and relevant budgetary actions before any construction is approved," said Bridget Rief, MAC vice president of planning and development. "It gives us a comprehensive framework for the facilities we need to accommodate future demand in a way that is strategic, safe, efficient and cost-effective."

The MSP Long-Term Plan incorporated extensive research on passenger and aircraft trends along with current airport infrastructure capabilities. It also reflects feedback and input gathered through an inclusive stakeholder engagement program that included elected officials, regional community partners, airlines, federal and state agencies, business leaders, travel groups, and members of the public. The public engagement process recently concluded with the plan's review by the Metropolitan Council to make sure the plan is consistent with all components of the regional development guide.

"The MSP Airport 2040 Long-Term Plan is an essential tool for ensuring that we maintain the highest industry rankings in operations and customer satisfaction," said MAC Chair Rick King. "The plan identifies improvements that will be needed to boost air service and support job activity that are critical to the sustained economic growth of Minnesota for decades to come."

Earlier this year, MSP won top global and large airport awards in Cirium's 2023 On-Time Performance Review. Airports Council International (ACI) also named MSP as the best airport in North America through its global passenger survey program, in the 25-40 million passenger category. That recognition

marked the third straight year — and seventh out of the last eight years — that MSP received the Airport Service Quality program title.

**About The Metropolitan Airports Commission (MAC)**

*The Metropolitan Airports Commission (MAC) owns and operates one of the nation's largest airport systems, including Minneapolis-St Paul International (MSP) and six general aviation airports. The MAC's airports connect the region to the world and showcase Minnesota's extraordinary culture to millions of passengers from around the globe who arrive or depart through MAC airports each year. Though a public corporation of the state of Minnesota, the organization is not funded by income or property taxes. Instead, the MAC's operations are funded by rents and fees generated by users of its airports. For more information, visit www.metroairports.org.*

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