



# METROPOLITAN AIRPORTS COMMISSION

## Media Release

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## **MSP Airport to create passenger sensory-friendly rooms** **Partnership with Minnesota nonprofit Fraser facilitates development of new inclusive, calming spaces**



Conceptual rendering of a future sensory room at Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport. Courtesy: Allliance, Metropolitan Airports Commission

MINNEAPOLIS-ST. PAUL, Minn. — Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport (MSP) will create its first-ever sensory rooms to provide calming spaces designed to reduce the stress and

sensory overload that often accompanies travel, ensuring a more positive experience for those who need it.

The Metropolitan Airports Commission (MAC), which owns and operates MSP, is partnering with Minnesota-based nonprofit Fraser to design the sensory rooms that will soon be built as part of two separate terminal expansion projects that will be completed by 2028.

“This is another major step to create a more accessible and inclusive airport experience, to help passengers with sensory sensitivities, or those who just need a quieter space to decompress before a flight,” said Brian Ryks, CEO of the MAC. “Through our Strategic Partnership program, we are expanding our relationship with Fraser, which has provided guidance and support to the MAC for many years to help us develop impactful accessibility programs and services at the airport.”

Fraser is an existing partner of the [Navigating MSP program](#), which celebrated its 10th anniversary in 2023, and participates on the MAC’s Travelers with Disabilities Advisory Committee.

“We are so honored to partner with MSP Airport to bring sensory-friendly spaces to individuals who need a different experience at the airport in order to travel,” said Fraser President and CEO Diane S. Cross. “Our partnership with MSP Airport is a big step toward making Minnesota sensory-friendly for all.”

The new sensory rooms are central to Fraser’s five-year commitment in the Strategic Partnership program, which was formally approved by the MAC board on Sept. 16. Fraser has named Central Roofing Company a naming partner for the new spaces.

Jason Stock, CFO, VP, at [Central Roofing Company](#) says, “My dad always told me that, as a parent, my job was to open doors for my kids. I figure, if I’m opening a door, I should hold it open for others to go through. Central Roofing is proud to be a naming partner with Fraser in this project. These rooms will help so many travelers.”

One of the new sensory rooms will be built as part of the Terminal 2 North Expansion project opening in early 2027. A second sensory room will open in 2028 as part of the expansion of Terminal 1’s Concourse G, between gates G8 and G18. The sensory rooms will include features such as dimmable lighting, a variety of seating types and sensory-friendly furnishings.

The sensory room partnership will broaden the reach of [MSP’s passenger accessibility program](#), which holds the highest level of accreditation by [Airports Council International](#) (ACI), a global organization representing more than 1,900 airports in 170 countries.

The accessibility certification recognizes MSP’s programs, policies, infrastructure design and services. This includes a growing number of accessible restrooms with adult changing tables, audio navigation featuring the Aira Airport Network for those with visual impairments, the Hidden Disabilities Sunflower program for passengers to self-identify to receive assistance for

special needs, visual messaging, and video relay interpretation for those who use American Sign Language.

MSP is the 18th busiest airport in the United States having served 34.7 million travelers in 2023.

#### **About Fraser**

Fraser is nationally recognized for autism, mental/behavioral health, and disability services for individuals of all ages. The Minnesota nonprofit is uniquely positioned to serve those with intellectual or developmental disabilities and co-occurring autism or mental health issues. The organization's whole-person service line includes healthcare, housing, education, employment, and support programs, across the lifespan. Learn more at [fraser.org](https://fraser.org).

#### **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 \(MSP\) Airport](https://www.metroairports.org/minneapolis-st-paul-international-airport) 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](https://www.metroairports.org).

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