

News Release

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Detroit Metropolitan and Willow Run airports invite community to discuss Master Plan updates

DETROIT (April 25, 2016) – Detroit Metropolitan (DTW) and Willow Run (YIP) airports are seeking the community’s input on their Master Plans. The public’s involvement is critical to this process, since Master Plans reflect the long-term goals of airports to accommodate passenger, cargo and general aviation activity over the next 20 years.

“Based on a recent assessment, we’re confident Detroit Metropolitan Airport is positioned to accommodate future activity and growth,” said Airport Authority CEO Thomas Naughton. “Despite the expected growth in total passengers, our forecast indicates an additional runway at Detroit Metropolitan Airport is not anticipated to be needed within the next two decades. This is a key example of the important information we look at during the Master Plan update process. We also want to make sure our DTW and Willow Run neighbors and customers have the opportunity to understand our planning process, share their ideas and remain engaged with our team.”

Willow Run, which is a primary reliever airport for DTW, serves general aviation, cargo and corporate jet markets. Like Detroit Metropolitan Airport, there are opportunities and challenges to consider at YIP. This week, the Airport Authority will examine these issues during the first Public Information Meetings of the current Master Plan update process.

Willow Run Airport Master Plan

Tuesday, April 26, 2016
5:00 – 7:30 p.m.
Holiday Inn Express Hotel
46194 N. Interstate 94 Service Dr., Belleville

Detroit Metropolitan Airport Master Plan

Thursday, April 28, 2016
5:00 – 7:30 p.m.
Wayne County Community College District
Downriver Campus – Ray Mix Room
21000 Northline Road, Taylor

Community members may stop by anytime between 5:00 and 7:30 p.m. to gain a better understanding of the respective airport's Master Plan update process. Participants will have the opportunity to view informative displays and maps, ask questions and provide feedback. Airport staff and their consultant teams will be available to explain the goals and objectives of the Master Plan update, forecasts for future aviation activity, the existing facilities' ability to meet future demand and potential development solutions.

The last Master Plan updates were completed in 2006 for Willow Run and 2009 for Detroit Metro.

More information is available online at www.willowrunmasterplan.com and www.detroitmetroairportmasterplan.org.

Reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as signers for the hearing impaired, will be provided at the meetings upon notice to Kristy Exner, Wayne County Airport Authority, by e-mail at kristy.exner@wcaa.us or (734) 247-2223.

***Detroit Metropolitan Wayne County Airport (DTW)** welcomed more than 33 million passengers in 2015 and is one of the world's leading air transportation hubs. With service from 13 scheduled passenger airlines, Michigan's largest airport offers more than 1,100 flights per day to and from more than 140 non-stop destinations on four continents. With two award-winning passenger terminals, six jet runways, and an onsite AAA Four-Diamond Westin Hotel, DTW is among the world's most efficient, customer friendly and operationally capable airports in North America. DTW is operated by **Wayne County Airport Authority**, which also operates nearby **Willow Run Airport**. **The Airport Authority is entirely self-sustaining and does not receive tax dollars to support airport operations.** Visit www.metroairport.com or www.willowrunairport.com for more information.*

***Willow Run Airport (YIP)** is an important corporate, cargo and general aviation airport located in Michigan's Ypsilanti Township. Occupying 2,600 acres, the airport has excellent services and infrastructure for airports in its class: three runways, including an all-weather instrument landing system (ILS) runway; 24-hour aircraft rescue firefighting facilities; on-site weather bureau service; 24-hour FAA control tower and US Customs service; newly upgraded runways and taxiways; snow removal; flight instruction, cargo and hangar facilities. Willow Run is also home to the FAA's Flight Standards District Office, an important resource for pilots/ flight crews, and the Yankee Air Museum which hosts the annual Thunder Over Michigan Air Show and retells YIP's storied history, from its origins as one of Henry Ford's assembly plants, which produced more than 8,700 B-24 Liberator Bombers during WWII.*

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