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News Release

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Detroit Airport Airfield Operations Director to Represent Airport Cooperative Research Program

DETROIT (February 9 , 2015) - Dianne Walker, Director of Airfield Operations for Detroit Metropolitan Airport and Willow Run Airport has been selected as an Ambassador for the Airport Cooperative Research Program (ACRP), an industry-driven, applied research program that develops near-term, practical solutions to problems faced by airport operators. ACRP is managed by the Transportation Research Board of the National Academies and sponsored by the Federal Aviation Administration.

Airports submit research ideas or “problem statements” to ACRP and comprehensive studies are conducted on those issues which are likely to benefit a broad range of airports.

Examples of studies recently published for the benefit of airports include: “*Airport Terminal Incident Response Planning*,” “*Prototype Airport Sustainability Rating System-Characteristics, Visibility, and Implementation Options*,” “*Being Prepared for Irregular Operations, a Business Planning and Decision Making Approach*,” “*Guidebook for Successfully Assessing and Managing Risks in Airport Capital and Maintenance Projects*,” and “*Airport Escalators and Moving Walkways—Cost Savings and Energy Reduction Technologies*.”

As an Ambassador, Walker will represent ACRP at airport industry conferences and events during her two-year term.

“I am proud of Dianne, not only because it is an honor to be selected, but also because of her enthusiasm for sharing industry best practices among airports across the nation,” said Thomas Naughton, airport authority CEO. “The exchange of this information is a key factor in keeping our airport industry safe and efficient.”

Walker already is active in ACRP currently serving on an Irregular Operations panel.

“I am both excited and honored to be selected to represent ACRP and educate industry professionals on the wonderful merits of the Transportation Research Board’s research programs for the aviation industry.”

A Detroit resident, Walker has worked at Detroit Metropolitan Airport or Willow Run Airport for 31 years and has been Wayne County Airport Authority’s Director of Airfield Operations since 2005.

Detroit Metropolitan Wayne County Airport (DTW) welcomed more than 32 million passengers in 2014 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 nearly 150 non-stop destinations on four continents. In 2010, DTW ranked highest in overall customer satisfaction among large airports in the J.D. Power and Associates North America Airport Satisfaction Study. 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 – an important corporate, cargo and general aviation facility. The Airport Authority is entirely self-sustaining and does not receive tax dollars to support airport operations. Visit www.metroairport.com for more information.

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