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News Release

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Model of New Terminal Unveiled

--Detroit will have its second new terminal in six years

The Wayne County Airport Authority today unveiled a model of the north terminal which is under construction at Detroit Metropolitan Wayne County Airport (DTW). The eight-foot-long model of the 26-gate terminal was displayed at today's Authority Board meeting along with 13 large conceptual renderings including interior views.

"We have been talking about this terminal and showing drawings over the past couple of years," said WCAA CEO Lester Robinson. "But a three-dimensional model provides the viewer a much better understanding of how terminal will look and operate."

Also on display at the meeting were samples of a variety of materials and interior finishes proposed for the \$418 million project.

Site preparation is well underway, with the old Davey Terminal demolished and massive wrecking equipment continuing its assault on the former Marriott Hotel, which should be down early in June. Work on installing a mat foundation for the north terminal check-in building has begun and soon the old apron (aircraft parking areas) will be broken up. Bids have been received for structural steel and steel piles and the construction and installation of a hydrant fueling system which they are being reviewed by the project team. In the meantime, Spirit Airlines will soon be closing three gates on the north side of old concourse C and shifting those operations to gates on the south side to make room for the north terminal project. This will have no impact on customers.

According to north terminal Project Director Jon Hypnar, the design should be 100% complete by the end of June and approximately 7,000 tons of structural steel will begin arriving on the construction site early this fall. Twenty-six jet bridges have been purchased and the baggage system contract has been awarded.

"With its simple linear design and modern conveniences, the north terminal will represent a significant upgrade in customer convenience compared to the Smith and Berry Terminals," said Mr. Robinson. "It will also provide a considerable improvement in efficiency for the airlines."

Scheduled airlines to relocate from the aging Smith and Berry Terminals to the new north terminal include: Air Canada, American, Air Tran, Frontier, Southwest, Spirit, United, USAirways/America West, and USA 3000 as well as non-scheduled airlines such as Champion Air, Ryan Air and others. International carriers British Airways, Lufthansa and Royal Jordanian will move from the McNamara Terminal. Northwest Airlines and its SkyTeam partners, Northwest AirlinK, Air France, Continental and Delta will remain in the McNamara Terminal which opened in February 2002.

The north terminal is still on schedule for a 2008 grand opening. The Airport Authority plans to install the model in the check-in lobby of the Smith Terminal and display renderings at www.metroairport.com

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NR North Terminal model