



Las Vegas • McCarran International Airport

NEWS RELEASE

Clark County Department of Aviation - Randall H. Walker, Director

CONTACT: *Chris Jones*
Public Information Administrator

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Nov. 14, 2008

(702) 261-5290

Runway rehabilitation affecting air & ground traffic Weather may cause flight delays; drivers also urged to take caution near construction vehicles

LAS VEGAS – A necessary construction project to upgrade the surface of one of McCarran International's four runways could for the next several months affect arriving and departing flights, as well as motor vehicle traffic south of the airport.

The Clark County Department of Aviation on Nov. 1 closed McCarran's Runway 25L/7R to replace its asphalt with a more-durable concrete surface. This runway is expected to be closed through May 1, 2009. In the interim, the Federal Aviation Administration will attempt to maximize its use of McCarran's three other runways to maintain a steady air traffic flow both in and out of Las Vegas.

"Construction was deliberately scheduled during the winter months to minimize this work's impact on local air traffic," said Randall H. Walker, director of the Clark County Department of Aviation. "This runway is 10,500 feet in length, just short of two miles, and we have crews working around the clock."

When using the FAA's preferred configuration, air traffic at McCarran can operate at or near normal capacity. **However, delays could occur when other traffic patterns are required due to weather conditions.** The length of these delays will vary based on factors that include the severity of the weather, and the number of flights scheduled to arrive or depart during a given period. Before heading to the airport, travelers are advised to check their flight's status by contacting their airline, or by logging on to www.mccarran.com.

The Department of Aviation is also asking drivers to take extra caution near the intersection of Sunset and Bermuda roads, as well as near the on- and off-ramps that link Sunset with the Interstate 215 Airport Connector Tunnel (**See attached map**). Construction traffic heading in and out of these access points will affect other drivers in the area until the runway rehabilitation is completed.

A four-way traffic signal at Sunset and Bermuda will be operating later this month. Private vehicles cannot access the work site north of the intersection, though nearby drivers will encounter construction vehicles entering or exiting the runway site via Sunset or Bermuda. Separately, northbound construction traffic will exit the I-215 Airport Connector Tunnel using the same Sunset Road off-ramp private motor vehicles use. In addition, construction traffic will enter the southbound I-215 Airport Connector by merging onto an existing on-ramp near the intersection of Sunset and Grier Drive.

Drivers in these areas should be aware of construction traffic entering or exiting the work site, often at reduced rates of speed. Obey the posted speed limits, and be cognizant of new access points that will bring cross traffic from directions that previously produced none.

The \$75 million Runway 25L/7R rehabilitation project is partially financed through a \$28.4 million FAA grant. The Department of Aviation's budget is funded through revenue generated by airport business operations, not local tax dollars.



P.O. Box 11005 • Las Vegas, NV 89111-1005 • 702-261-3094 • Fax 702-261-5645
E-Mail: webmaster2@mccarran.com

McCARRAN AIRPORT - AIRFIELD

