

Las Vegas • McCarran International Airport

NEWS RELEASE

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

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 23, 2008

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Get an early start on holiday travels at McCarran

Locals flying out this Memorial Day weekend are encouraged to arrive early, or leave their vehicles at home to avoid holiday congestion at long-term parking

LAS VEGAS – Record-high fuel prices won't deter millions of Americans from taking their annual warm-weather getaways during 2008. Memorial Day weekend traditionally marks the launch of the summer travel season, and this year McCarran International is again advising those who intend to park their vehicles here to plan ahead to ensure a quick and easy travel experience at the nation's seventh-busiest airport.

"We're expecting nearly 670,000 passengers to pass through McCarran over a five-day period beginning today and ending Monday," said Randall H. Walker, director of the Clark County Department of Aviation. "We're accustomed to handling large crowds, but that doesn't mean local travelers shouldn't help themselves and others by taking a few easy steps to kick off their trips in a safe and easy manner."

When possible, airport leaders are again encouraging Southern Nevadans to "Get a Ride" when traveling to McCarran this summer. Ongoing construction has closed some areas that had recently been used for public parking. While there are still nearly 10,000 long-term parking spaces available, they could fill quickly and travelers may be directed to unfamiliar parking locations. To ensure adequate time for a shuttle ride to the terminal, drivers who are checking bags should plan to park their vehicles approximately two hours before their flight's scheduled departure. Shuttles will run continuously between uncovered parking areas and airport terminals

McCarran's Long Term garage and covered valet spaces could fill by Friday afternoon, as could the Economy Lot along Flight Path Avenue just east of Paradise Road. Drivers could alternately use a 270-space uncovered lot near McCarran's Terminal 2, or be directed to an overflow lot near the Thomas & Mack Center. An additional overflow lot west of Paradise may also be used during certain busy periods this summer. Electronic reader boards, road signs and members of McCarran's parking staff will direct those who choose to park at McCarran to the appropriate parking site.

Information on parking availability can be obtained in advance by calling the parking hotline at (702) 261-5122.

More Travel Tips:

- Pack smart by knowing what does not belong in your suitcase or carry-on bag. Visit www.tsa.gov to learn more.
- Travelers are encouraged to check their bags hours before arriving at McCarran using the Airport SpeedCheck Advance service by Bags To Go, available at four off-airport locations. Visit www.mccarran.com for participating airlines and details.
- Short Term parking and the passenger pick-up curb will also be busy. Before coming to the airport to pick someone up, please check their flight status by visiting McCarran's Web site or calling (702) 261-4636.
- McCarran's valet parking may be full and closed during peak travel periods. Check for availability by calling (702) 261-6999.
- Travelers with personal digital assistants or "smart phones" can access current flight information at www.flymccarran.com.

