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NEWS RELEASE

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

CONTACT:

Chris Jones
Public Information Administrator

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(702) 261-5290

Summer traffic demand could fill McCarran parking

Memorial Day weekend travelers are encouraged to get a ride to the airport, where peak traffic could quickly absorb nearly 10,000 public parking spaces

LAS VEGAS – Memorial Day weekend marks the unofficial start of the summer travel season, and passenger volume at McCarran International Airport should be busier than ever. With many locals expected to fly out of town for summer trips beginning this weekend, airport leaders are again asking Southern Nevadans to get a ride when traveling to McCarran during this busy travel period.

"McCarran is the sixth-busiest airport in the United States, and on an average day there are nearly 130,000 people who'll fly through here," said Randall H. Walker, director of the Clark County Department of Aviation. "There are limits to how many automobiles we can park at the airport, and rather than test those limits, we're asking those who can to please catch a ride with a friend or family member, or take a bus or taxi to the airport on their way out of town."

There are 3,350 public parking spaces within McCarran's Long Term garage, 1,000 covered valet parking spaces and another 900 covered spaces set aside for short-term stops of three hours or less. Drivers can also park at McCarran's 4,100-space Economy Lot off of Russell Road, or use a 270-space uncovered lot near McCarran's Terminal 2.

Once those spaces are filled, drivers will be directed to an overflow lot near the Thomas & Mack Center that's capable of holding approximately 1,050 additional vehicles. Beyond that, no additional airport parking is currently available.

"Traffic continues to grow, and we've come close to filling our Long Term garage and Economy Lot weeks before the summer travel season was fully under way," Walker said. "One missed flight caused by parking delays can ruin a vacation before it starts. That's why we're asking people to plan ahead, and if they've got the means to avoid parking at the airport, we suggest they do just that."

Electronic reader boards, road signs and members of McCarran's parking staff will direct those who chose 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.

Parking Tips

- Travelers are urged to take a taxi or bus, or ask a friend or relative to drop them off when visiting McCarran this holiday weekend.
- McCarran's Long Term garage will be full and closed during peak summer travel periods, including many weekends. An
 uncovered Economy Parking Lot is located east of the airport along Russell Road, though it could also fill during periods
 when many Southern Nevada residents travel through McCarran.
- Shuttles will run continuously between uncovered parking areas and the airport's terminals. Travelers using Economy or overflow parking should set aside at least 30 additional minutes to travel to or from the airport.
- 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 www.mccarran.com or calling (702) 261-4636.
- Travelers with personal digital assistants or "smart phones" can access current flight information at www.flymccarran.com.
- McCarran's valet parking will be full and closed during peak travel periods. Check for availability by calling (702) 261-6999.

