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McCarran adds security lanes & gates

New C Annex Security Checkpoint, D Concourse expansion to ease traveler processing at nation's seventh-busiest airport

LAS VEGAS – The Clark County Department of Aviation today opened two major capital improvement projects that will each greatly enhance travelers' experiences at McCarran International Airport.

The C Annex Security Checkpoint, located just south of the first-floor Ticketing lobby, includes 12 additional lanes Transportation Security Administration officers will use to screen outbound travelers. Its debut also allows TSA to dedicate up to 17 of the 19 existing lanes at McCarran's C/D Checkpoint for the screening of travelers headed to the airport's busy D Concourse. Overall, the annex is one element of a larger \$84 million addition that will include a post-security pedestrian bridge linking the A, B and C concourses, as well as several new retail and food and beverage concessions.

Separately, McCarran's D Concourse is poised to handle additional air traffic thanks to today's debut of its \$179 million northwest wing, a 128,000-square-foot, nine-gate addition that completes the airport's multiyear build out at D. The new wing includes more restrooms as well as eight food, beverage and retail concessions. Overall, the 800,000-square-foot D concourse is now home to 44 aircraft gates serving 16 different air carriers.

"Southern Nevada has been one of the nation's fastest-growing areas for many years, and we expect that dynamic growth to continue," said Rory Reid, chairman of the Clark County Board of Commissioners. "A world-class airport is a must for Clark County and its tourism-based economy, and I'm pleased to see that McCarran is preparing to meet the aviation needs of its current users as well as the next generation of travelers."

"We're pleased to welcome these new lanes and gates, which have been highly anticipated elements of McCarran's capital plans for years," added Randall H. Walker, director of the Clark County Department of Aviation. "These projects will combine to reduce peak delays at two key security checkpoints, give travelers a greater variety of dining and shopping options, and enable the airport to accommodate additional air service as needed. McCarran has taken another big step toward fulfilling Southern Nevada's aviation needs for years to come."

More additions will soon follow. Through 2013, the Clark County Department of Aviation will spend nearly \$3.5 billion on necessary improvements at McCarran, including the construction of Terminal 3, a 14-gate facility that will include additional parking, ticketing, baggage claim, and security checkpoint areas. The \$2.4 billion T3 project is slated to open in mid-2012, at which point Southern Nevada is expected to welcome travelers who will help fill the more than 30,000 hotel rooms currently under construction along the Strip and elsewhere in the community. McCarran's improvements will be funded by airport users, not Clark County general tax funds.