



*Las Vegas • McCarran International Airport*

# **NEWS RELEASE**

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

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## ***McCarran takes additional steps to achieve a green transformation Airport terminal recycling program takes off***

Since 2000, McCarran International has recycled non-traditional items like paint, carpet, electronics, batteries, tires and oil. In 2006, the airport formed a recycling committee to begin tracking existing practices and oversee the implementation of new recycling programs. One of the committee's first initiatives was a desk-side recycling program, which for the past three years, has diverted approximately 24 tons of plastic, aluminum and paper annually from local landfills. Earlier this year recycle bins were also placed in all Department of Aviation employee break rooms allowing staff to recycle waste generated on breaks and during lunch. **Now the airport is expanding its recycling program in public areas, allowing passengers the opportunity to recycle while traveling through the nation's seventh-busiest airport.**

"McCarran's employees, tenants and customers generate approximately 14,300 tons of garbage each year, much of which is recyclable," said Randall H. Walker, director of aviation. "Now that we've placed recycle bins in the terminal and increased our internal recycling efforts, we hope to divert as much of that from landfills as possible."

Approximately 50 recycle stations that include separate cans for trash, aluminum and plastic, and paper were installed in Terminal 1's baggage claim and ticketing areas, the esplanade and at all security checkpoints. The off-site McCarran Rent-A-Car Center will be equipped with the same stations at the end of the month. Airport officials expect recycled waste to increase dramatically.

Banners and other signage went up in the terminal earlier this week announcing the arrival of the new terminal recycle stations. The department will continue to explore new ways to reduce the airport's carbon footprint while generating a favorable impression among travelers.

McCarran has other environmentally friendly measures in place. Efforts to reduce air pollution and conserve energy include implementing a fleet of common-use, clean-burning biodiesel buses that run between the airport and the McCarran Rent-A-Car Center; requiring commercial vehicle operators to shut down their engines upon parking, loading or unloading customers; minimizing the release of volatile organic compounds by purchasing more water-based paints and non-aerosol cleaning products; providing central power and air conditioning units for aircraft at the gates; upgrading escalators and moving walkways with energy efficient equipment; and upgrading airfield lighting with LED technology.

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