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For immediate Release:

Republic Airport's Taxiway Bravo slated for safety upgrades

After several months of meeting with neighborhood and civic leaders, and a public review by the Republic Airport Commission, pre-construction plans are proceeding that will allow \$8 million in safety improvements to get underway at Republic Airport, Farmingdale, New York including the demolition of existing Taxiway Bravo and its relocation some 300 feet from the runway, thereby ensuring better ground clearance for taxing aircraft.

“This safety improvement will have a direct and positive impact on our ability to taxi aircraft from one part of the airport to another. However, the airport's two runways will not be touched in any way under this project nor do we see any increase in air traffic as a result of this safety improvement,” stated Michael Geiger, Republic Airport Director.

In addition to shifting the taxiways, lighting, markings and signage will also be replaced, repositioned and upgraded. In addition, improved lighting technology will allow wattage to be reduced from 30 watts a bulb to 10 watts while not degrading the visual night approach for pilots.

The safety program is part of a national Federal Aviation Administration effort that is improving safety standards at airports across the nation and, as a result, the dollars needed to reposition the taxiways are all federal funds made possible through the efforts of Senator's Schumer, Clinton and Congressman Israel.

“Safety upgrades and improvements remain a priority for Republic Airport and the New York State Department of Transportation,” continued Mr. Geiger. “That is why this ability to shift a taxiway and ensure additional ground clearance for taxing aircraft is so important to our overall ability to function as a key transportation hub for the region.”

Republic Airport remains a key component of Long Island's corporate life and economy. It provides over 900 full-time jobs on and off airport grounds and generates over \$75 million in economic activity including wages and goods and services purchased including fuel, ground handling, landing fees and catering.

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