

From: **Republic Airport**
East Farmingdale, New York 11735

Contact: Shelley LaRose-Arken 631 752-7707, extension 6104

For immediate release

Republic Airport's Vision Plan seeks to support region's economy and explore the future

The role of Republic Airport in a challenging economy is just one element of a comprehensive Vision Plan that has been introduced to elected officials and opinion leaders as part of an effort to ensure the airport meets the concerns of the community and the needs of general aviation in the 21st Century.

A Long Island based firm, DY Consultants, has been tasked with collecting input from all stakeholders including the residential and aviation communities, public officials and businesses for the purpose of defining a potential vision. DY has held a few limited meetings to start the process and is gearing up to meet with many of the civic, business, and aviation groups at and around Republic Airport.

A core component

New York State Department of Transportation Regional Director Subi Chakraborti explained, "Visioning is a core component of a new effort designed to be a 'road map' for the airport to follow that incorporates government policies and procedures and comprehensive public involvement."

Recent meetings reflect how the process of visioning will continue throughout the year. The consultant team provides routine updates on www.republicairportvision.com as well as information about the goals and objectives of visioning, a meeting schedule, a brief summary of the airport's history since 1928, the year it opened, and how this process is designed for maximum public involvement.

Republic Airport Commission Chairman Frank Nocerino stated, "This process is an open, comprehensive and deliberate effort where we seek to obtain the thoughts of the people and companies who either use Republic, live near it or depend upon it for their livelihoods. It is important that we understand not just Republic's role today but a variety of visions for the airport far into the future that meet the needs of its various stakeholders."

Unprecedented look at many facets

Republic Airport Director Michael Geiger said the questions being asked of the community and the aviation industry provide an understanding of just how thorough this

unprecedented effort is. “The Visioning questionnaires look at many facets of aviation and non-aviation uses at the airport including ways community members that do not fly can make use of the airport” he said.

To participate in the process and provide input, questionnaires can be found on the web at www.republicairportvision.com. Based on the input received, the consultant team will develop scenarios for the future of the airport which will be available for review and comment by interested parties.

Republic Airport is owned and operated by the New York State Department of Transportation.