



News Release

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San José Celebrates Major Airport Construction Milestone *Final steel beam hoisted today to top out North Concourse*

San José, CA – As the final steel beam was hoisted into place today to complete the steel frame of its new North Concourse, Mineta San José International Airport celebrated a major milestone in its comprehensive project to build a new airport for San José and Silicon Valley by 2010.

Joining the topping out ceremonies with hundreds of construction workers and community and political leaders was former San José mayor and former United States Secretary of Transportation Norman Mineta, for whom the airport was renamed by the city council in 2001.

The North Concourse is the first major component of the airport's overall terminal area improvement program that is replacing and rebuilding existing terminal facilities over the next three years. When completed, the new airport will provide better service and greater convenience for the benefit of travelers and businesses in the South Bay.

“Our new airport will reflect San José’s innovative spirit. Our economy depends on a successful airport,” said San José Mayor Chuck Reed. “We’ve worked hard to reach today’s milestone, and we are committed to delivering a world-class airport.”

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Upgrading San José's airport is the largest public works program in city's history. Along with the 380,000-square-foot North Concourse, the overall project includes the construction of a new Terminal B that will take the place of Terminal C, originally built in 1965; upgrades and expansion of Terminal A; a new 3400-space rental car parking garage; and improved roadways serving the airport.

"We're creating a new airport to serve Silicon Valley travelers and businesses that will be more convenient, comfortable, and competitive," said Bill Sherry, San José Director of Aviation. "I thank all our partners, including our airlines and our design and construction teams, for their dedication in bringing the project to this stage on time and on budget."

Construction on the \$324 million North Concourse is scheduled to be completed next year and open for passenger operations in 2009. Gensler designed the facility and Gilbane Building Company is the construction manager.

The North Concourse will include nine commercial aircraft gates and hold rooms, new passenger amenities, and retail, food and beverage concessions that will enhance the passenger experience. In addition, it will have an automated state-of-the-art baggage sortation and explosive detection system that will replace the temporary facilities where screening now occurs.

Phase 1 of the San José terminal improvement program is estimated to cost \$1.3 billion. The project is being funded through Airport revenue bonds, federal grants, and airport operating revenues. The airport is a self-supporting enterprise, and no local taxes will be used to fund this project.

Over the next several months, Terminal C will be modified as an interim facility with relocation of airline ticket offices within the terminal and a consolidated, more efficient security checkpoint to provide better customer service. In addition this fall, Airport roadways will be altered and short-term parking areas will be relocated and reduced to allow for construction for the new garage, roads, and terminal facilities over the next three years.

Construction of the new Terminal B and on improvements to Terminal A are scheduled to begin in early 2008, and Terminal C will be demolished in 2010.

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About Mineta San José International Airport

Mineta San José International Airport, a self-supporting enterprise, is owned and operated by the City of San José. SJC served 10.8 million passengers and handled approximately 209 million pounds of air cargo in 2006. SJC has 189 flights a day on 13 domestic and international carriers to 29 nonstop destinations.

The Airport generates more than \$100 million in operating revenue annually. Mineta San José International Airport also generates \$4 billion in direct business spending in the local community and 70,000 jobs in the San José Area.

Mineta San José International Airport is located in San José, California's third largest city and the nation's tenth largest city with a population of 974,000.

For more Airport information, visit **www.sjc.org**, or call Airport Customer Service at (408) 501-0979. Motorists can also tune their radios to 530 AM within two miles of SJC for current information on airport traffic, parking and security.

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