



News Release

**For Immediate Release:
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San José Airport to Close One Runway for Two Weeks for Airfield Construction

***No impact on airline schedules or operations, but neighbors
might notice temporary change in flight approaches***

First phase of new taxiway funded by federal stimulus program

SAN JOSE, CA – Mineta San José International Airport (SJC) will close its principal commercial approach runway, Runway 30 Left, for approximately two weeks beginning Monday, September 21. The closure will allow crews to begin construction of the first phase of a taxiway extension on the west side of the airfield.

R30L is the 11,000-foot runway usually used for commercial aircraft landing at San José. During the closure, Runway 30 Right, the airport's other commercial runway, will be used for both arrivals and departures.

During the period that R30L is closed, aircraft approaches to the airport from the south in the general area over the intersection of Highway 101 and Highway 85 will shift approximately one mile to the east of the normal flight path. Residents in South San José may notice an increase in aircraft operations over their communities.

Closer to the airport, aircraft approaches will shift approximately 600 to 1000 feet to the east, and residents in neighborhoods near the airport also may notice the temporary change.

The last time SJC closed one of its two main runways for maintenance was for two weeks in May 2008.

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The runway is scheduled to reopen Tuesday, October 6, provided there are no delays due to weather or other factors. Once reopened, Runway 30 Left will return to service as the primary runway for arrivals and Runway 30 Right again will be the primary runway for departures.

The construction also will require the closure of Runway 11/29, SJC's 4600-foot runway used by small aircraft, until the project is completed in January 2010. During this period, all aircraft, both commercial and non-commercial, will use the airport's main runways.

The taxiway construction will not delay regular operations, affect safety, or change schedules of commercial air service. The FAA air traffic control system will coordinate landings and take-offs to maintain scheduled operations as it has done in the past when a runway is temporarily out of service.

The Taxiway W project will enhance the safety of general aviation aircraft movements and further reduce the risk of accidents on the airfield. The federally funded project is the first phase of a long-term plan to complete a new taxiway that also will help support the future development of the west side of the airport for general and corporate aviation activities.

Federal funding totaling \$7.2 million for airfield improvements was approved by the Federal Aviation Administration, including \$5.2 million through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act and \$2 million through the federal Airport Improvement Program.

More than 80 construction jobs are estimated to be supported by the project, which involves the removal of existing pavement, construction of new concrete pavement for the taxiway extension, installation of airfield signage and lighting, and related activities.

The contractor on the project is Granite Rock Company. The remainder of Taxiway W is scheduled to be built in stages over the next several years. The total project cost is currently estimated to be approximately \$80 million, and the airport anticipates that funding will come from future AIP grants from the FAA.

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 9.7 million passengers and handled approximately 162 million pounds of air cargo in 2008. SJC has approximately 140 flights a day on 13 domestic and international carriers to 27 nonstop destinations.

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Mineta San José International Airport is located in San José, California's third largest city and the nation's tenth largest city (population 1,007,000).

For more airport information, visit www.flysanjose.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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