

7/10/2003 Moran Announces Grant for Salina Municipal Airport

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\$1,290,000 Goes for Runway Repairs and Improvements

LINA - Congressman Jerry Moran today announced that the Salina Airport Authority has received a \$1,290,000 grant for runway rehabilitation and new lighting. The funding comes from the Airport Improvement Program (AIP) of the Federal Aviation Administration.

"Maintaining air service in our communities is important for area residents and brings new business opportunities, thus helping the local economy," Moran said. "The Salina Airport Authority has been a leader in our state in operating a safe and efficient airport and helping to keep air service available to Kansans."

This grant will allow the airport to rehabilitate its largest runway and install a new runway lighting system.

Moran, a member of the U.S. House Transportation Subcommittee on Aviation, attended ceremonies last week at the Salina Municipal Airport to dedicate a new adjacent 4,300-foot runway at the airport. Today's announcement is part of continued work at the airport.

"The availability of these discretionary grant funds is a significant step in the growth and development of the Salina Municipal Airport," Tim Rogers, Executive Director of the Salina Airport Authority, said. "This is the largest single airfield construction project undertaken in the history of the Salina Municipal Airport."

The airport applied for the grant funding through the AIP. The program collects revenues from the aviation industry and air travelers and reinvests them in capacity and safety projects at U.S. airports. The U.S. House recently passed legislation, supported by Moran, to increase future funding to this program for smaller airports.

This funding will be combined with \$3.5 million in federal entitlement funds which the Salina Airport Authority already has available. The total federal funding for this rehabilitation project will be \$4.8 million.

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