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## New Checkpoint Open to All GFIA Passengers



(Above): Passengers are screened at the new consolidated security checkpoint as a part of the Gateway Transformation Project.

**Grand Rapids, Mich.** –All passengers traveling through the Gerald R. Ford International Airport (GFIA) are now being processed in one consolidated security checkpoint, the focal point of GFIA's Gateway Transformation Project. Construction on the checkpoint was completed Saturday evening, and opened for passengers on Sunday, June 25. Concourse B passengers were processed through the area starting on Sunday, June 4<sup>th</sup>, but now both Concourse A & B passengers are being screened at the new checkpoint.

The checkpoint is one part of the Airport's \$45 million Gateway Transformation Project that also includes new terrazzo flooring, lighting fixtures, new restrooms & nursing rooms, family restrooms, pre and post security business centers, new retail and food & beverage space, and much more. Different portions of the construction will open throughout the summer with phase one set to be complete in late August. Construction on the Gateway Transformation Project began in December 2015.

"We could not have asked for a smoother transition bringing all of our passengers together in our new consolidated checkpoint," said GFIA President & CEO Jim Gill. "We have to thank our

engineering staff for their tireless efforts, and our partners at the TSA for assisting in this transition. It really is a collaborative effort to pull off projects like this, and we're already hearing from our passengers about how much they appreciate the new space."



(Above): Passengers are screened at the new consolidated security checkpoint at GFIA.

The new consolidated security checkpoint allocates TSA screening in one central location to fully utilize staffing, and make screening lines faster and more efficient.

A post-security Starbucks is set to open Friday, June 30, along with a redesigned Kids Play Area in the pre-security area.

Because some of the construction will have an impact on passenger operations throughout the terminal building, there will be updates, maps, photos, and other helpful tips listed on our website: [www.grr.org/construction](http://www.grr.org/construction). Signs and airport ambassadors are also available in the terminal building to assist with any passenger needs or directions.

Passengers are still encouraged to arrive at the airport **at least 90 minutes before their scheduled flight** due to high volumes of traffic with the busy summer and holiday weekend ahead.

For interviews, please contact Tara Hernandez.

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## About GFIA

The Gerald R. Ford International Airport (GFIA) is the second busiest airport in Michigan. The airport served over 2.6 million passengers in 2016 and over 7,000 travelers pass through GFIA each



day. The Gerald R. Ford International Airport offers nonstop service to 24 major market destinations with more than 120 daily nonstop flights. The Gerald R. Ford International Airport is managed and operated by the Gerald R. Ford International Airport Authority. GFIA generates over \$3.1 billion in annual economic output throughout West Michigan, and employs over 1,500 people. For more information on GFIA visit: [www.flyford.org](http://www.flyford.org) or follow the airport on Twitter: @FlyGRFord