

Contact: Alicia Roberts, Marketing Coordinator  
(616) 233-6085 or [aroberts@grr.org](mailto:aroberts@grr.org)

## American Airlines Launches Nonstop Service from Grand Rapids to Phoenix-Sky Harbor and Miami International



**Grand Rapids, Mich.** – American Airlines continues to grow at the Gerald R. Ford International Airport (GFIA) as new service to Phoenix-Sky Harbor International Airport (PHX) and Miami International Airport (MIA) began today with a celebratory welcome and press conference. Representatives from the airport, the Airport Authority board, and dignitaries from the West Michigan community were on hand to welcome passengers that stepped off American Airlines flight 2045 from Phoenix.

American now offers nonstop service to seven cities from GFIA, adding Phoenix and Miami to a list including Chicago-O’Hare, Dallas-Fort Worth, Charlotte, Philadelphia, and Washington D.C.-Reagan National. The new seasonal flights from Grand Rapids will operate once daily.

“We are thrilled to see American’s growth in our market with the addition of Miami International and Phoenix-Sky Harbor,” said GFIA Interim President & CEO Brian Picardat. “This new nonstop service will not only connect West Michigan to two large, thriving cities, but it will also provide convenient connections to many other domestic and international destinations.”



Phoenix-Sky Harbor International Airport offers nearly 270 daily flights to 87 destinations in 4 countries. Miami International Airport offers nearly 350 daily flights to 130 destinations in 43 countries.

“We are very excited to mark this occasion and we are extremely grateful for the tremendous support we have received from the entire Grand Rapids Community,” said Mark Tochman, Corporate Sales Manager for American Airlines. “We know how important these new flights are to customers and look forward to the additional service to Grand Rapids from our hubs in Miami and Phoenix.”

American Airlines has served Gerald R. Ford International Airport passengers for over 25 years.

For interviews, please contact Alicia Roberts at the direct line above, or call the Airport Communications Center at 616-233-6055.

###

### **About GFIA**

The Gerald R. Ford International Airport (GFIA) is the second busiest airport in Michigan. The Airport served over 2.8 million passengers in 2017 and over 7,000 travelers pass through GFIA each day. The Gerald R. Ford International Airport offers nonstop service to 27 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 2,000 people. For more information on GFIA visit: [www.flyford.org](http://www.flyford.org) or follow the airport on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter: @FlyGRFord