

August 15, 2016

Contact: Tara Hernandez, Marketing & Communications Director (616) 233-6053 or <u>thernandez@grr.org</u>

## Gerald R. Ford International Airport North Lot Reopens



*Grand Rapids, Mich.* – Expanded parking in a repaved lot is now available at the Gerald R. Ford International Airport (GFIA).

The North Lot, located just north of the airport parking garage, has reopened to the public after a two and a half month closure that included the area being reconstructed and expanded with over 100 new parking spaces. The project also added a covered entry canopy over the main lot entrance off of Gateway Drive. The entry canopy matches the architecture of the economy lot canopies, and will protect passengers from weather elements as they pull tickets to enter the parking lot.

Another noticeable new feature is the ability for visitors to transition directly from the parking garage to the North Lot. Previously, if guests had to exit the parking garage they had to go around the building.

"We are all about making things easier, safer, and more efficient for our passengers," said Gerald R. Ford International Airport Authority Acting President & CEO Phil Johnson. "The new lot also had minimal environmental impacts as our crews reused all of the existing pavement and aggregate base so no parking surface materials were removed from the site."

The lot was closed in June to undergo a resurfacing treatment and included over 9,200 tons of asphalt, an improved layout with new signs and paint directing passengers to the terminal, 25,000



square feet of sidewalk to improve pedestrian safety, the addition of emergency call boxes, and 60 energy efficient LED lights for nighttime safety.

For more information or interviews, please contact Tara Hernandez.

## About GRR

The Gerald R. Ford International Airport (GRR) is the second busiest airport in Michigan. The airport served over 2.5 million passengers in 2015 and over 7,000 travelers pass through GRR 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 (GFIAA). The Airport generates over \$3.1 billion in annual economic output throughout West Michigan and employs over 1,500 people. For more information on GRR visit: www.flyford.org or follow the airport on Twitter: @FlyGRFord.