For Immediate Release

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Ford Airport's Terminal Reconstruction and Expansion Project Receives ACEC Engineering Excellence Merit Award

Grand Rapids, Michigan, March 15, 2021 – The Gerald R. Ford International Airport's terminal apron reconstruction and expansion project has received the American Council of Engineering Companies' 2021 Engineering Merit Award.

The project — done in collaboration with Livonia-based engineering, architecture and construction firm C&S Companies — was selected for this high honor among 32 entries. The recognition is part of the American Council of Engineering Companies, or ACEC, Engineering and Surveying Excellence Awards competition.

The ACEC annually recognizes outstanding engineering and surveying firms for Michigan projects that demonstrate an exceptional degree of innovation, complexity and value. Criteria for the 2021 awards specifically focused on uniqueness and originality, social and economic value, technical innovation and generating excitement for the engineering profession.

The Ford Airport received the award on Feb. 26 during the ACEC's virtual 54th Engineering Excellence Awards Gala.

"We appreciate the recognition for our team's continued work to enhance the guest experience and airport capacity," said Gerald R. Ford International Airport Authority Engineering and Planning Director Casey Ries. "This award underscores our commitment to investing in our facilities, which provide a gateway from West Michigan to the world."

C&S Companies led design and construction oversight of the $50 million program, which began in 2018 and included the replacement or expansion of 215,000 square yards of the terminal area where aircraft are parked, unloaded or loaded, de-iced and refueled. The project, completed in September with minimal impact to the guest experience, allows for more adequate apron space for air carriers. Most significantly, it paved the way for Project Elevate.

A three-development expansion, Project Elevate includes a $90 million extension of Concourse A to accommodate projected passenger growth over the next 20 years as well as the construction of a Federal Inspection Station and air traffic control tower relocation.

About the Ford Airport

The Gerald R. Ford International Airport is the second busiest airport in Michigan, serving business and leisure travelers with nonstop and connecting flights on six airlines. The Ford Airport is

managed and operated by the Gerald R. Ford International Airport Authority. For more information, visit www.flyford.org or follow the airport on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram @FlyGRFord.

About ACEC

The American Council of Engineering Companies represents thousands of companies and serves as the voice of the engineering industry in Washington, D.C., and throughout the nation. With roots dating back more than 100 years, ACEC is a federation of 52 state and regional councils representing more than 600,000 engineers, architects, land surveyors and other specialists. Its primary mission is to strengthen the business environment for its member firms through government advocacy, political action and business education.

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