

## PASSENGER COUNTS INCREASE AT MKE DURING MAY

**MILWAUKEE (July 5, 2016) –** The number of passengers choosing Milwaukee's MKE Airport increased nearly three percent in May. Much of the increase was due to new flights from Frontier Airlines, which added nonstop service from Milwaukee to Atlanta and Dallas/Fort Worth in April. In May, 570,643 people flew through MKE, compared to 555,810 in May of 2015, an increase of 2.7%.

"New nonstop flights, combined with MKE's existing robust marketing efforts, are successfully drawing more passengers from throughout the region," County Executive Chris Abele said. "Airlines are growing their presence at MKE, and I'm pleased that the Milwaukee market is responding well to these new nonstop flights."

The growth at MKE is expected to continue this summer. Frontier launched a new nonstop to Philadelphia earlier this month, and Southwest Airlines will expand its weekly San Diego service to daily service in August.

"Airlines are responding to increased demand because more passengers are choosing MKE for their air travel," Airport Director Izzy Bonilla added. "That's really the key to getting more flights – choosing your hometown airport as your departure point."

Mitchell Airport offers nonstop flights to 37 destinations coast-to-coast, and 160 international destinations are available from Milwaukee with just one connection. MKE is served by Southwest, Delta, American, United, Frontier, Alaska, Air Canada, and OneJet. The nonstop cities map can be found at <u>www.mitchellairport.com</u>.

General Mitchell International Airport is owned by Milwaukee County and operated by the Department of Transportation, Airport Division, under the policy direction of the Milwaukee County Executive and the County Board of Supervisors. The airport is entirely funded by user fees; no property tax dollars are used for the airport's capital improvements or for its day-to-day operation.