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PASSENGER TRAFFIC AT MKE SOARS MORE THAN TEN PERCENT

International traffic propels growth at Mitchell Airport in April

MILWAUKEE (June 7, 2017) – Milwaukee County Executive Chris Abele today announced that passenger traffic at Milwaukee County’s General Mitchell International Airport (MKE) was up by more than 10 percent in April, a boost attributed largely to increased international traffic. April passenger traffic was 615,706, an increase of 10.2% from the 558,643 passengers recorded in April 2016.

“International traffic was up due to our new Volaris service to Guadalajara, Mexico and an extended spring break travel season, which was longer due to Easter occurring in April this year,” County Executive Abele said. “Increased passenger traffic is always great news for our community. As more travelers choose MKE, airlines tend to respond by adding service. Southwest announced new nonstops to Nashville and Cleveland last month, while Alaska Airlines launched flights to Portland earlier this week.”

Increased flights to Mexico and the Caribbean, flown by Norwegian in partnership with Milwaukee-based FunJet Vacations and Apple Vacations, also helped propel the higher passenger numbers. So far this year, total passenger traffic at MKE is up 2.7% from the first four months of 2016. International traffic is 18 percent higher.

Mitchell Airport offers nonstop flights to 40 destinations coast-to-coast – many on full-size mainline aircraft – and 160 international destinations are available from Milwaukee with just one connection. MKE is served by Air Canada, Alaska, American, Delta, Frontier, OneJet, Southwest, United, and Volaris. The complete list of nonstop cities can be found at www.mitchellairport.com.

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.

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