

## GMIA Airfield Update Newsletter April 2014

Greetings!

Thank you for your interest in the latest edition of the General Mitchell International Airport (GMIA) Airfield Update. Spring is here and with it, the onset of construction season! Actually, due to Winter lasting longer and being more harsh than recent years, projects are in flux and already starting later than anticipated. The plan, as it stands right now, is summarized below.

The first project of the year is actually a holdover from last Fall. We will be bead blasting the pavement in the intersection of GMIA's main runways (Rwys 1L/19R and 7R/25L) to improve braking for landing aircraft. The work will be done on about four nights this last week of April or into May between 11:00pm and 5:00am. The nights are unpredictable as they are highly dependent on the weather. Effects on flights should be minimal since work can be suspended if runway use is required.

Both main runways will be further affected this Summer by work at various times. Rwy 1L/19R (main north/south runway) will be closed for a couple of projects, the longest from approximately mid June through the end of July. Runway shoulder work and concrete panel replacement on taxiways parallel to the runway will be done. In August there will be daily closures associated with replacement of runway guard lights that warn taxiing pilots that they are about to cross a runway.

Runway 7R/25L (main east/west runway) will also experience daily closures with the resumption of bridge work over Howell Ave. that was begun last year. Construction is slated to begin sometime around August 1st, leading to a total of about one month of daily runway closures. Work will be coordinated with Rwy 1L/19R though, as both will not be closed simultaneously. This date is extremely variable at this point because it hinges on settlement of the base on the east and west ramps leading to the bridge. There is even a slight possibility

of work being delayed until 2015. When completed, the bridge will be part of a new airport perimeter road that will increase safety by allowing airport vehicles to traverse the airport without having to cross an active runway.

Concurrently with the first couple of weeks of the Runway 1L/19R closure, our Ground Run-up Enclosure (GRE) will be closed. Concrete panels that have deteriorated will be replaced. Since the work will require closure of the GRE, it should be anticipated that from about mid June through the beginning of July, there may be increased noise from aircraft conducting engine maintenance test runs.

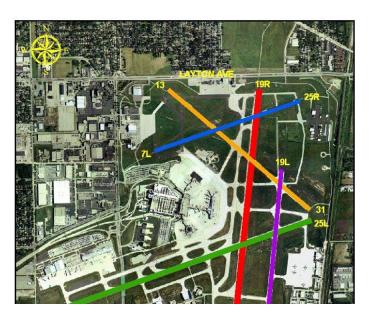
Finally, one of the smaller general aviation runways will be closed this Summer too. Runway 7L/25R will have its asphalt surface replaced. This project is still dependent on grant funding and is anticipated to start between August 1st and September 15th. Once begun, it will take about five weeks to complete. Because of the smaller aircraft that it is used for, the impact to the surrounding communities will be less noticeable to most.

Thank you for your interest in the activities of GMIA. As details of this year's projects are firmed up, they will be passed on through this newsletter, so please continue to monitor it over the coming months.

**Runway 7R/25L** Coordinated daily closures beginning around August 1st

**Runway 1L/19R** Full closure expected mid June through July, then coordinated daily closures again in August

Runway 1R/19L Open



## Runway 13/31 Open

Runway 7L/25R Closed for five weeks beginning sometime between August 1st and September 15th

