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AIRPORT AUTHORITY AND COMMUNITY LEADERS BREAK GROUND ON THE AIRLINE TERMINAL RENOVATION

GAINESVILLE, Fla – May 31, 2007 – The Gainesville-Alachua County Regional Airport Authority (GACRAA) and community leaders gathered today to break ground on the \$7 million Airline Passenger Terminal renovation project at Gainesville Regional Airport.

The renovation includes a complete revamping of the interior of the terminal. Once complete, the terminal will have a modern, aesthetically-pleasing appearance. Many of the major improvements will not be as visible to the general public. The largest part of the project includes replacing the terminal HVAC system at an estimated \$2.1 million. Construction of the project is expected to last approximately 12 months.

“These improvements are much-needed to maintain the quality of the building. The project has been very well-received, and I think passengers will be pleased with the end-result,” said Peter Johnson, Chair of the Airport Authority.

Some of the major improvements that passengers will notice include the enclosure of the open atrium waiting area, new restrooms, new food service and administrative areas, and changes to the passenger screening area and meet-greeter area to improve flow. Enclosing the atrium will allow more seating in the gate area to accommodate additional passengers when multiple flights are departing.



This rendering shows the exits from the proposed gate area.

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“We want to make sure that passengers, tenants and employees understand that essentially we are replacing the interior of the terminal as daily operations continue. We will have temporary signage to direct passengers but ask that passengers and tenants please be patient while these changes take place,” said Allan Penksa, airport CEO.

The current open atrium will be one of the first areas renovated. The lobby seating area will remain open for the majority of the construction project.

The contractor selected for this project, Mil-Con Construction Company of Jacksonville, started preparing for construction in February. The first phase of the airport terminal building renovation was completed in November of 2005, which included adding three new passenger boarding bridges (covered walkways that connect the aircraft to the terminal building) and partial renovation of the airside passenger waiting area and gates.

About Gainesville Regional Airport

Gainesville Regional Airport serves North Central Florida and the Heart of Florida through all facets of aviation: general aviation, commercial airlines, military and air cargo. Located in Gainesville, Florida, approximately 70 miles southwest of Jacksonville and just minutes away from the University of Florida, Gainesville Regional Airport provides a close, convenient and competitively priced “gateway” to the Heart of Florida. For more information, visit www.flygainesville.com or contact Michelle Danisovszky at (352) 373-0249.

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