



*News From*

# Maggie Brooks

## *Monroe County Executive*

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### **BROOKS CUTS RIBBON ON NEW AIRPORT EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER**

*Facility offers state-of-the art communications technologies; available to multiple public safety responding agencies in the event of an Airport emergency*

Monroe County Executive **Maggie Brooks** today hosted a ribbon cutting ceremony and announced the official opening of the Greater Rochester International Airport's Emergency Operations Center (AEOC). The new facility, located on Airport property, provides public safety responders with a dedicated facility that is perpetually in an unprecedented state of readiness should an emergency occur on, or near, Airport grounds.

*"As County Executive, I am truly proud to cut the ribbon on the Greater Rochester International Airport's new Emergency Operations Center, which will give local first responders the state-of-the-art technology they need to best manage an emergency on or around airport grounds," said **Brooks**. "This fall, we will somberly mark the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the terrorist attacks on September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2001. The events of that day taught us that public safety interoperability is key during a widespread crisis or emergency. The Airport's new Emergency Operations Center will help to promote better coordination and communication between responding public safety agencies, and further ensure the safety of the thousands of travelers and families who pass through the Airport's doors each day."*

The AEOC provides vital resources and communication technology assets that are necessary to effectively manage both short and long-term emergencies. Multiple public safety agencies, including Airport Fire Rescue, Monroe County Sheriff's Office (MCSO), Emergency Medical Services (EMS), American Red Cross, Airline representatives, Transportation Security Administration (TSA), Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB), Joint Terrorism Task Force (JTTF), and more, will have full access to onsite use of the AEOC during an Airport related crisis.

The center features a tri-panel video wall displaying Airport security camera footage, live TV feeds, and computer output for incident status awareness, in addition to work stations for appropriate safety and security representatives; press room with easy access for briefing the media; a public information office; radio technology/communication systems; and a full, secure online network for the terminal, with WiFi enabled access.

The building where the AEOC is now located previously served as an airline food preparation site that had been vacant for ten years. The new AEOC provides a secure facility with backup

capabilities as an acting command center in the event that the Airport is evacuated and its on-site Communications Center becomes unavailable.

Many components of the AEOC building are recycled from unused and leftover terminal building materials that have helped to improve and enhance features of the new command center, while avoiding added costs. Leftover glass creates dividing wall systems, old discarded chairs were rehabbed and refinished for use at the command table, the command table was transformed from constructed wooden doors refinished with formica, and carpeting was salvaged from the terminal for reuse as flooring.

Construction of the AEOC facility was completed at no cost to local taxpayers. The facility was operational during this year's 2011 ESL International Airshow.

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