



News From

Maggie Brooks

Monroe County Executive

For Immediate Release

Thursday, November 5, 2015

BROOKS SIGNS SIGNIFICANT NEW AIRPORT LEASE AGREEMENT WITH MULTIPLE AIRLINES

Southwest and JetBlue sign new three-year Airline-Airport Use & Lease Agreement

Monroe County Executive **Maggie Brooks** today announced that Southwest Airlines and JetBlue Airways have signed a three year Airline-Airport Use & Lease Agreement extension to operate at the Greater Rochester International Airport (ROC) through December 31, 2018.

“This lease extension stands as a testament to Monroe County’s continued commitment to provide our community with affordable travel options from the Greater Rochester International Airport,” said **Brooks**. *“I am especially proud that the agreement with many of the nation’s finest airlines will help to create jobs and grow our economy, all while building upon the airport’s already strong standing as this community’s “Gateway to the World.”*

In addition to the two commercial airlines that have already agreed to the lease extension with ROC, FedEx Express has also signed the three year agreement. American Airlines, Delta Air Lines, United Airlines and Air Canada have all expressed their intent to sign the agreement as well.

Under the lease extension, airlines commit to operating from ROC for the next three years. The original Airline-Airport Use & Lease Agreement was unanimously approved in 2012 by the Monroe County Airport Authority and approved with overwhelming bi-partisan support by the Monroe County Legislature with a 29-0 vote.

“Over the past year, Monroe County has worked closely with our airline partners to negotiate the lease extension,” said Monroe County Director of Aviation **Michael A. Giardino**. *“Under this ‘residual’ agreement, the airlines will continue to underwrite operations and maintenance costs of the airport by paying rates and charges including: lease of space in the terminal; aircraft landing fees; aircraft apron fees; terminal equipment charges; and aircraft parking charges equal to the ‘residual’ amount of airport expenses not covered by non-aeronautical revenues like parking, concessions, and advertising.”*

ROC continues to be an engine for economic growth in Monroe County. According to a 2011 study completed by the New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT), ROC is responsible for creating and sustaining 10,000 jobs, generating \$295 million in income, and contributing over \$800 million to the local economy each year. ROC enplanements Year to Date (YTD), 2014 compared to 2015, have remained relatively stable with 788,557 passengers boarding through August 2015.

ROC serves approximately 2.4 million passengers annually and offers an average of 4,000 seats per day to nineteen airport destinations on seven major airlines and their affiliates.

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