

Happy Holidays from



Why drive when it's so easy to fly!

December 2009 Newsletter

Master plan submitted to FAA for approval

The Columbia City Council approved an update to the Columbia Regional Airport's Master Plan at their October 19, 2009 meeting. The plan, which assesses the future service levels and facility needs of the airport for the next 20 years, was updated because of the airport's aging pavement and to address any needed improvements. The Master Plan, which includes \$65 million in potential projects, is a development plan structured to respond to key capital improvement needs, project-by-project, and to identify projects that may be required if demand levels increase.



The study concluded, "The airfield pavements that require immediate short-term rehabilitation include the crosswind Runway 13/31 and parallel Taxiway 'B', sections of Runway 2/20, and the parallel Taxiway 'A'. In addition, the non-standard geometry at the intersection of the Airport's two runways requires the extension of Runway 20 and the non-to-standard Runway Visibility Zone condition (southwest of the intersection of the runways) required the shifting of Runway 13-31 ends."

The phasing of the airfield pavement work will be critical to maintaining operations at the airport. The pavement work, which has been planned to occur over a 5- to 7-year period of time depending on project approvals and funding availability, has a projected cost estimate of \$40 million. Of that, approximately \$2.2 million is projected to be funded with local funds, with the remaining costs projected to be funded through FAA and Missouri Department of Transportation grants.

The Master Plan will now be submitted to the FAA for review and approval of the Terminal Area Forecast and the Airport Layout Plan drawings. To view the Master Plan, visit www.FlyMidMo.com, then click on "About the Airport".

Airline News

Although fares on Northwest/Delta have been quite reasonable since their start of service at COU, fares have been on the increase in recent months. Some of this is a result of the high load factors (*percentage of occupied seats determined by dividing the number of revenue passengers by the number of seats*) out of COU but the trend is occurring throughout the country. For the past few months most of the airlines have sold seats below cost. As the economy starts to improve, and more people start flying, the airlines will have the traction they need to raise fares. The economy is certainly a factor in the rising fares, but it can also be attributed to the large reduction in the number of seats that are available. Read more about it at [Reuters](#).



Lockheed Martin to close Columbia office



Lockheed Martin has announced that effective Feb. 1, 2010, it will implement another round of flight service station consolidations. The company cites a staffing and workload analysis, along with continued improvements in flight service system technology and efficiency, as the basis for the

consolidation. Because of these continued improvements, the company does not anticipate any impact on service to pilots.

Beginning in February 2010, Lockheed will close its locations in Columbia, Mo.; Honolulu, Hawaii; Kankakee, Ill.; Lansing, Mich.; Nashville, Tenn.; Seattle, Wash., and St. Petersburg, Fla. This is the second consolidation effort since the company was awarded a contract in 2005 to provide flight services for the FAA.

"The news of the closing of the Flight Service Station was certainly a disappointment to us but it didn't come as a complete surprise", said Kathy Frerking, Columbia Regional Airport Manager. "Lockheed Martin has reduced staff and hours of operation several times over the past couple of years so we anticipated it was simply a matter of time before the services provided at Columbia Regional would be consolidated into one of their hubs" said Frerking.

Traveling with food or gifts- TSA Tips



When it comes to bringing items through security checkpoints, the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) has seen just about everything. Traveling with food or gifts is an even bigger challenge. Everyone has favorite foods from home that they want to bring to holiday dinners, or items from their destination that they want to bring back home.

Not sure about what you can and can't bring through the checkpoint? Here's a list of liquid, aerosol and gel items that you should pack in your checked bag, ship ahead, or leave at home:

- Cranberry sauce
- Cologne
- Creamy dips and spreads (cheeses, peanut butter, etc.)
- Gift baskets with food items (salsa, jams and salad dressings)
- Gravy
- Jams
- Jellies
- Lotions
- Maple syrup
- Oils and vinegars
- Perfume
- Salad dressing
- Salsa
- Sauces
- Snowglobes
- Soups
- Wine, liquor and beer

You can bring pies and cakes through the security checkpoint, but please be advised that they are subject to additional screening.

Note: If your items fall under TSA's 3-1-1 guidelines for traveling with liquids and gels, you are permitted to take them with you in your carry-on bags.

Remember! - do not wrap gifts you're taking on the plane. Security officers may have to unwrap gifts if they need to take a closer look. Please ship wrapped gifts ahead of time or wait until your destination to wrap them.

For a complete list TSA's permitted and prohibited items, visit www.tsa.gov.

10 Tips to Simplify Air Travel This Holiday Season

With the busy holiday travel season upon us, we would like to remind travelers to plan ahead and allow extra time to ensure a more enjoyable holiday travel experience. We recommend following these 10 simple travel tips for a safe and stress-free travel experience.

1. Know what 3-1-1 means. When packing your bags, keep in mind TSA's 3-1-1 security measures regarding liquids and gels. Travelers may carry through security checkpoints travel-size toiletries (3 ounces or less) that fit comfortably in ONE, QUART-SIZE, clear plastic, zip-top bag. At the checkpoint travelers will be asked to remove the zip-top bag of liquids and place it in a bin or on the conveyor belt. X-raying separately will allow TSA security officers to more easily examine the declared items. Exceptions are made for medications, baby food and breast milk.

2. Pack carry-ons neatly. Use clear zip-top bags to help organize your clothes, pack in layers so TSA screeners can easily see what is inside, and carefully coil electronic cords. If screeners can't tell what is in your bag from an X-ray, your bags will likely face an extra manual search.

3. Limit your carry-on baggage. Airlines have been enforcing tighter restrictions on the amount of baggage you can carry on the plane. Generally, one bag that fits under the seat or in the overhead bin and one personal item, such as a purse or briefcase, is allowed. Airlines provide sizing templates at their ticket counters so passengers may verify that carry-on luggage meet sizing requirements.

4. Pack holiday goods appropriately. If you're flying home for the holidays, don't wrap gifts since TSA may have to unwrap them for inspection. Also, liquid and gel-like foods such as cranberry sauce, gravy, and salad dressing will be confiscated, so ship them ahead or put them in your checked bag.

5. Remember your ID. Passengers traveling domestically - age 18 and older - are advised to carry a government-issued form of identification at all times. In addition, the TSA Secure Flight program is being phased in and will require that the name on your ID match your reservation exactly, as well as extra information such as date of birth and gender.

6. Schedule enough wait time. During the busy holiday travel season, it is recommended all passengers arrive at the airport a minimum of one hour prior to departure.

7. Dress for success. Before you head to the airport, empty your pockets of loose change, wear minimal jewelry, and avoid wearing a belt so you have fewer items to remove for the metal detector. Wear shoes that are easy to slip off and on. And if your travels include someplace cold, try to wear one jacket you can remove easily.

8. Keep electronics accessible. All electronic items, such as laptops and cell phones, may be subject to additional screening. You will need to remove your laptop from its travel case so that both may be X-rayed separately. You may want to label your laptop to avoid mix-ups when several laptops that look alike move through X-ray machines in succession.

9. Use line time efficiently. No matter when you get to the airport you will have to stand in the security line. While you're waiting, take off your coat and watch, put your phone and loose change in your carry-on, and have your 3-1-1 bag out and ready. This way when you reach the front of the line you can quickly put your items in the bin.

10. Be polite. Agitated or argumentative passengers are more likely to seem suspicious and may require more screening.

Source: USA Today

Passenger Counts on the Rise

Number of Passengers boarding at COU:

September 2009 - **2,081**

October 2009 - **2,204**

November 2009 - **2,092**

Load factors (ratio of passengers to number of available seats):

September 2009 - **76%**

October 2009 - **80%**

November 2009 - **77%**

Mesaba anticipated a 42% load factor when they initially began serving COU.



Mesaba (dba Delta Connection) has a **Completion Factor** of **99.1%** and **On-time Performance** of **94.8%** for controllable delays (does not include weather delays that are out of the airlines control). This data was for flights from Columbia Regional Airport for the period of January 1 to December 5, 2009.

Thank you Mid-Missourians for supporting **your** regional airport!

Why drive when it's so easy to fly!



"My wife Beth and I have been impressed with the ease of flying out of Columbia Regional Airport. After a long trip it's wonderful to land in Columbia, walk to your car, and have a short ride home - without even paying for parking!"

Larry Dessem, Dean
University of Missouri, School of Law

Remember the Airline Check-in Policy

Please arrive **ONE HOUR** before your scheduled flight to ensure all flight arrangements and security measures are complete. **The ticket counter closes 30 minutes prior to departure** and the airline will not issue boarding passes or check baggage less than 30 minutes prior to departure.



Need More Information?

www.FlyMidMo.com

[Link to the Columbia Regional Airport's website](#)