



DETROIT METRO • WILLOW RUN  
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# News Release

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## Willow Run Airport Information Workshop Draws Public Interest

Over 50 citizens attended a Public Information Workshop held by Wayne County Airport Authority (WCAA) on Tuesday evening, October 11, 2005.

The public had the opportunity to review and comment on proposed improvement plans for Willow Run Airport (YIP). The Master Plan Update outlined WCAA's vision, 20 years into the future, for a safer and more efficient airfield. Airport officials and RS&H consultants were on hand to answer questions and discuss the Update.

The plans include enhancing airfield safety with new taxiways, decreasing the number of runways from five to three, extending one east to west runway, and developing airport land for aviation-related businesses. Other capital upgrades include airfield lighting, instrument upgrades, runway rehabilitation, runway safety area upgrades, a new fire station and new snow removal equipment building.

“Our strategic vision at Willow Run is to modernize our airfield to improve safety and efficiency, while maintaining a positive relationship with our neighbors,” said YIP Director Sean Brosnan. “I was pleased to have the opportunity to share our 20-year plan with the community residents at the Workshop.”

“A longer departures runway at Willow Run will help Detroit area auto parts manufacturers stay competitive,” said WCAA CEO Lester Robinson. “We believe that our consultant team has designed a plan which allows us to extend a runway with little or no negative impact.”

A recent Community Benefits Assessment conducted for the Michigan Department of Transportation, based on 2000 data, concluded that activity at YIP contributes over \$275 million to the local economy and generates more than 2,600 jobs.

The Master Plan Update is now in the hands of Federal Aviation Administration officers for final review.

The Wayne County Airport Authority operates both Detroit Metropolitan and Willow Run Airports.

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