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# News Release

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## **Taxi Provider Fails to Pay—Airport Ends Agreement** *--Bids for new service to be solicited next week*

The Detroit Metropolitan Airport Taxicab Association (DMATA) has failed to pay more than half a million dollars in past due concession fees, forcing the Wayne County Airport Authority (WCAA) to end its agreement with the Association.

Next week WCAA will issue a Request for Proposals for a new taxicab service provider for Detroit Metropolitan Airport. DMATA must cease all taxicab operations at Detroit Metropolitan Airport (DTW) effective October 16, 2009 at 11:59 p.m.

“We have made very reasonable attempts to provide substantial relief for DMATA and its members,” said WCAA CEO Lester Robinson. “After reaching agreements with DMATA representatives on more than one occasion, we were then informed that the Association does not agree with the terms of the relief they negotiated. DMATA now owes the airport authority \$534,600. Our customers are better served by providers who will live up the terms of their agreements.”

DMATA won a competitive bidding process to be the taxicab provider at DTW effective August 2007.

Until a new provider is procured, airport staff will be working closely with other ground transportation providers to be certain that all passengers arriving after October 16 have safe, reliable ground transportation services.

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