



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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**STOCKTON METRO AWARDED DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION GRANT**

**(Stockton, Calif.)** — Seventy-six grant applications from communities in 39 states (and one U.S. territory) were submitted in hopes of being selected as part of the U.S. Department of Transportation's (DOT) Small Community Air Service Development Program. After careful consideration and review, 26 grantees were awarded an estimated sum of \$9 million in grant monies.

Stockton Metropolitan Airport was the only California-based airport to receive grant funding. The \$400,000 in grant funding will be apportioned in acquiring a second air carrier service that, once secured, would serve to enhance Stockton's air connectivity options and solidify its role as a regional hub.

Since launching service to Las Vegas in June 2006 and announcing service to Phoenix via Allegiant Air in late 2007, the Airport has benefited from increased community support, resulting in \$400,000 in matching community funds to the DOT grant. Between the two sources of funds, additional scheduled air service to a larger hub from Stockton Metro is virtually assured. Travelers can expect to realize the convenience not typically seen with larger hubs like San Francisco International and Oakland International airports.

"We're pleased with the Department's award," noted Airport Director, Barry A. Rondinella. "This marks a significant step for the community in the pursuit of securing twice daily service aboard a second air carrier. The grant award is the next step in our plan to transform Stockton Metro into a first class regional facility."

The Small Community Air Service Development Program was designed to help smaller communities enhance their air service and address issues related to higher than standard airfares.

The Program is unique in that it encourages communities to develop their own solutions based on their individual travel needs and circumstances. Stockton Metropolitan Airport, along with six other grant recipients, applied to seek service by a second air carrier.

**About the Stockton Metropolitan Airport**

Stockton Metropolitan Airport is strategically-located in the heart of the San Joaquin Valley. The airport possesses two main runways: a 4,458-foot long, 75-foot wide general aviation runway, and a 10,650-foot long, 150-foot wide primary ILS runway which is proudly one of the longest in the region. The Airport offers the convenience of free parking and four carrier gates, with rental car and limousine services operating to and from the Airport. Low landing fees, close proximity to Sacramento and the Bay Area, and easy access to Highway 99 and Interstate 5 make Stockton Metropolitan Airport a popular and convenient hub. For more information about Stockton Metropolitan Airport call (209) 468-4700.

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