



Richard M. Daley, Mayor



Rosemarie S. Andolino, Commissioner

News Release

May 27, 2010

Karen E. Pride

(773) 686-3700

kpride@ohare.com

BUSY SUMMER TRAVEL SEASON ARRIVES AT CHICAGO'S AIRPORTS

O'Hare and Midway passenger volume projected to increase over last year's Memorial Day travel period

CHICAGO – The Chicago Department of Aviation (CDA) is ready to welcome 1.4 million passengers at O'Hare and Midway International Airports over the Memorial Day travel period beginning today through Tuesday, June 1. This year's projected passenger total for both airports represents a nearly five percent increase over last year's Memorial Day travel period projections.

Airlines project that the busiest travel day at both O'Hare and Midway during this holiday will be Friday, May 28, with 206,000 passengers anticipated to travel through O'Hare, and over 60,000 at Midway.

"Under the leadership of Mayor Richard M. Daley, the CDA and all of our airport partners at O'Hare and Midway are ready to provide an efficient, safe and friendly experience for the millions of visitors who will fly to and from Chicago this summer," said CDA Commissioner Rosemarie S. Andolino. "We have a full complement of amenities and services, as well as cultural programs and entertainment, for travelers at both airports."

Over Memorial Day weekend, United Service Organizations (USO) volunteers at Midway and O'Hare will provide complimentary hospitality bags filled with snacks, bottled water and informational pamphlets to military personnel.

At O'Hare, welcome stations will be located just beyond security in Terminals 1, 2 and 3 from May 29 through 31. At Midway, the hospitality bags will be distributed at the USO center in Concourse C from May 29 through May 31.

The USO of Illinois has centers at both O'Hare and Midway that provide military personnel and their families with a place to relax, enjoy a snack, check e-mail and readjust to life before returning home or being deployed. The O'Hare USO center is located in Terminal 2 on the mezzanine level and the Midway USO center is located in Concourse C.

- More -

SUMMER TRAVEL 2010/page two

In addition, the following acknowledgements and decorations will be placed in both airports from May 28 through June 1:

Flags at both airports will be lowered to half-staff.

A wreath with signage will be displayed at the Butch O'Hare exhibit at O'Hare in Terminal 2 and at the Battle of Midway exhibit in Concourse A at Midway.

Patriotic music will be played in the terminals. Concessions will display red, white and blue holiday decorations and U.S. flags at their terminal locations

Volunteer Airport Ambassadors at Midway, and Travelers Aid staff and volunteers at O'Hare will distribute small U.S. flags to visitors at the Travelers Aid booth, and are encouraged to wear patriotic colors throughout the Memorial Day weekend.

All terminal roadway LED signs at both airports began displaying a message of appreciation to our military for their past and present service.

The terminal announcements will say, "The City of Chicago salutes our military, past and present...Thank you for your valiant service to our country." This announcement will be heard every 15-20 minutes.

U.S. flags will be placed at various airport parking exits.

Passengers are encouraged to check out the live entertainment, new concessions and special programs at O'Hare and Midway this summer, including:

- Music in the Air Program. To promote Chicago's downtown summer music festivals, passengers traveling through O'Hare and Midway will be treated to a taste of Chicago's rich musical heritage with live Gospel, Blues and Jazz performances on June 4, 10 and 11; July 4; and September 3 and 4, 2010.

See the attached CDA "Music in the Air" schedule and/or visit www.FlyChicago.com for a complete schedule of performances.

- New concessions. The following restaurants and shops at O'Hare and Midway have opened or expanded since last summer. At O'Hare: Accessory Boutique in Terminal 3; Barbara's Bookstore in Terminal 1; Brioche Doree a bakery in Terminals 1, 2, and 3, and Fresh Market On The Go in Terminal 1. At Midway: Sprigs (which offers made-to-order salads).
- Taste of Chicago at the Airports. The CDA will host its 2nd Annual "Taste of Chicago at the Airports" this summer concurrently with the City's world-renowned summer festival in downtown Chicago, June 25 through July 4. Concessionaires at O'Hare and Midway will offer specially priced "taste" portions featuring some of Chicago's famous fare at select locations.

- More -

SUMMER TRAVEL 2010/page three

Additional Airport Amenities

- Kid's play areas. Families looking for a kid-friendly place to relax at O'Hare are reminded to visit the "Kids on the Fly" play area in Terminal 2 or the "Play It Safe" area in International Terminal 5. Both play areas are located beyond the security checkpoints and are sponsored by the Chicago Children's Museum.
- Both airports support an interfaith chapel for worship and meditation. The chapel at O'Hare is located in Terminal 2 on the mezzanine level (before security) and the Midway chapel is located in Concourse C on the mezzanine level. There is also a medical clinic at O'Hare operated by staff of the University of Illinois-Chicago. The clinic is located in the main corridor that connects Terminals 2 and 3 (airside).

CDA Summer Travel Tips

The following tips will help make travel through Chicago's airports more convenient and enjoyable:

Getting to the Airport

Travelers should allow ample time for traveling to the airports, ticketing and checking baggage. It is recommended that all passengers arrive at least two hours before their scheduled flight departure.

Parking at the Airport

Midway's hourly parking rates are \$4 for the first hour, \$6 for the second hour and \$2 for each additional hour. O'Hare's garage hourly parking rates are \$2 for the first hour and \$4 for three hours or less.

Cost-conscious travelers can take advantage of O'Hare's two economy parking lots, priced at \$9 and \$17 per day. Midway's economy lots, located along 55th Street, are reasonably priced at \$14 per day. Real-time parking availability information for both O'Hare and Midway is posted on www.flychicago.com.

The CDA's cell phone parking lots enable motorists to temporarily park free of charge until friends, family members or business associates have deplaned, collected baggage and are ready to be picked up curbside.

The O'Hare cell phone lot is located at Economy Parking Lot F and the Midway cell phone lot is located at 61st Street and Cicero Avenue, just south of the main airport entrance.

Motorists are reminded that curbside parking is prohibited and unattended and parked vehicles will be ticketed and towed.

~ ~ ~ ~

The Chicago Department of Aviation (CDA) is self-supporting, using no local or state tax dollars for operations or capital improvements at O'Hare and Midway International airports. Together, Chicago's airports generate more than \$45 billion in annual economic activity and create 540,000 jobs for the region. Please visit www.flychicago.com to learn more about the Chicago Department of Aviation.

SUMMER TRAVEL 2010/page three

The CDA continues to incorporate and expand sustainable initiatives for airport planning, operations and maintenance, concessions and tenants in accordance with the CDA Sustainable Airport Manual (SAM), released in August 2009. To view case studies, lessons learned and new technologies, and for more information on the SAM, please visit www.airportgoinggreen.org.

The O'Hare Modernization Program (OMP), introduced by Mayor Richard M. Daley in June 2001, transforms O'Hare's airfield from an outdated system of intersecting runways into a modern parallel runway configuration. The program will reduce overall delays at the Airport by 79 percent, and bad weather delays by 95 percent. It will create 195,000 new jobs and \$18 billion in additional economic activity each year. Please visit www.oharemodernization.org to learn more about the OMP.

#