



# News Release

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## **Chicago Mayor Emanuel, Aviation Commissioner Andolino Pledge Support for American Airlines' Restructuring Efforts**

CHICAGO, IL – Chicago Mayor Rahm Emanuel and Chicago Department of Aviation Commissioner Rosemarie S. Andolino today said they are fully supportive of American Airlines' ongoing corporate restructuring efforts following the airline's announcement earlier today of a restructuring plan to grow the airline for the future. American Airlines serves about 23 million passengers annually at O'Hare International Airport and accounts for about 36 percent of the number of scheduled seats available to passengers at the airport.

"Chicago is a global destination for business and tourism and American Airlines' decisions today demonstrate its commitment to provide better service for its customers while maintaining its important place in Chicago's economy," said Mayor Emanuel.

"Chicago's geographic location, large population, and strong economic base result in strong demand for air service at Chicago's airports and provide a unique advantage to airline partners like American Airlines," said Commissioner Andolino. "We have worked closely with American during this challenging period and fully support the company's efforts to take the necessary actions it needs for its business and its future.

"We have been reassured by American that Chicago remains a key part of its long-term business strategy and that any immediate or long-term impacts will be very minimal for Chicago. And we believe that this restructuring process will give American the flexibility to build and invest in its strongest markets, like Chicago, which the company has historically done and has set significant goals to do in the future, especially for international flights. By making the tough decisions the company is now making, American is preserving the future of its business and jobs in our communities for the long run, which is good for Chicago and for O'Hare."

**About Chicago Department of Aviation**

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](http://www.flychicago.com) to learn more about the Chicago Department of Aviation.