



Richard M. Daley, Mayor



Rosemarie S. Andolino, Commissioner

News Release

September 2, 2010

Karen E. Pride

(773) 686-3700

kpride@ohare.com

CHICAGO'S AIRPORTS WELCOME TRAVELERS FOR BUSY LABOR DAY WEEKEND

*More than 1.4 million passengers expected at O'Hare and Midway over extended
holiday weekend*

CHICAGO – The busy summer travel season comes to a close this Labor Day weekend with more than 1.4 million passengers expected to travel through O'Hare and Midway International Airports beginning today through Tuesday, September 7. The busiest travel day at both airports will be Friday, September 3 with more than 211,000 passengers expected at O'Hare and more than 70,000 passengers at Midway.

"We are pleased to welcome more than one million passengers at Chicago's airports as they make their way to visit family and friends for the Labor Day holiday," said Chicago Department of Aviation (CDA) Commissioner Rosemarie S. Andolino. "The CDA and all of our airport partners are ready to provide a safe, efficient and enjoyable experience for O'Hare and Midway travelers this weekend."

Labor Day Commemoration Activity and Passenger Amenities:

U.S. flags and patriotic signage will be displayed inside and outside both O'Hare and Midway to commemorate the U.S. holiday.

Music in the Air Program. To promote this weekend's Chicago Jazz Festival, passengers traveling through O'Hare and Midway will be treated to a taste of Chicago's rich musical heritage with live performances on Thursday, September 2 and Friday, September 3 from 2 to 5 p.m. both days. Performance stages will be set up past security checkpoints at O'Hare in Terminals 1, 2 and 3, and on the lower level Arrivals area in Terminal 5; and in the baggage claim area at Midway.

Families looking for a kid-friendly place to relax at O'Hare can visit the "Kids on the Fly" play area in Terminal 2 or the "Play It Safe" area in Terminal 5. The Chicago Children's Museum will host a free workshop in the "Kids on the Fly" play area on Friday, September 3 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Volunteer Airport Ambassadors at Midway, and Travelers Aid staff and volunteers at O'Hare will be available throughout the holiday travel period to assist passengers.

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Parking:

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.

Real-time parking availability information for both O'Hare and Midway is posted on www.flychicago.com.

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

Roadways:

IDOT roadwork on the Cicero Avenue Bridge (located just south of Midway International Airport between 67th and 71st Streets) will continue this holiday weekend. In this area, Cicero Avenue is restricted to one lane in each direction. Midway passengers traveling from the south should be aware of this construction, and identify an alternate route and allow extra time to reach the airport.

Security Checkpoint Preparation:

The Transportation Security Administration reminds travelers to pack an organized carry-on bag and have their boarding pass and ID ready for inspection at the checkpoint. Remember 3-1-1 for carry-on bags: 3.4 ounce bottle or less (by volume); 1 quart-sized, clear, plastic, zip-top bag; 1 bag per passenger placed in the screening bin.

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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.

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.

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Photo Caption – Patriotic signage is displayed on the Lower Level of International Terminal 5 at O'Hare International Airport to commemorate Labor Day. More than 1.4 million passengers are expected to travel through O'Hare and Midway International Airports beginning from September 2 through September 7.

Photo Courtesy: Chicago Department of Aviation (CDA)/kp



Photo caption: To promote this weekend's Chicago Jazz Festival, passengers traveling through O'Hare and Midway will be treated to a taste of Chicago's rich musical heritage with live performances on Thursday, September 2 and Friday, September 3 from 2 to 5 p.m. both days. Performance stages will be set up past security checkpoints at O'Hare in Terminals 1, 2 and 3, and on the lower level Arrivals area in Terminal 5; and in the baggage claim area at Midway. In this photo, the Ray Bailey Band performs in International Terminal 5 at O'Hare.

Photo Courtesy: Chicago Department of Aviation (CDA)/kp