



FROM: Regional Plan Association
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Statement from Regional Plan Association JFK Runway Repairs Start Today

(New York, NY) Starting today, runway 13R-31L at JFK International, otherwise known as the “Bay Runway” will close for four months as the 14,572-foot long stretch of pavement undergoes repairs. The runway will be widened from 150 to 200 feet and taxiways will be added in an effort to ease traffic congestion at the airport.

To mitigate the short-term impact the closure will have on departures and arrivals, airlines and the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey have agreed on a plan that reduces flight volume during a traditionally slower period in air travel.

The project, which is estimated to cost \$376 million and is being paid for in part by federal stimulus funding, is projected to provide approximately 2,500 jobs and, according to New York Governor David Paterson’s office, will “reduce flight delays overall by an estimated 10,500 hours per year.”

“Air delays cost the New York regional economy over \$2.5 billion per year. Any action to reduce those delays in the long term should be a welcome one,” said Bob Yaro, president, Regional Plan Association.

Regional Plan Association is currently studying long term solutions for reducing delays and managing passenger growth at the region’s airports. Results are expected this fall.

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