

Governor O'Malley Announces Multi-Year, Multi-Million Dollar Plan to Improve BWI Marshall Airport

Board of Public Works to Consider First Contracts to Enhance Passenger Convenience and Support Additional International Service

Transportation Investment Act Project Will Support Hundreds of Jobs

Maryland Governor Martin O'Malley today announced a \$125 million three-year plan to further improve Baltimore/Washington International Thurgood Marshall Airport (BWI Marshall). The multi-phase development plan will: construct a new secure connector between Concourse D and Concourse E, create a new security checkpoint to serve domestic and international travelers and configure airline gates to support additional international flights. The Board of Public Works is scheduled to consider the first of several contracts at their July 24 meeting that will lead to the design and construction of the improvements.

“This development plan will support hundreds of jobs for Marylanders and increase travel, trade and business development in our State,” said Governor O'Malley. “Together, we are expanding opportunities for growth at BWI Marshall as a convenient, efficient airport for travelers throughout the region.”

The project will move forward with a \$25 million investment from the Transportation Infrastructure and Investment Act of 2013, and \$100 million provided by Passenger Facility Charges collected with each airline ticket. The preliminary schedule calls for all terminal improvements to be completed in the fall of 2016.

“The planned improvements will help ensure excellent service for our customers while providing the opportunity for further growth by the airlines,” said Maryland Transportation Secretary James T. Smith, Jr. “The enhanced facility will provide important additional capacity for international service.”

BWI Marshall Airport Chief Executive Officer Paul J. Wiedefeld added, “This D/E Connector program will reconfigure existing facilities to meet the needs of our passengers and our airline partners.”

BWI Marshall is currently working to complete a series of improvements near the center of the Airport terminal. A new security checkpoint and a new airside connector that links Concourse C with concourses A and B opened in April. Construction work on the B/C Connector and enhancements to Concourse C will be complete in the fall of 2013.

Together with the members of the General Assembly, Maryland passed the historic Transportation Infrastructure Investment Act of 2013 during the recent legislative session, which supports more than 57,200 jobs and invests an average of \$800 million a year at full implementation for transportation projects, and a total of \$4.4 billion over the next six years (FY 2014 – FY 2019), to enable Maryland to build a sustainable, 21st century transportation system. These better choices already have yielded better results for Marylanders. Recently, Governor O'Malley announced more than \$1.5 billion in new funds to advance highway and transit projects throughout the State, including construction of major highway and bridge projects that will improve safety and support economic development.

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