

## NEWS RELEASE

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### MAJOR RUNWAY PROJECT BEGINS AT COLUMBIA AIRPORT

Work begins this week to reconstruct one of Columbia Metropolitan Airport's two runways. The reconstruction on Runway 11/29, which is 8601' in length, will include replacing the asphalt pavement with concrete pavement and replacing the lighting system with new LED lighting. The project is scheduled to be completed within a 7-month timeframe and will re-open on Monday, November 22. The airport's second runway will be able to accommodate all air traffic during this period.

Total cost for the project is \$12,994,419. On April 20<sup>th</sup>, U.S. Senator Lindsey Graham (R-South Carolina) announced a grant in the amount of \$9,484,301 to be used for the project. Additional announcements regarding federal grants to cover the remainder of the project will be forthcoming. The grants are awarded by the U.S. Department of Transportation.

Low bidder for the project was The W.L Harper Company of Hebron, Kentucky. They expect to employ 125 employees including subcontractors.