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## **Fargo's Municipal Airport Authority unveils skyway plans**

*Design, details for covered walkway at Hector International Airport outlined at public meeting*

**FARGO, N.D., Feb. 13, 2018** - The Municipal Airport Authority hosted an informal public meeting today at Hector International Airport to share details for a pedestrian skyway it plans to build at the airport. The project will connect passenger parking lots to the airport terminal, providing protection from the elements to all airport travelers. Construction is anticipated to begin in early 2019.

“The Airport Authority has been studying options to improve parking amenities for passengers for several years,” said Shawn Dobberstein, executive director for the Municipal Airport Authority. “The skyway is a cost-effective project that can be completed in the short term and will benefit all passengers who park at the airport. It also gives us flexibility to further expand parking options to meet demand as part of the airport’s long-term master plan.”

The total cost of the skyway project is estimated at \$13 million to \$15 million, of which 90 percent will be eligible for federal funding through the Federal Aviation Administration’s Airport Improvement Program. Local funds for the project will be recovered through the passenger facility charge, which is a nominal fee collected by most airports to fund FAA-approved projects.

The airport authority’s decision to build a pedestrian skyway is part of a long-term phased approach to expand parking and is based on research conducted as part of the airport’s master planning process. The phased plan calls for a skyway addition to be built first, followed by expanded parking lots for rental cars and employees. A parking garage is also included for consideration in the airport’s long-term master plan, however the high cost of building a parking structure – estimated at \$20 million to \$25 million – would necessitate higher parking fees for passengers who utilize the garage and would provide no benefit to passengers who don’t choose to park there.

Additionally, parking studies conducted at the airport in 2017 indicate a decline in the number of passengers who park at the airport when they travel. The same trend is being observed at airports across the country, as more people use services like Uber and Lyft to be dropped off and picked up at airports.

Aerial View of Parking Skyway



Aerial View of Skyway and Passenger Terminal



View of Skyway to Passenger Terminal



Skyway View from Passenger Terminal Roadway



Skyway View from Passenger Terminal Roadway



Skyway View from Parking Lot



Internal View of Skyway



Skyway Entrance to Passenger Terminal



Skyway Entrance to Passenger Terminal



View from Inside Passenger Terminal



### About Hector International Airport

[Hector International Airport](#), located three miles northwest of Fargo in Cass County, N.D., is served by Delta, United Express, Frontier, American Eagle and Allegiant with non-stop services to Atlanta\*, Chicago, Dallas-Fort Worth, Denver, Las Vegas, Los Angeles\*, Orlando\*, Minneapolis/St. Paul, Phoenix-Mesa, and Tampa/St. Petersburg\*. With competitive fares, affordable parking, convenient passenger drop-off and pickup, and easy access to baggage, the airport serves as a one-stop connection to the world for both business and leisure travelers alike. \*seasonal service