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Airport Authority receives \$9.8 million FAA grant for aircraft parking apron project

SAN DIEGO – March 23, 2010 – The San Diego County Regional Airport Authority has received a \$9.8 million grant from the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) toward construction of a new aircraft parking apron as part of The Green Build expansion of Terminal 2 West.

The grant will provide funds to continue phased construction of the aircraft parking apron, including security fencing and lighting. Specifically, it will support Phase 2 design and construction of the aircraft parking apron, which will serve the 10-gate Terminal 2 West expansion when it is completed in early 2013.

The project is necessary to enhance capacity by providing space for 10 new aircraft parking positions at Terminal 2 West. It will also provide 10 new remain-over-night (RON) aircraft parking positions, which will eliminate the need to tow aircraft across the runway to get to and from the existing RON apron (located on the north side of the runway) to the terminal gates. This will make the runway more efficient for operations.

The grant is a discretionary FAA Airport Improvement Program (AIP) grant and the second such grant received by the Airport Authority for the Terminal 2 West apron project, for a total of \$41.2 million in AIP funding for the project. The grants reduce the amount of bond financing the Airport Authority will need for the \$1 billion Green Build project.

The San Diego County Regional Airport Authority was established by state law in 2003 to operate San Diego International Airport. San Diego International Airport served 16.9 million passengers in 2009 and generates some \$10 billion in annual economic impact for the region.

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