NEWS RELEASE

San José City Council Approves Plan for Interim Gates Facility to Accommodate Record Passenger Growth at Silicon Valley’s Airport

Four New Gates to be Constructed by Summer 2019; 18.5 Percent Growth in Passengers in First Quarter; 14.2 Million Passengers Projected in 2018

San José, Calif. – With a focus on current and future record passenger growth and continuing to offer a world-class travel experience at Mineta San José International Airport (SJC), the San José City Council on Tuesday approved Airport staff’s plan to build an interim facility with four additional boarding gates to be opened in summer 2019.

In the first quarter 2018, SJC’s passenger traffic grew 18.5 percent compared to the same three-month period last year. Based upon SJC airlines’ recent launches and announced plans for additional nonstop routes, the airport is expected to serve 14.2 million passengers in 2018, equaling peak passenger levels in 2001. With this growth, SJC was America’s fastest-growing major airport for rate of year-over-year seat capacity growth over the past two years.

“I appreciate the support of Mayor Liccardo and our Council members for giving Airport staff the green light to continue to focus on transforming how Silicon Valley travels,” said Director of Aviation John Aitken. “With four more gates, our passengers will continue to enjoy the enhanced customer service levels they have come to expect from our facilities and operation.

“As we begin building for the future again, the Airport team is well-served by the City’s Public Works leadership and staff who will continue to partner with us on this important project,” he continued.

(more)
Interim gates 31-34 will be constructed and connected to Terminal B on the south end. Once open in July 2019, the gates will offer additional hold room space for passengers. The additional gate capacity will also improve flight scheduling flexibility and decrease on-airport delays for SJC airlines to accommodate their current operations and planned growth.

The four new gates are necessary even with three new gates which were opened over the past few months: 1) new gates 29 and 30 in Terminal B opened in fall 2017, and 2) gate 7a in Terminal A was reconfigured for ground-boarding operations.

The interim facility will offer:

- four gates with passenger boarding bridges
- a holdroom with seating for 400 travelers, and
- concession space and restrooms

The project cost is estimated at $50 million and will be funded with commercial paper. The facility is expected to be used for up to seven years while concurrent planning and construction is underway for permanent gates and support facilities.

SJC has experienced steady passenger growth over the past 63 consecutive months with a rolling 12-month total of 12,957,296 passengers served through March. The Airport expects to surpass 14 million passengers in 2018 with new routes announced through fall. SJC reached a peak passenger level of 14.2 million for the rolling 12-month period ending August 2001.

**SJC: Transforming How Silicon Valley Travels**

Norman Y. Mineta San José International Airport (SJC) is Silicon Valley’s airport, a self-supporting enterprise owned and operated by the City of San José. The airport serves 13 million passengers annually, with 210 peak daily departures on 16 international and domestic carriers to 54 nonstop destinations.

SJC has been America’s fastest-growing major airport over the past two years, based on percentage increase in passenger seat capacity. For more airport information, visit [flysanjose.com](http://flysanjose.com).