

Taxiway Construction Runway 36 Left will be closed for 54 days

Tampa, FL (May 16, 2003)

WHO: The Hillsborough County Aviation Authority has implemented a \$9 million construction project on Tampa International Airport's busiest runway that will impact our Airport neighbors requiring temporary changes to the Informal Runway Use Program. Runway 36 Left/18 Right is situated north of Old Tampa Bay where over water aircraft approaches and departures help to minimize the impact of noise on residential areas.

WHAT: The Aviation Authority is constructing a high-speed taxiway and making necessary taxiway improvements near the south end of Runway 36 Left. This taxiway, which is parallel to the runway, is called Taxiway "W." Two large sections of Taxiway "W" were closed in February and are expected to remain closed until September of this year. Although the runway has been operational during this time, there are periods where it will be closed.

WHEN: Starting Monday, May 19th through Friday, July 11th Runway 36 Left will be closed 24 hours per day for 54 days to complete the project.

WHY: The high-speed taxiway will allow landing aircraft to exit the runway more quickly, thereby allowing more aircraft to land on 36 Left. As a result, fewer aircraft will need, or want, to land on Runway 36 Right (parallel runway to 36 Left) keeping aircraft over the water and reducing noise impacts even more in the future. When this project is complete, we will be able to utilize Runway 36 Left more frequently, offering a significant benefit to our neighbors.

IMPACT: The runway closure means that the remaining parallel north/south runway, 36 Right, will be carrying the majority of the Airport's takeoffs and landings for 54 days. Persons in the areas north and south of the Airport will notice this change in aircraft traffic.

COMMITMENT: The Aviation Authority is concerned for the well being of its neighbors and regrets any inconvenience that the runway/taxiway construction may cause. In order to minimize this runway closure, the Aviation Authority has offered the contractors an incentive bonus of \$5,000 per day for early completion. The community may call 813/870-8752 for questions/concerns or contact us through our website at www.TampaAirport.com.

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