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NEWS RELEASE

Airport Redesign Process Hits the Fast Track

Aviation Authority asks, "What do you think?"

Tampa, FL (September 12, 2011) – At the July Board Meeting of the Aviation Authority, Tampa International Airport awarded the Main Terminal Modernization contract to global design specialists Hellmuth, Obata + Kassabaum (HOK). Once interior design plans are completed, the final design manual will be passed along to Hardin Construction Company, who was awarded the contract for the \$30 million modernization plan in August.

A major component of the redesign project is to return the Airport to its prominence in the community; to restore the look and feel of 'Tampa's Living Room'. "Who better to decide what makes our community unique, than the people who live and work here every day?" said Joe Lopano, CEO Tampa International Airport. "This airport belongs to the community and we want everyone to have the opportunity to give us their input and share their ideas."

On Saturday, September 17, 2011, from 11am – 2pm members of the redesign team will be stationed in the Main Terminal, Level 3, in the waiting area space next to Airside C. The public is invited to come out to the airport, see and hear about the modernization project, and offer suggestions for the redesign.

The public session will follow a day of "visioning sessions" held on Thursday, September 15th for the Aviation Authority Board Members and local community partners.

Another part of the process is a facility user survey developed and conducted by students from Everest College in Tampa. Once the students have completed the survey process, they will compile the data and report on the results.

"We want as much input, from as many members of the community as possible," continued Lopano. "This will not be one man's vision of what the Airport should look like. This will truly be a facility that represents all of Tampa Bay."

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Joseph W. Lopano, *Chief Executive Officer*

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