

# *News Release*

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**For Immediate Release**  
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## **ST. PETERSBURG-CLEARWATER INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT RECEIVES STIMULUS FUNDS**

St. Petersburg-Clearwater International Airport (PIE) received notice from U.S. Congressman C.W. "Bill" Young that the airport was awarded \$5.35 million in airport improvement federal stimulus funding from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009. This funding will provide vital terminal building infrastructure improvements and interior renovations associated with the terminal rehabilitation and renovation project.

It is estimated that this ARRA funded airport project will generate approximately 44 construction jobs at an average wage of \$25 an hour for an estimated employment period of ¼ of a year. This results in a direct economic stimulus of over \$1.7 million generated in new wages for working Americans, particularly those in the construction trades industry.

The airport is currently completing terminal improvements valued at about \$12 million. The project scope includes plumbing, electrical, and HVAC system replacements, upgraded security checkpoints, new concession space, enlarged hold room area, the addition of two passenger loading bridges, and a variety of interior finish improvements. Airport staff worked diligently to best position itself for ARRA funding by having a "shovel ready" project ready to bid on short notice. This new phase of terminal work concentrates on replacement and/or rehabilitation of older and obsolete terminal components such as doors and elevators, bag conveyors, roofing, sidewalks, airside aircraft parking areas, public address system, passenger seating, as well as new interior finishes for walls and flooring.

Airport Director Noah Lagos states, "Congressman Young's support of the St. Petersburg-Clearwater International Airport played a key role in the approval of ARRA funding for airport terminal improvements. Congressman Young recognizes that St. Petersburg-Clearwater Airport is an important contributor to Pinellas County's tourism industry and that these funds will provide new jobs now, in support of a national effort to jumpstart our economy."

The airport expects to begin project construction in early July.

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