St. Pete-Clearwater International Airport (PIE) Runway Rehabilitation Project Operations Shift to Secondary Runway for Four Months

St. Pete-Clearwater International Airport (PIE) is currently in the middle of rehabilitating the asphalt on its primary and longest runway, Runway 18-36. The next phase of construction for Rehabilitation Project will require the temporary closure of Runway 18-36, requiring the need to temporarily shift all flight operations to its northeast/southwest runway, Runway 4-22, beginning July 14, 2020. This phase of construction will take approximately four months from July-November.

During this phase, Runway 4-22 will be used as the primary runway for a few months while Runway 18-36 is closed and create a temporary shift in airline traffic patterns. The construction project was phased in a manner that would minimize the use of Runway 4-22 to reduce potential aircraft noise exposure to surrounding communities of the airport. Communities that may be temporarily impacted by the change in flight paths includes Clearwater, Pinellas Park, Largo, Seminole, Redington Shores, Redington Beach, and North Redington Beach. Once this phase of construction is completed, all airline operations revert to using Runway 18-36 as the primary air carrier runway.

PIE was awarded a $19.75 million Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) grant, including $11.58 million in Discretionary Funds and $8.16 million in Entitlement Funds; additionally, $900,000 from the Florida Department of Transportation was received for the project design and construction, and the airport committed $3.43 million to the project’s $24.1 million total cost.

The project includes the rehabilitation of asphalt pavement, new runway lights and paint markings. Runway rehabilitation is essential to safe operations at the airport due to weathering and cracking over time. The construction project is expected to be complete by Spring 2021 and has an expected 15-year pavement lifespan.

With over $1 billion runway-dependent economic impact generated by commercial airlines serving over 50 non-stop destinations, substantial general and corporate aviation, and critical U.S. Coast Guard operations, the PIE strives to maintain the highest safety standards and meet continued demand for facilities.

St. Pete-Clearwater International Airport Airfield Map attached.

Airport Media Contact: Michele Routh, Airport Public Relations Director
mrouth@fly2pie.com 727-453-7879