

PRESS RELEASE

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OSCEOLA AIRPORT RECEIVES FUNDING FOR NEW TAXIWAY

The Osceola L.O. Simenstad Airport continues to grow after being awarded \$1.5 million in funding for a new, full-length taxiway. "This new, lighted taxiway will improve safety and traffic flow at the airport," said Phil Mattison, Chairman of the Osceola Airport Commission.

The taxiway will run parallel to the north side of the airport's 10/28 runway, which was resurfaced and extended to 5010 ft. in 2006. Osceola has enjoyed several other improvements in the last few years, including an expanded ramp area, new tie downs and resurfacing of several hanger access taxiways in 2007.

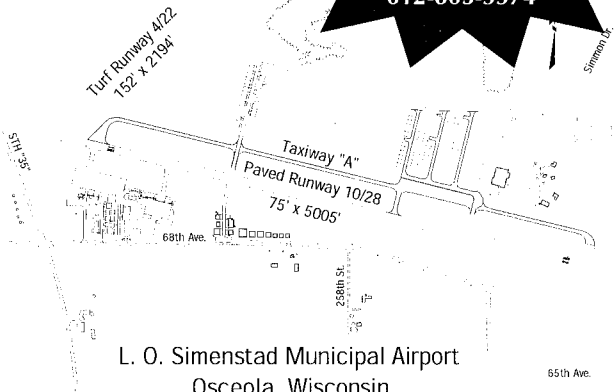
"The state of Wisconsin has invested a lot in the Osceola Airport in order to service the demand from pilots on the north side of the Twin Cities and Western Wisconsin," explained Mattison.

Osceola is the closest airport to a large portion of the northeast suburbs of St. Paul and many Minnesota-based businesses and private aircraft owners have found that Osceola offers several advantages as a base. In addition to the close proximity, Osceola airport has hangar rental locations and sites for new hangars with city sewer and water. Also, the cost to register and base a corporate style aircraft in Osceola is also much cheaper than in Minnesota.

"[The savings] would make even the most conservative accountant smile," said Mattison, "and, of course, pilots and operators enjoy the freedom of an uncontrolled, non-MAC airport."

The project includes a ramp area on the north side to complement the new taxiway and service the airport's new aviation mall hangar sites.

The chosen contractor, Dresel Construction of Chippewa Falls, will begin construction around Labor Day. The project will be graded and base course will be completed this fall, with asphalt paving and lighting due to be completed in the spring.



L. O. Simenstad Municipal Airport
Osceola, Wisconsin