

## Select parking areas to be closed until needed for improved operational efficiency, cost savings

INDIANAPOLIS—Effective immediately, the Indianapolis Airport Authority (IAA) will take steps to begin closing the roof of the Parking Garage at Indianapolis International Airport (IND) to passengers and visitors.

It will also begin actions to close the south side of the Long-Term Lot and the west end of the Economy Lot at IND.

The closures will be transparent to airport customers and will not negatively impact the number or quality of parking spaces available, explains Mark Currier, IAA's parking director.

"The closures make sense for several reasons," Currier reports. "Because all airport facilities were designed and built to accommodate future increases in passenger growth and related parking demand for many years into the future. Since we have excess capacity in our parking lots each day, we want to avoid expending financial and human resources to support facilities that aren't being fully utilized at this time."

Currier estimates the closings will save about \$70K annually in electricity, as parking lot lighting in the closed areas can be reduced or turned off completely.

In addition, there are savings related to winter snow and ice removal, as the closed areas will not have to be maintained during the winter months by airport workers who remove snow and treat the area with de-icing chemicals.

He also anticipates there will be less fuel consumed by the shuttle buses as they make their rounds transporting passengers to and from the terminal.

Most importantly, Currier anticipates improved customer service. "By reducing the number of shuttle stops in the lots, we will be more efficient. I expect customers will experience improved cycle times for the shuttle routes, with buses transporting passengers to and from their parking locations more frequently."

The closures will be gradual and, depending on weather, are expected to be complete within the next 14 to 21 days. All other aspects of the airport's parking operations, including rates and locations for pick-up and drop-off, will remain unchanged.

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