



Richard M. Daley, Mayor



Rosemarie S. Andolino, Commissioner

CDA Web Alert

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O'Hare Receives "Airport of the Year" Award from ALPA

During her acceptance speech, Andolino discussed the CDA's commitment to safety and efficiency at Chicago's airports. "We are proud to be recognized for our efforts to maintain safe and efficient operations at one of the world's busiest airports, all while managing the O'Hare Modernization Program, one of the largest civil infrastructure projects in the country," she said.

"Every day, ALPA pilots operate hundreds of flights at Chicago O'Hare, and the airport is consistently receptive to our concerns and works together with us to ensure the safest possible operations," said United Airlines Captain Rory Kay, ALPA's Executive Air Safety Chairman. "The airport has set the standard by maintaining an open dialogue with airline pilots so that, together, we can detect and resolve emerging safety concerns before problems ever occur."



The CDA has invited ALPA members to participate in O'Hare's monthly aviation safety meetings, as well as in regular and ad hoc briefings on issues including runway lighting, winter operations, disaster preparedness, and the airport's multi-year reconstruction effort.

ALPA's Airport and Ground Environment Group selects the Airport of the Year from nominations made by ALPA's regional safety chairmen and airport safety liaisons who represent pilots' interests at more than 200 commercial airports in the United States and

Canada. Nominations range from small regional airports to some of the busiest airports in the world, but all nominees share a common commitment to the highest safety standards.

"With the airport environment constantly changing during O'Hare's ongoing modernization, the demonstrated commitment by the Chicago Department of Aviation and the Chicago Fire Department to work together with ALPA could not be more important," said ALPA President John Prater, a captain for Continental Airlines. "We look forward to our continued partnership and hope that it will serve as a model for airports across the country."

ALPA's 2008 Airport of the Year was Mineta San Jose International Airport in San Jose, CA.

Founded in 1931, ALPA is the world's largest pilot union, representing nearly 53,000 pilots at 38 airlines in the United States and Canada. Visit the ALPA website at www.alpa.org.

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The Chicago Department of Aviation (CDA) is self-supporting, using no local or state tax dollars for operations or capital improvements at O'Hare and Midway International airports. Together, Chicago's airports generate more than \$45 billion in annual economic activity and create 540,000 jobs for the region. Please visit www.flychicago.com to learn more about the Chicago Department of Aviation.

The CDA continues to incorporate and expand sustainable initiatives for airport planning, operations and maintenance, concessions and tenants in accordance with the CDA Sustainable Airport Manual (SAM), released in August 2009. To view case studies, lessons learned and new technologies, and for more information on the SAM, please visit www.airportsgoinggreen.org.

The O'Hare Modernization Program (OMP), introduced by Mayor Richard M. Daley in June 2001, transforms O'Hare's airfield from an outdated system of intersecting runways into a modern parallel runway configuration. The program will reduce overall delays at the Airport by 79 percent, and bad weather delays by 95 percent. It will create 195,000 new jobs and \$18 billion in additional economic activity each year. Please visit www.oharemodernization.org to learn more about the OMP.

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