

Flying Local: 1st Quarter Passenger Numbers Up Nearly 12%

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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(Green Bay, WI) Area travelers are increasingly choosing to fly local and the first quarter passenger numbers for <u>Green Bay Austin Straubel International Airport</u> (GRB) reflect that trend. "Overall, our passenger numbers from January 1 through March 31, 2018 were up 11.7 percent compared to the same timeframe a year ago," explains Airport Director Tom Miller.

"This is due to a number of factors, including increased plane capacity along with additional flights added in the first quarter," said Miller. "We've also been stressing the need for area travelers to fly local if we want the airlines to continue to expand service here. I think that message is being heard."

For the 1st quarter of 2018, the three major airlines serving GRB all experienced increases in passenger numbers:

- American Airlines had a 21.8 percent increase in passenger traffic
- Delta Airlines had a 6.5 percent increase
- United Airlines had a 21. 3 percent increase

All three either increased the size of planes serving GRB and/or added flights. "The airlines are responding to increased demand for flights at GRB," Miller said. "That's good news for local travelers who will find more options to book a flight out of GRB. It also means more competition which can result in lower fares." When taking into account the amount of time it takes to travel to a major city's airport, along with much higher parking fees, it is often more economical to fly out of GRB.

"It's so important for travelers to fly local and support our airport," added Miller. "Strong support means more flights and we're seeing that play out right here at GRB. I want to thank everyone who is helping to keep not just the airport strong, but our local economy as well."

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About Green Bay Austin Straubel International Airport (GRB): GRB is the state's third busiest airport, serving all of Northeast Wisconsin and portions of Michigan's Upper Peninsula. It is one of only two commercial airports in Wisconsin designated as a Landing Rights Airport by the U.S. Customs and Border Protection for international flight arrivals. To learn more, go to:

www.flygrb.com and visit their Facebook (www.facebook.com/austinstraubelairport) or Twitter (www.twitter.com/@GRBairport).

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