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FOR MORE INFORMATION:

**Bruce Schedlbauer
Gerald R. Ford International Airport
616-233-6053**

Aeronautics Board Adopts Airport Master Plan Update

Grand Rapids, MI, August 25, 2004 – Earlier today, the Kent County Aeronautics Board adopted the recently completed Master Plan Update Recommended 20-Year Development Plan of Gerald R. Ford International Airport. The Board also approved the associated Airport Layout Plan. Previously, both the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and the Michigan Department of Transportation had completed their reviews of the Master Plan Update documents.

The Recommended Development Plan outlines a number of key projects:

- An increase in passenger terminal capacity, with the addition of five aircraft gates
- Other passenger terminal capacity increases including expansion of ticketing, baggage make-up, baggage claim, and lobby areas
- An increase in parking capacity by several thousand vehicles, including the construction of a parking garage, expansion of existing surface lots, and the relocation of rental car service centers to an area along Patterson Avenue
- Expansion of air cargo facilities and relocation of the U.S. Post Office facility to the Air Cargo and Trade Center
- Various minor airfield improvements

The final step in the Master Plan Update process is FAA Airspace review and approval of the Airport Layout Plan, which is expected this fall.

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