

The logo features the text "Ramp Up!" in a bold, red, sans-serif font, with a red swoosh underline that ends in a small airplane icon. Below this, the word "PARKING" is written in a bold, black, sans-serif font.

Ramp Up! PARKING

News Release

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Ford International Airport Announces Partial Closure of Long-Term Parking Lot

Grand Rapids, Mich., April 9, 2008 – Gerald R. Ford International Airport (GFIA) officials announced that, **beginning Friday, April 11, the east half of the east long-term lot will be closed through July.** This closure is necessary to allow for construction to continue on the Terminal Area and Parking Improvement Program. Entry into this lot will not be allowed as of this Friday. Cars currently parked in the lot will have time to vacate the lot before construction-related work begins in this area.

Ample long-term parking will still be available. While minimal impact to airport users is expected, travelers are encouraged to allow adequate time to wayfind.

During the construction period, visitors should look for directional signage located throughout airport roadways. Currently, short-term, long-term and handicap parking instructions are as follows (also, see parking map accompanying this release):

Short-term parking:

- Limited-space, short-term parking is located at the east end of the terminal (look for signs)
- Overnight parking is prohibited in the short-term lot
- Hourly parking is available in all long-term lots, including the Express Shuttle lot

Long-term parking is available in:

- North Lot and North Auxiliary Lot
- Express Shuttle parking lot, located on the north side of John J. Oostema Blvd. (one block east of Patterson Ave.)
- Patrons are **required** to use the free shuttle service to/from all long-term lots

Handicap parking:

- A portion of every open lot is devoted to handicap parking

Short-term visitors should consider alternative plans, such as:

- Curb-front passenger drop-off/pick-up
- Cell phone parking lot – a limited-space, free parking area for those picking up arriving passengers

Important considerations for travelers:

- All visitors parking in a long-term lot are required to take a shuttle to and from the terminal for safety reasons during construction
- Travelers are strongly encouraged to **arrive ninety minutes prior to your scheduled flight departure** in order to allow adequate time to park, ride a shuttle and arrive at the terminal

Additional parking and construction-related information may be found at:

- ***Ramp Up!*** – Red directional and advisory signs on airport roadways assist drivers, airport patrons and the general public in quickly and easily identifying project-related information and instructions. Visitors may also sign up and receive project-related updates via e-mail.
- **flygrandrapids.org** – Click on the *Ramp Up!* link (an online site that provides up-to-date parking and project information).
- **AM 1610** – When approaching the airport, tune in for information, including project advisories and instructions, on airport radio station AM 1610.

Gerald R. Ford International Airport serves approximately two million passengers annually. GFIA is the second busiest airport in Michigan and ranks among the top 15 percent of the busiest airports nationwide.

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