Next phase of runway project scheduled to start Sept. 19

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BULLHEAD CITY — The final phase of a two-phase project, Runway 16-34 construction at Laughlin/Bullhead International Airport begins Sept. 19. The runway will be extended 1,000 feet to the south, and strengthened with a 3-inch asphalt overlay. In addition, a new taxiway will be constructed, new LED runway lights will be installed, and all runway signs will be upgraded with new electronics and sign panels.

"This runway extension project will position the airport for continued success into the future," said Jeremy Keating, airport director. "Adding an additional 1,000 feet of runway will improve safety by increasing the takeoff and landing distance available to aircraft. In addition, these improvements will make our airport more attractive for future air service development."

The majority of work during the project will be performed during overnight hours, with nightly runway closures which allow construction crews access to the pavement. The project schedule is built around arriving and departing commercial flights, resulting in minimal operational impact to the local community. McCormick Construction, based in Bullhead City, was awarded the contract for this phase of the project.

"Having a local company performing the work is great, knowing the money is staying in our community," Keating said.

Funding for the entire runway extension project includes approximately \$16.6 million in Federal Airport Improvement Program funding, \$700,000 in local Passenger Facility Charge revenues, and \$700,000 from the Arizona Department of Transportation Aviation Fund. The project is anticipated to be complete in March 2017.

For more information, contact airport administration at 928-754-2134.