



Richard M. Daley, Mayor



Rosemarie S. Andolino, Commissioner

# CDA Web Alert

March 16, 2010

## Southwest Airlines celebrates 25 years at Midway International Airport

Today, Southwest Airlines staff and employees celebrated their 25th year of operation at Midway International Airport. Members of the Chicago Police Department Pipes and Drums Corps entertained passengers and guests and Pete Houghton, Southwest Senior Director of Properties, unveiled a new electric cart to transport Midway passengers through the terminal. Midway's Managing Deputy, Erin O'Donnell, presented a congratulatory letter from Chicago Mayor Richard M. Daley to Houghton and Southwest Station Manager James Story.

Southwest Airlines now operates more daily nonstop flights from Midway International than any other airport in Southwest's schedule. Beginning in April, Southwest will operate more than 200 daily flights from Midway to 50 destinations.

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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](http://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.airportgoinggreen.org](http://www.airportgoinggreen.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Modernization Program (OMP), introduced by Mayor Richard M. Daley in June 2001, transforms O'Hare's airfield from an outdated system of intersecting runways into a modern parallel runway configuration.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](http://www.oharemodernization.org) to learn more about the OMP.

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