



Richard M. Daley, Mayor



Rosemarie S. Andolino, Commissioner

CDA Web Alert

June 23, 2010

Russian Minister of Transport and Delegation meet with Commissioner Andolino to discuss airport infrastructure and future development

Today, the Chicago Department of Aviation (CDA) hosted the Russian Minister of



Transport, His Excellency Igor Levitin, and an eight-member delegation at O'Hare International Airport. The Minister and delegation met with CDA Commissioner Rosemarie S. Andolino and senior staff members during their visit.

Their discussion covered numerous airport management topics, including safety and security, operations, construction, sustainability, financial and legal procedures at O'Hare and Midway International Airports. The group also toured one of O'Hare's terminals; learned about the CDA's Sustainable Airport Manual (SAM) and participated in discussions about airport construction, terminal recycling, water, power and emissions management.

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Excellency Levitin stated that he and the delegation traveled to O'Hare International Airport to learn firsthand about the development of airport infrastructure and how to adapt those practices for the benefit of Russian airport operations.

"We want to remain competitive with other European airports and we want to learn from Chicago's experience as leaders in airport development and management", he said. "The delegation and our specialist found the meeting very fruitful and effective and we look forward to collaborating with the Chicago Department of Aviation to learn more about the organizational structure management, negotiations, and security," he added.

The Russian officials expressed an interest in forming a working group to share technical, commercial and environmental best practices, and establish committees to work cooperatively on a wide range of issues.

Chicago is viewed as a leader in aviation and sustainable airport initiatives. A number of International and National cities and airports have requested to meet with Chicago to learn how the CDA is improving and enhancing the operations of our airports. Since 2009, the CDA has hosted several delegations from Latin-America; the Caribbean; Changi, Singapore; Belgrade, Serbia; Abu Dhabi, UAE; Beijing, China; Incheon, South Korea; Henan Province, China; and Countries of the former Soviet Union and the UK.

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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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