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GARY, INDIANA DELEGATION IN WASHINGTON, DC SEEKING CONTINUED OPPORTUNITIES FOR GARY ...Gary-Chicago Airport Included In Discussion

Gary, Indiana-Mayor Karen Freeman-Wilson and members of her team were in Washington, DC today participating in a day of meetings and discussions with federal officials.

The Mayor and the delegation met with a number of U.S. leaders including Congressman Pete Visclosky, Federal Aviation Administrator (FAA) Michael Huerta, U.S. Department of Labor Employment and Training Administration Chief of Staff Sean Cartwright and Special Assistant to the President and Deputy Director of Intergovernmental Affairs Rohan Patel.

The delegation's visit to Washington, DC comes as the city continues to seek federal partnerships and opportunities for Gary. The agenda included discussions about economic development activities, demolition and development, national initiatives and updates on choice neighborhood partnerships.

Discussions in Washington, DC also included an update on the Gary/Chicago International Airport (GYY) and discussions on how GYY and the federal government can continue to partner together to grow and strengthen the airport.

Mayor Freeman-Wilson and the delegation thanked FAA Administrator Herta for the FAA's support and on-going assistance in completing the airport's Runway Expansion Project in July 2015, extending Runway 12-30 from 7,000 to 8,900 and allowing the airport to serve larger, heavier aircraft flying to and from destinations further away.

The delegation also discussed the airport's continued operational growth, increased capacity and expanded opportunities to attract new general aviation, cargo service and commercial carriers and the need to construct an on-site U.S. Customs and Border Patrol facility to allow the airport to service incoming international flights and expand its growth potential.

The Estelle Group, a national governmental relations, public policy and public affairs agency joined the Gary delegation in Washington.

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