



1450 Western Avenue, Suite 101, Albany, New York 12203

www.nyama.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Angelina McGrath

Phone: 518 687-2241

Email: nyama@caphill.com

AVIATION PROFESSIONALS AND AVIATION CAUCUS LEADERS APPLAUD RECORD FUNDING FOR AIRPORTS

Additional funding in state budget promotes economic development, job creation, improved air service and passenger experience

ALBANY (April 7, 2016) – The New York Aviation Management Association (NYAMA) applauds the NYS Legislature for the passage of a smart and comprehensive budget that contains record capital funding for airports throughout the state.

The budget which includes approval of Governor Andrew Cuomo’s initiative for a \$200 million dollar state investment to revitalize NYS airports and an increase to the Aviation Capital Grant Program, advocated by a group of legislators focused on growing the aviation industry in New York State. These vital funding programs will help the state to fully realize the full potential of its airports and aviation industries.

“New York’s aviation industry is responsible for over \$50 billion in annual economic activity; employs more than 394,500 state residents; and generates \$18 billion in payroll and \$4.5 billion in State and local tax revenue annually” said NYAMA President, Jeremy Martelle. “This additional funding will ensure that the aviation industry in NYS continues to drive new, high-quality and sustainable jobs, attract greater private sector investments and improve the traveler experience” Martelle added.

“With airports providing a critical element of New York State’s economic infrastructure, this Capital Grant Program and Airport Initiative is the perfect solution to ensure that New York’s aviation business continues to grow and prosper,” said Senator Phil Boyle. “As Senate Chairman of the New York Legislative Aviation Caucus, I want to congratulate the Governor and my Legislative colleagues for committing to aviation revitalization in this year’s budget; a step that is good for New York, smart for business, and paramount to the future of aviation.”

“Aviation plays a very important role in New York State’s economy and the 2016-17 State Budget includes funding that will help this industry continue to grow,” said Assemblywoman Donna Lupardo, Assembly Chair of the Legislative Aviation Caucus. “The Legislative Aviation Caucus successfully advocated for the inclusion of the capital grants program as well as the \$200 million infrastructure competition for Upstate airports. This year’s budget compliments last year’s passage of the Aviation Jobs Act; promoting aviation jobs and increased economic activity all across the state.”

Aviation funding passed in the 2016-17 NYS Budget includes:

- **\$200 Million Competition to Revitalize Upstate Airports** will award five airports approximately \$40 million each. Grants will fund projects that enhance safety, improve operations and access, reduce environmental impact, create better passenger experiences and leverage private investments
- **\$30 Million for the Aviation Capital Grant Program** represents a significant increase in program funding available for economic and business development projects at large and small airports throughout the state
- **Increasing the Aviation Grant Cap** from \$1 million to \$1.5 million will allow for some larger-sized projects to be eligible for a bigger state investments

The aviation capital levels were strongly supported by the co-chairs of the bi-partisan New York Legislative Aviation Caucus, Senator Philip Boyle (R-Bay Shore) and Assemblywoman Donna Lupardo (D-Endwell). The Aviation Caucus has over 120 members from both houses of the legislature and supports initiatives that promote the benefits of aviation to all New Yorkers.

###

NYAMA is a non-profit association of aviation professionals with members from New York State airports, State government agencies, planning boards, consultants, engineers, equipment manufacturers, and education facilities. NYAMA is devoted to promoting airport development and representing the needs of the entire aviation industry.

For more information or to schedule an interview with NYAMA President Jeremy Martelle, contact Angelina McGrath at: nyama@caphill.com or 518-687-2241.