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Airport Reports Fifth Consecutive Month of Increased Traffic Operations

Improved Metrics Highlight Airport's Strong Growth and Continued Recovery of Aviation Industry Post-Pandemic

(Gary, IN – February 1st, 2022) – Data comparing January 2021 and January 2022 numbers demonstrates an increase in traffic at the Gary / Chicago International Airport (GCIA) for the fifth month in a row. According to the data, the airport reported nearly 60 more flights in January 2022 than in January 2021, a total increase of 4%. This sustained improvement in traffic and operations over the past several months reaffirms GCIA's long-term strategy of increasing its operations and capabilities.

"To see our operations increase for nearly half a year is exciting and is a testament to the ongoing push to drive the airport's growth," **said GCIA Board Authority Chairman Pete Visclosky.** "This recent data further proves GCIA is the premier mid-sized airport in the region for general and corporate travelers and I am confident we will continue to see improved metrics as we gradually return to air travel postpandemic."

In January 2022, the airport recorded 1,434 total operations, an increase of 58 flights from the January 2021 total of 1,376. The numbers for January 2022 operations are also the highest total since January 2016, marking a significant improvement in airport activity. As Midway International Airport and O'Hare International Airport continue to experience increased travel demand, GCIA serves as a critical partner in providing cargo and private operations to free up capacity for the two airports.

"These numbers are encouraging, and importantly demonstrate a consistency in aviation operations GCIA has overseen over the latter part of 2021," **said GCIA Executive Director Dan Vicari**. "The airport has placed a strong emphasis on increasing its operations capacity and investing in its infrastructure to accommodate increased traffic, and we are pleased to see these investments have resulted in increased operations."

GCIA's continued increase in traffic and operations follows several years of significant public and private investments and various improvements to the airport's infrastructure. Among these have been the 2015 expansion of the airport's main runway to nearly 9,000 feet, making it the second longest in the region after O'Hare International Airport, and the opening of the airport's state-of-the-art, permanent U.S. Customs and Border Protection facility in 2018. The airport also finalized a long-term lease agreement with UPS, enabling the company to offer Next Day Air Service and provide additional capacity and flexibility for businesses in the Northwest Indiana region.



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About Gary/Chicago International Airport

Located minutes from the shores of Lake Michigan and just 25 miles from downtown Chicago, Gary/Chicago International Airport (GCIA) is a full-service airport and a premiere destination for corporate and weekend flyers in the Chicago metropolitan region and Northwest Indiana. In 2020, UPS began its Next Day Air Service operations at GCIA. To learn more, visit the airport's new website at <u>www.Flygyy.com</u>.