

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION

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HOPKINS CITES WPA AIRPORT AND CONSTRUCTION PROGRAM AS NATIONAL DEFENSE FACTOR;
ANNOUNCES APPROVAL FOR EXTENSION OF AVIATION FACILITIES

Stressing the airport construction and improvement program as a vital factor in the national defense, Harry L. Hopkins, Works Progress Administrator, announced today that additional airport projects recently approved by the President and now in operation would total more than \$16,000,000.

"Since 1935 about 5000 miles have been added to commercial airline routes between the nation's key cities and great centers of population," Mr. Hopkins said.

Pointing out that airport construction and improvement by WPA had extended to 47 states on the basis of planned surveys by government and aeronautical experts, who analyzed population, economic and geographical factors, the Administrator cited the Salt Lake City, Utah, airport as a case in point. Five streams of cross-country traffic converge at Salt Lake City, where WPA spent \$1,042,045 to improve the facilities of this important air-junction.

"Even though the population may be comparatively scattered at a particular location where airport construction and improvement has been undertaken on a large scale, the traffic originates at metropolitan centers and moves along established routes to clear at these great air terminals," Mr. Hopkins said. He also called attention to the Atlanta, Georgia, airport where WPA spent nearly a half million dollars improving facilities, and where as many as seven routes of air traffic are now served continuously.

"The urgent demand for airport improvements to keep pace with the rapid trend of American aviation is apparent when one considers the contrast in the flying equipment of today and that of, say, only a few years ago," Mr. Hopkins said. "Today the sky giants which carry as many as 40 passengers must have landing runways of better construction and many times the length formerly required. American aviation is growing by leaps and bounds. The nation's airport facilities must keep pace with this industry which is so integral a part of our economic welfare and national defense."

Of the 191 regular airline stops in the United States, Mr. Hopkins said that WPA had improved 169 or 88.4%, at a cost of about \$66,000,000 in addition to local sponsors' expenditures. "Thus," Mr. Hopkins added, "the magnitude of WPA's contribution to present day needs such as the linking up of our cities on airline schedules, bringing the people of one coast line within only a few hours of those on the other, becomes apparent."

(Note: Attached are tables showing (1) outstanding projects recently approved, (2) new areas covered by airlines and communities served as a result of WPA improvements, since July 1, 1935, and (3) regular airline stops built or improved by WPA from July 1, 1935 to September 30, 1938, and Federal funds expended.)

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Table 1

OUTSTANDING PROJECTS RECENTLY APPROVED

<u>WICHITA, KANSAS</u>	\$541,395 Federal & Sponsors Funds.
Construction of runways, filling, grading, installation of storm sewers, building of shelters, lighting facilities, water lines and landscaping.	
<u>DES MOINES, IOWA</u>	\$1,625,020 Federal & Sponsors Funds.
Grading, construction of new runways & taxi strips, drainage and lighting, system, fencing, seeding and enlargement of field.	
<u>SIOUX FALLS, SOUTH DAKOTA</u>	\$146,192 Federal & Sponsors Funds.
Clearing, grading, grubbing, drain tile, building administration building, and hangar; surfacing of runways.	
<u>GREAT FALLS, MONTANA</u>	\$868,083 Federal & Sponsors Funds.
Complete administration building, construct hangars, superintendent's cottage, garages, walks, build curbs, drives, sewer & water systems, septic tank, aprons, taxi-strips and fences; grading, leveling, paving, drainage, lighting and fueling facilities.	
<u>ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA</u>	\$1,706,856 Federal & Sponsors Funds.
Construction of buildings, extension of drainage facilities, building of boundary lights, hydroplane dock, riprapping banks, filling, grading, surfacing of runways, landscaping.	
<u>KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI</u>	\$1,011,521 Federal & Sponsors Funds
Grading, draining, extension and paving of runways.	
<u>MORGANTOWN, WEST VIRGINIA</u>	\$1,040,722 Federal & Sponsors Funds.
Clearing, grading, draining, paving runway; seeding, sodding, fencing, construction of hangar and administration building, lighting facilities, landscaping, construction of bridges, walk-ways, shelter house, pools, dams, caretakers cottage. (Not an airline stop at present but will be when improvements finished).	
<u>SIOUX CITY, IOWA</u>	\$224,454 Federal & Sponsors Funds.
Grading, clearing, excavating, surfacing, construction of runways, taxi-strips, aprons, gutters, catch-basins, pump, administration building, septic tank, water supply system, and installation of drainage system, pipe gasoline pump and storage facilities, removal of and re-building of fencing.	

Table 2

NEW AREAS COVERED BY AIRLINES AND COMMUNITIES SERVED DUE TO
WPA IMPROVEMENTS, SINCE JULY 1, 1935

<u>Routes</u>	<u>Cities Via</u>	<u>Miles</u>
Bangor to Caribou, Maine	Millinocket, Houlton, and Presque Isle, Maine	164
Detroit, Michigan to Sault Ste Marie	Flint, Saginaw and Traverse City, Michigan	347
Jacksonville, Flor- ida to Mobile, Ala.	Tallahassee, and Marianna, Fla.	393
Tallahassee, Flor- ida, to Memphis, Tenn.	Birmingham, Dothan, Montgomery and Florence, Alabama	499
Portland, Oregon to Spokane, Washington	Pendleton, Oregon	341
Phoenix, Arizona to Las Vegas, Nevada	Prescott, Kingman, Arizona, and Boulder City, Nevada	270
San Francisco, Cal- ifornia to Los Angeles	Monterey and Santa Barbara, Calif.	366
Billings to Great Falls, Montana	Lewiston, Montana	192
Cincinnati, Ohio to Detroit, Michigan	Dayton, Ohio	237
Washington, D. C. to Norfolk, Virginia	-	146
Baltimore, Md. to Buffalo, N. Y.	Harrisburg, and Williamsport, Pa.	283
Spearfish, S. D. to Cheyenne, Wyoming	Rapid City, S. D.	261
Denver, Colo. to Grand Island, Neb.	-	359
Tulsa, Oklahoma to Kansas City, Mo.	Coffeyville, Kansas	215
San Antonio, Texas to Houston	-	191
Cincinnati, Ohio to Chicago, Ill.	Dayton, Ohio, Ft. Wayne and South Bend, Ind.	299
St. Louis, Mo. to	Springfield and Chicago, Ill.	388
	TOTAL	4951

Table 3

REGULAR AIRLINE STOPS BUILT OR IMPROVED BY WPA FROM
JULY 1, 1935, TO SEPTEMBER 30, 1938, AND FEDERAL FUNDS
EXPENDED.

ALABAMA	5	\$ 834,394
ARIZONA	3	158,815
ARKANSAS	1	192,000
CALIFORNIA	9	5,199,969
COLORADO	3	783,977
CONNECTICUT	3	995,250
DELAWARE	-	-
D. C.	-	-
FLORIDA	12	1,763,340
GEORGIA	5	885,775
IDAHO	3	342,467
ILLINOIS	2	5,178,282
INDIANA	3	1,468,933
IOWA	3	90,137
KANSAS	2	131,846
KENTUCKY	1	294,218
LOUISIANA	2	265,977
MAINE	8	864,842
MARYLAND	1	125,979
MASSACHUSETTS	2	1,704,435
MICHIGAN	9	1,222,637
MINNESOTA	2	1,139,739
MISSISSIPPI	3	646,246
MISSOURI	3	612,317
MONTANA	7	464,911
NEBRASKA	4	1,533,496
NEVADA	3	52,865
NEW HAMPSHIRE	2	466,802
NEW JERSEY	1	3,567,265
NEW MEXICO	2	431,489
NEW YORK CITY	-	5,157,158 (*)
NEW YORK STATE	4	1,689,358
NORTH CAROLINA	3	679,855
NORTH DAKOTA	3	145,048
OHIO	5	5,386,931
OKLAHOMA	2	304,039
OREGON	3	2,129,559
PENNSYLVANIA	7	10,153,278
RHODE ISLAND	-	-
SOUTH CAROLINA	3	1,155,926
SOUTH DAKOTA	6	282,896
TENNESSEE	5	3,843,197
TEXAS	12	644,006
UTAH	1	1,049,947
VERMONT	2	126,533
VIRGINIA	2	166,855
WASHINGTON	4	673,641
WEST VIRGINIA	2	231,115
WISCONSIN	1	726,103
WYOMING	3	151,061
TOTAL	169	\$66,114,909 *

The \$66,114,909 spent on Airline stops is 69% of WPA Airport and Airway Program

(*) North Beach, N. Y. City

* In addition to Sponsors Expenditures