



VIEWS & VISIONS

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Local Airports Expand Community Potential

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Mid Ohio Valley Regional Airport

A graduate of Glenville State College and numerous military schools, Terry Moore returned to West Virginia upon retirement from the U. S. Marine Corps as a lieutenant colonel. After four years as the West Virginia Aerospace Education Coordinator at the Mid Atlantic Aerospace Complex, he became an airport manager, and actively applies his management, leadership and aviation knowledge at the Mid Ohio Valley Regional Airport in Parkersburg, West Virginia.

Most large cities take their airports for granted. In smaller communities, however, a regional airport is a coveted asset, providing unique opportunities for business, industry and leisure. Although the regional airport is typically identified by a single city's name, the facility serves a network of cities and counties, often benefitting business and individuals across state lines. The Mid Ohio Valley Regional Airport, which serves Parkersburg, West Virginia, Marietta, Ohio, and the entire Mid Ohio Valley area, is no exception!

The Mid Ohio Valley Regional Airport is a hugely capable commercial airport, serving a population of approximately 150,000 in West Virginia and Ohio. Our airport is a large industrial complex, tucked away a few miles outside of town. At first blush, with approximately 15,000 passengers each year, the Mid Ohio Valley Regional Airport's impact might appear to be small, but that is not the case; its impact reaches far beyond simple numbers. For example, local business travelers, who are the primary users of the airport, are able to expand their businesses across the country through convenient access to air travel, generating sales



and fostering local job growth. Moreover, business travelers, from around the nation and the world, frequently arrive at our airport, seeking new markets and opportunities in our region.

The Airport maintains strict standards set by the FAA, and these standards are inspected annually. The FAA recognizes the Mid Ohio Valley Regional Airport as one of about 500 commercial airports in the United States. Because of this distinction, our community gains recognition by being listed on flight schedules around the globe. It's like having a large neon sign over the region that says, "Open for Business."

The Mid Ohio Valley Regional Airport has four round-trip flights daily to the United Airlines





*Above: Snow removal crews work around the clock during winter storms
Below: Construction work on the Airport tower*

Airport Improvement Program Funds fuel construction projects that improve airside infrastructure. The Airport also generates significant revenue from sales and rentals of aviation services.

Although the commercial market is important, it represents just a fraction of the total aircraft that use the Airport. In fact, the majority of our air traffic comes from the “general aviation” market, which generally consists of aircraft owned by businesses, entrepreneurs and air travel enthusiasts. The spectrum of general aviation aircraft is vast, including everything from a small Cherokee 140 plane used for flight training, to a Boeing 737 jet used to bring in a college football team. There are 52 private aircraft based at this Airport, with the majority registered to businesses; in addition, 13 military aircraft call the Airport home.

The Airport’s access to the national transportation system generates attention for our area. National politicians, Hollywood personalities, and sports icons have reached our community through our facility. In fact, four United States Presidents have “touched down” at the Mid Ohio Valley Regional Airport.

The Mid Ohio Valley Regional Airport is proud to serve the Mid Ohio Valley area. Like so many other regional airports in West Virginia, Pennsylvania, Ohio and Kentucky, our facility is a gateway to the world. For the price of a ticket you can go from here – to anywhere! ✎

hub in Cleveland, Ohio. The first flight takes off at 6 a.m. and the last one lands at 9:30 p.m. However, the runway must be ready at any time for any aircraft needing to land. Keeping the airport open 24 hours a day requires dedicated professionals manning three shifts. Fire-fighting capability must be available for each commercial flight. During winter storms, salt cannot be used at the airport because of the corrosive effect on aircraft and engines, so we just keep plowing.

During area power outages, the Airport can remain operational due to on-site emergency systems; the Airport features a restaurant that can serve meals when others in the community may not. During state or local emergencies, the Airport can

provide fuel for “first responders,” can serve as a staging ground to disperse critical supplies, and can serve as a gateway to our region when roads may be impassible.

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A regional airport brings dollars, as well as people, into the community. Business travelers and vacationers spend money to purchase airline tickets, rent automobiles, and stay in hotels. FAA