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Governor Bredesen Announces Grant for Memphis International Airport

Grant awarded through TDOT's Aeronautics Division

NASHVILLE—Governor Phil Bredesen announced today that an aeronautics grant totaling \$22.5 million has been approved for Memphis International Airport.

“Tennessee’s commercial airports are vital front doors to our state,” said Bredesen. “Investing in our commercial airports helps our state remain competitive in the aeronautics industry and provide a good first impression to visitors and business travelers to Tennessee.”

Memphis International Airport will use the grant funds for parking garage and other improvements.

The grants are made available through the Tennessee Department of Transportation’s Aeronautics Division.

“This division administers federal and state funding to assist in the location, design, construction and maintenance of Tennessee’s diverse public aviation system,” reported TDOT Commissioner Gerald Nicely. “We are pleased to continue to support Tennessee’s general aviation and commercial airports.”

Except for routine expenditures, grant applications are reviewed by the Tennessee Aeronautics Commission (TAC), which is a five member board charged with policy planning and with regulating changes in the state airport system plan.

TAC Chair Larry Mullins explained, “Our board examines the applications carefully to ensure that the proper state and local matching funds are in place and that the grants will be put to good use.”

The TDOT Aeronautics Division has the responsibility of inspecting and licensing the state’s 126 heliports and 75 public/general aviation airports. The Division also provides aircraft and related services for state government and staffing for the [Tennessee Aeronautics Commission](#).

The Shelby County legislative delegation helped secure these funds for Memphis International Airport.

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