

*City of Taunton
Office of the Mayor*



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**City of Taunton Breaks Ground on New Airport Administration Building
O'Connell Thanks MassDOT, Airport Commission for Partnership**

Taunton, MA... Today Mayor O'Connell announced the City of Taunton officially broke ground at the Taunton Municipal Airport for the new commercial Administration Building project.

“Our airport is a special place in our community and it is with excitement that we begin the process of building the new Administration Building. The Airport Commission and the MA Department of Transportation (MassDOT) have been excellent partners to work with in bringing this project to fruition,” O'Connell said.

The ground-breaking ceremony was well-attended by local officials, state officials, the Airport Commission, and representatives from MassDOT. The \$7.3 million project, of which 95% is funded by MassDOT, is a welcomed investment by the state government to our local community. “The Baker-Polito Administration appreciates partnerships with municipalities such as Taunton in making investments in capital projects to help people travel, create jobs, and increase safety,” said MassDOT Acting Secretary and CEO Jamey Tesler. “The new airport Administration Building in Taunton is among dozens of airport improvement projects the administration is investing in state-wide which are improving core infrastructure and which underscore the importance of a municipal airport to the local economy.”

The Taunton Municipal Airport Commission has been keenly aware of the decline in airport use over the years due to the lack of services available at the airport. The new Administration Building will open the city to global possibilities by providing new jobs and the opportunity for new types of businesses to base their operations once modernization efforts have been completed.

The City of Taunton currently collects approximately \$131,000 annually in commercial taxes from the airport, and with the new Administration Building, the city will be able to identify additional revenue streams moving forward. In addition to being an economic jobs and revenue driver, O'Connell says the new Administration Building will be able to host aviation apprenticeships, educational programs, and high-level skills training. Administrative offices and leased space for aviation-related businesses will be available, and the project will include a new restaurant at the airport that will serve the general public, airport tenants, and visitors.

City officials are confident this project will bring new life and interest to the airport, community, and aviation in general. “The Taunton Municipal Airport Building and its restaurant will be a modern, welcoming center for our community moving forward. I want to thank Mayor O'Connell for her relentless pursuit of this project,” said Bob Adams, Chairman of the Airport Commission.

For questions regarding this project, please call (508) 821-2973 or visit <https://www.taunton-ma.gov/airport-commission/pages/airport-administration-building-project>.

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