

Michaud Announces Major Airport Funding for Houlton and Pittsfield

Tuesday, February 24 2009

WASHINGTON, DC – Today, Congressman Mike Michaud announced that the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) has awarded funding to the Houlton International Airport and the Pittsfield Municipal Airport. The Houlton International Airport was awarded a \$4,294,995 grant for the rehabilitation of the runway. The Pittsfield Municipal Airport was awarded a \$1,042,238 grant for the rebuilding of the airport's aircraft parking apron.

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“The facilities in Houlton and Pittsfield are in great need of these upgrades. These are tough economic times and these grants supply needed investment in our communities's infrastructure,” said Michaud. “Economic development and business attraction depend on sound infrastructure. The improvements at both airports will ensure increased safety for customers and airport staff. I am pleased with the Federal Aviation Administration's decision to award this funding.”

The Houlton International Airport will use the grant funds to rehabilitate the runway and to lengthen it. The runway pavement has exceeded its useful life and shows signs of deterioration. Reconstruction will restore the original pavement strength. These improvements could help attract more jet traffic to the area. In addition, the Houlton International Airport is working on improving their lighting system.

The Pittsfield Municipal Airport will use the grant funds to rebuild their aircraft parking apron, which is original to the airport and in desperate need of repair. In recent years, the airport has also replaced their runway. Many companies use the airport and these upgrades will significantly enhance services.

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