



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
February 26, 2009

CONTACT: Susan Sullam, Cardin, 410-962-4436  
Cassie Harvey, Mikulski, 202-228-1122

## ***CARDIN, MIKULSKI ANNOUNCE MORE THAN \$4 MILLION FOR THE SALISBURY-OCEAN CITY WICOMICO REGIONAL AIRPORT***

WASHINGTON – U.S. Senators **Benjamin L. Cardin** and **Barbara A. Mikulski** (both D-MD) today announced that the U.S. Department of Transportation has awarded the Salisbury-Ocean City Wicomico Regional Airport \$4.74 million through the Airport Improvement Program (AIP) to extend its runway. This funding is for phase one and it will be used to build a 900 foot runway extension and other related projects.

“Federal infrastructure investments like the Salisbury-Ocean City Wicomico Regional Airport runway extension will allow more Americans to travel to one of America’s top vacation destinations,” said **Senator Cardin**. “This is a very positive step forward for the economy of the Eastern Shore and win-win for the entire region and our state.”

“Salisbury-Ocean City Wicomico Regional Airport plays a key role in maintaining the Eastern Shore’s economy. This runway extension will give more Americans access to beautiful Eastern Shore, while providing easier access to the area’s historical landmarks and tourist attractions,” said **Senator Mikulski**. “I have consistently fought for the Eastern Shore in the U.S. Senate, and I will continue to work to ensure that Salisbury-Ocean City Wicomico Regional Airport has a voice in Washington.”

Runway construction will begin in May 2009. The grant includes construction a 900 foot runway extension; relocation of the existing Automated Surface Observation System; grading of extended runway and taxiway safety areas; grading of the ILS Glide Slope Critical Area; and associated project drainage system. The AIP provides both formula and discretionary funding to airports. Revenues for AIP come from airport user fees and fuel taxes. Last year, Congress provided \$3.5 billion for AIP. This funding can be used for exterior capital improvements and repairs including: new runways, aprons, lighting, planning and land purchases.

##