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Passenger Survey Program Receives National Attention

MESA, ARIZ. --- Williams Gateway Airport Authority began surveying East Valley residents in March 2005 to determine their interest in traveling from Williams Gateway Airport to other cities throughout the U.S. Now the program is attracting attention from residents living in other states who are interested in flying directly to the East Valley via Gateway.

“We set out a few months ago to collect information from local residents regarding whether or not they would be interested in flying out of Gateway, and if so, to what markets,” said Marketing Manager, John Barry. “We have received overwhelming support from the community and now support has grown to include residents from other states as well.”

Barb Cannell lives in Rockford, Illinois but owns a home in Apache Junction. “We fly into Phoenix during the winter months and so do many of our friends,” said Mrs. Cannell. “I have been passing out the surveys and have collected over 150 from people who would like to fly into Mesa. There seems to be a big interest.”

Williams Gateway Airport has received over 3,300 completed forms and is seeking a total of 10,000. The surveys are not expected to attract passenger service by themselves, but will be used to demonstrate community support to prospective air

carriers. For more information, or to fill out the survey, visit the Airport's Website at www.flywga.org.

The Airport is owned and operated by the Williams Gateway Airport Authority that includes the Gila River Indian Community, Gilbert, Mesa, and Queen Creek.