



## **\$7.49 million in FAA grants to enhance Williams Gateway's runways, hangars**

MESA, Ariz. – October 11, 2005 – Williams Gateway Airport will soon see enhancements to its runways, taxiways, and hangars thanks to \$7.49 million from two new Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) improvement grants.

The first grant is approximately \$5.14 million and will help to construct a new taxiway parallel to the main runways as well as bring legacy hangar facilities up to current fire safety and building code standards. The new taxiway is needed to accommodate the increasing volume of air traffic at Williams Gateway, which is now among the top 50 busiest airports in the country.

The second grant is approximately \$2.35 million and will help enhance safety features to meet current airport design standards on its westernmost runway, 12R/30L as well as its center runway 12C/30C. Specifically, the grant will serve to enhance safety shoulders, which are used if an aircraft deviates from the runway.

“These grants and the resulting construction reflect a continued commitment of the FAA and Airport Authority to improve facilities and serve as an alternative to Phoenix’s Sky Harbor. The resulting improvements greatly enhance our ability to meet the region’s aviation needs.” said Casey Denny, Williams Gateway Airport Authority’s deputy director.

The Airport is owned and operated by the Williams Gateway Airport Authority, which includes the Gila River Indian Community, Gilbert, Mesa and Queen Creek. For more information, visit [www.flywga.org](http://www.flywga.org).