



February 19, 2015

Hartsfield-Jackson Seeks Partners for Onsite Recycling and Composting Facility

Groundbreaking project would help airport achieve zero waste status by 2020

ATLANTA – Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport is looking for partners to build and operate a state-of-the-art, onsite recycling and composting facility that would enable the recycling and reuse of 90 percent of the Airport's waste.

The project, Green Acres ATL Energy Park, went out for bids February 5. It is part of an overall initiative by Atlanta Mayor Kasim Reed and the airport management team to make Hartsfield-Jackson one of the greenest airports in the U.S. and achieve Zero Waste status by the year 2020.

"Our goal is to make Atlanta's airport one of the most sustainable airports in the world," said Hartsfield-Jackson General Manager Miguel Southwell. "The Green Acres project is an important step in achieving that objective and this will be another opportunity to provide value to our customers."

Under the terms of the Request for Proposal (RFP), the selected partner would lease 30 acres of airport property just south of the fifth runway for 30 years. As part of this project, the successful proponent would develop a fully enclosed commodity recovery, recycling and reprocessing facility to open by March 1, 2017.

Currently, more than half of the 19,000 tons of waste generated annually by the Airport is food waste and food packaging. This year, the Airport's more than 120 restaurant locations are mandated to make the switch to biodegradable plates and packaging, as well as utensils and cups made from biopolymers capable of fully degrading within six months.

Hartsfield-Jackson also recently placed more than 300 recycling bins throughout the passenger concourses and, in 2016, will introduce disposal kiosks in the food courts to separate food waste from recyclables. The selected Green Acres partner will be responsible for further sorting the waste that enters the new plant. The RFP stipulates that the facility cannot generate odors or attract rodents, and must provide an enclosed, pressurized environment.

In addition to airport waste, Green Acres will process another 19,000 tons of yard trimmings a year from the City's Department of Public Works. Eventually, the Airport plans to build an education center adjacent to the compost plant that would be open for tours and classes.

Prospective partners are expected to have extensive experience in composting and recycling, as well as in grey water filtration and agricultural production in an urban environment.

For more information on the RFP, please visit:

www.atlantaga.gov/modules/showdocument.aspx?documentid=17150

For video footage of the press conference, please visit: vimeo.com/120100986.

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Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport

Hartsfield-Jackson (ATL) is the world's busiest and most efficient airport, serving more than 96.1 million passengers annually with nonstop service to more than 150 U.S. destinations and nearly 70 international destinations in more than 45 countries. ATL boasts a direct economic impact of \$34.8 billion in metro Atlanta and a total direct economic impact of \$70.9 billion in Georgia. The Airport is the largest employer in Georgia, with more than 63,000 employees. The Airport is a frequent recipient of awards of excellence for concessions, operations, architectural engineering and construction – including the 2013 Global Efficiency Excellence Award from the Air Transport Research Society, 2013 Project of the Year, Architectural Category for the Maynard H. Jackson Jr. International Terminal from the American Association of Airport Executives Southeast chapter and the 2012 Best Airport in North America, Business Travel Award from the Business Traveler Magazine. ATL has completed more than \$6 billion worth of capital improvements, including a new, energy-efficient rental car center, a gold LEED-certified international terminal and aesthetic and functional upgrades to its concourses, people movers and parking services. For more information, go to www.atlanta-airport.com. Check out the Airport's YouTube channel by visiting www.youtube.com/AtlantaHartsfield, follow us on Twitter (@Atlanta_Airport) and become a fan on Facebook (Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport).