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Missoula Montana Airport South Concourse Construction Comes in \$2.6 Million Under Budget

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(Missoula, Montana) – The Missoula Montana Airport (MSO) South Concourse construction project is complete and under budget. “The original project budget, created in 2017, estimated construction on this first phase at \$67.2 million. During our Airport Board Meeting on December 20, 2022, we approved 9 deductive change orders to close out the now \$64.6 million dollar South Concourse project – roughly \$2.6 million under budget,” stated Board Chair, Adriane Beck. “Grant funding and value engineering also contributed to the \$2.6 million underrun.”

Grants played a critical role in the financial success of this multi-year, multi-phase project. Helping to offset project costs and reduce environmental impact, grants were received from the Transportation Security Administration and the Federal Aviation Administration (Voluntary Airport Low Emissions). In addition, local financing was obtained through the airport's partners at First Security Bank.

“We continue to deliver on Team MSO's promise to bring a world-class facility to Montanans and visitors alike, elevating their airport experience. This beautiful concourse was built by Montanans' hard work, outstanding communication and team spirit all coming together to take us over the finish line on time and under budget – despite funding challenges created



by the pandemic – and with no levies to the local taxpayer," said Brian Ellestad, MSO's Airport Director.

Team MSO is comprised of the primary airport expansion project partners; Missoula Montana Airport Staff, Morrison-Maierle, Martel Construction, A&E Design and First Security Bank. "We are proud of the pivotal role our local contractors and workforce played in helping deliver this facility on-time, and under budget," Beck added.

MSO's South Concourse Terminal Expansion project modernized the facility to serve the region well into the future. Travelers utilizing the new terminal experience:

- Picturesque window views of the western Montana landscape
- Easy to navigate check-in area on main level
- Modern concessions featuring a large bar area and open-air patio
- Family restrooms and touchless fixtures in all restrooms
- Expanded gates and boarding areas
- Pre-security aircraft observation lounge

"Team MSO will now focus on delivering Phase 2, the East Concourse Extension." said Tim Damrow, MSO's Deputy Director. "The team looks forward to continuing our success and delivering this next phase of the project which Montanans and our guests will enjoy for years to come." The second phase of construction will provide additional aircraft gates, a new, expanded baggage claim and a rental car center located in the terminal. The cost of the extension is estimated at \$42 million and will open to the public in phases beginning in the Summer of 2024.

About the Missoula Montana Airport

Missoula Montana Airport is the Gateway to Western Montana. Currently five airlines serve Missoula Montana Airport: Alaska, Allegiant, American, Delta, and United. Airlines at MSO collectively provide nonstop flights to: Atlanta, *Chicago*, Dallas, Denver, Las Vegas, Los Angeles, Minneapolis-St.Paul, Oakland, Orange County, Phoenix-Mesa, Portland, Salt Lake City, San Diego, San Francisco, and Seattle (*some routes are seasonal*). MSO serves approximately 900,000 passengers annually. Missoula Montana Airport is financially self-supporting; no local tax revenues are used for the administration, promotion, operation, or maintenance of the airport. For more information visit [FlyMissoula.com](https://www.flymissoula.com) and follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).