



Congressman Tim Bishop

FIRST DISTRICT -- NEW YORK

NEWS RELEASE

JULY 26, 2007

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: WILL JENKINS

PHONE: (202) 225-3826

BISHOP ANNOUNCES \$75,000 WORTH OF GRANTS FOR MONTAUK AIRPORT SAFETY

Funds to Install Automated Weather Observing System and Runway Vertical/Visual Guidance System

Montauk, NY – Today Congressman Tim Bishop (NY-1) announced two grants from the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), totaling \$75,000, for Montauk Airport. One \$34,407 grant will provide funding to install an Automated Weather Observing System (AWOS). Another \$41,231 grant will be used to install a Precision Approach Path Indicator (PAPI) runway guidance system.

“The recent crash in Brazil is a tragic reminder that we must do all we can to ensure passenger safety,” said Bishop. “These grants will provide the most recent and most accurate weather reports, and make the task of landing an aircraft safer for even experienced pilots. I am pleased these federal funds will help enhance Montauk Airport’s ability to handle air traffic safely.”

The AWOS is a sensor designed to record and report significant weather conditions at the airport, including temperature, visibility, precipitation types and amounts, as well as wind direction and speed. These measurements are used by pilots and flight dispatchers to ensure safe takeoffs and landings.

Using a series of lights, the PAPI system indicates to pilots whether they are approaching the runway on the appropriate glidepath. Depending on the angle of the viewer, the lights appear either red or white, indicating to the pilot whether the approach is too high or low. The system is visible up to five miles away during the day and twenty miles at night. The PAPI is to be installed along Runway 6.

Recently, Bishop also successfully attached language to the pending FAA reauthorization bill to require the agency to implement a final rule that would guide the airlines toward installing life-saving fuel tank inerting technology that is designed to reduce aircraft vulnerability to fuel tank flammability.

The 40 acre Montauk Airport is located three nautical miles northeast of Montauk, New York. Privately owned by Montauk Airport Inc., the airport is open to public use.

#