

NEWS RELEASE

 PORT OF PORTLAND
Box 3529 Portland OR 97208
503.415.6000

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Steve Johnson • 503.415.6591 • steve.johnson@portofportland.com

Changes Afoot: Iconic PDX Carpet Ready for Departure

More Airport Improvements on the Way

Portland International Airport began saying farewell to its iconic and heavily traveled carpet today, as construction crews started replacing the nearly 30-year-old carpet.

Crews are replacing approximately 13 acres of carpet—enough to cover about 10 football fields. The iconic pattern of the carpet has become a social media phenomenon, and has inspired a vast array of products featuring its design.

The carpet replacement leads a period of major redevelopment for PDX, ensuring it stays on the leading edge of airports nationwide. Collectively known as PDXNext, this suite of major airport improvement projects will continue providing awarding-winning comfort and convenience for travelers, operational efficiency, and safety and security.

Last year, PDX served an all-time record 15.9 million passengers. In October, PDX celebrates its 75th anniversary.

“We’re a little sad to say goodbye to the old carpet,” said Vince Granato, Port of Portland chief operating officer. “Still, we’re looking forward to freshening up the airport with new carpet, joined by several other major improvements over the next few years.”

Most carpet construction work will take place at night to minimize disruptions for travelers and airport businesses. The project is expected to wrap up in November.

The modernized design of the new carpet features calming colors, and represents images of flight, nature and structures found in the Pacific Northwest and at PDX, such as airplane wings, leaves,

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and the terminal roadway canopy. The old carpet pattern symbolized what an air traffic controller would see from the control tower at night, such as runways and lights, and used colors found in the Northwest.

Because most of the old carpet is in poor or failing condition, most of the old carpet will be recycled. However, to meet the community's desire to have a carpet memento, plans are underway to repurpose some of the carpet. The process will make some large quantities available to vendors, who will then make small quantities available to others. Related information is available on the bulletin board at www.pdx.com.

Carpet project partners include:

- Zimmer Gunsul Frasca Architects LLP of Portland, Ore; conceptual pattern of new design
- Hennebery Eddy Architects, Inc. of Portland, Ore.; final product development, logistics and construction support
- Emerick Construction Co., Happy Valley, Ore.; general contractor
- Rubenstein's, Portland, Ore.; carpet purchase and installation
- J+J Flooring Solutions, Dalton, Ga.; carpet fabrication (for most of the carpet)

Other Major Airport Improvements

Joining carpet replacement, several other PDXNext construction and planning projects from 2015 through 2017, represent a nearly \$190 million investment in the airport. Projects include:

- Eleven new PDX shops and restaurants opening between now and April.
- Federal Inspection Station remodeling through fall 2016 to better serve international passengers.
- Security upgrades, and relocating and expanding checkpoint exit lanes and developing new adjacent waiting areas, running through August 2016.
- Efforts through late 2017 to better balance passenger facility use and extend Concourse E with construction beginning this fall.
- Preliminary planning begins this summer for terminal core improvements including the ticket lobby, Oregon Market, security checkpoints and baggage claim area.

Information on additional projects will follow, as those projects take shape.

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