

Project to rebuild Millington Regional Jetport part of improvements master plan

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by [Einat Paz-Frankel](#)

Millington Regional Jetport is pouring \$800,000 worth of concrete to rebuild its aircraft parking ramp.

A one-acre portion of the ramp is undergoing a major facelift after cracks were discovered in the concrete.

"We needed to remove and replace a portion that failed," says Tracy Williams, executive director of the Millington Airport Authority. "It could have done a lot of damage."

Memphis-based contractor **Grinder-Haizlip Construction Co., Inc.**, which won the bid, started work on the ramp last week. The project involves replacing the old concrete, which is 18 inches thick, says Robert Nelson, project manager for Grinder-Haizlip. The contractor will employ about 40 workers on the site as well as two local subcontractors, Millington 51, which will supply the concrete, and Lauderdale Trucking, which will do demolition and hauling.

"Once complete, this project will improve safety and extend the

useful life of the airport operations area, complementing other recent and pending improvement projects," Williams says.

Funded by a grant from the Tennessee Department of Transportation, this improvement project is part of a multi-year master plan, which includes building more storage space for aircraft, a project estimated at \$3 million, Williams says.

With revenues from rental fees paid by the owners of 100 based aircraft, the major source of revenue for Millington Regional Jetport is a mostly absent client. FedEx Corp. brings in the majority of the airport's annual operating revenues -- a little over \$770,000 -- thanks to a contract that allows its planes to land there if necessary, Williams says.

"It's an alternative landing facility for FedEx," she says.

"Because of the just-in-time nature of the industry, cargo



ALAN HOWELL | MJB

Crews work on an \$800,000 project to rebuild Millington Regional Jetport.

Millington Airport Authority
Tracy Williams,
executive director
Address: 8182 Hornet,
Millington
Phone: (901) 872-7495
Web site: www.knqa.com

must get to its destination on time, unlike passengers."

The concrete project is expected to take about seven weeks, during which the airport will remain open.

ep@bizjournals.com | 259-1764

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