

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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**Chick-fil-A and Chili's Planned for Little Rock Airport**  
*Popular restaurants among big changes to airport's concourse*

**LITTLE ROCK, ARK. (February 14, 2017)** – Bill and Hillary Clinton National Airport has announced plans to open a Chick-fil-A and Chili's as part of the airport's current concourse renovation. Both eateries are expected to open by the first quarter of 2018 pending final approval of the Little Rock Municipal Airport Commission on February 21.

The restaurants will be operated by HMSHost and JQ Enterprises, Inc., an ACDBE (airport concessions disadvantaged business enterprise) partner. Current food and beverage offerings Starbucks, Great American Bagel and Burger King will be remodeled.

“These changes are another way that we're improving the experience for our passengers,” said Jim Dailey, chairman of the Little Rock Municipal Airport Commission. “Travelers will be able to enjoy four major national brands, which isn't typical for an airport of our size.”

In addition, two new retail locations will open, which will be operated by Hudson Group and ACDBE partner Newburns Management Group.

Agreements with both HMSHost and Hudson Group are anticipated to be extended through 2028 to facilitate the additions. Both companies will add an extra ACDBE partner that each will select.

“As the front door to our city and state, we're committed to making the best impression while providing new options for our customers,” said Ronald F. Mathieu, C.M., executive director of Clinton National Airport. “We believe the new restaurants and retail offerings will significantly complement facility upgrades that are currently underway.”

The dining and retail enhancements will be in addition to the current \$20.6 million being spent on the concourse renovation that will provide passengers with extra comfort and convenience. A modern appearance, new gate seating with in-seat recharge and new jet bridges are among improvements. A new Wi-Fi system, which has helped Clinton National offer the fastest, free airport Wi-Fi in the world and new restrooms have already been completed. These changes will cumulate nearly \$90 million in terminal upgrades that include renovations to the ticket lobby and baggage claim.

***About Bill and Hillary Clinton National Airport***

As Arkansas' largest commercial airport serving nearly 2 million passengers annually, Bill and Hillary Clinton National is home to six airlines with approximately 70 daily arrivals and departures. The state of Arkansas estimates that the airport makes a \$1.2 billion economic impact each year. Clinton National is debt free and uses no local, state or federal tax dollars for operations.

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**Attached:** Renderings of the Chick-fil-A and Chili's concepts that are expected to open by the first quarter of 2018 at Clinton National Airport in Little Rock.