



# 2018 Annual Report





# WELCOME



Many people are aware of the important role an airport plays in the community — providing jobs, accessibility, and opportunity — but fewer people are privy to the immense effort it takes to operate, maintain and improve an economic engine like the Central Illinois Regional Airport.

In 2018, we undertook projects large and small that served to further our mission. Our efforts included conducting projects to maintain our airfield, diligently managing our financial resources, welcoming service on Frontier Airlines and earning a perfect FAA Part 139 Safety Inspection.

Throughout 2019, a number of projects will drive the continued improvement of our airport, including the completion of our three year long Airfield Pavement Rehabilitation Project, terminal renovations, the return of Denver nonstop service, and our full scale emergency plan drill.

We appreciate the community support that helps ensure the success of the airport and, in turn, the businesses, families, and bright future of the Bloomington-Normal area. Our promise in return is to always be good stewards of the public trust.

Thank you for choosing Central Illinois Regional Airport, and we wish you many happy returns!

**J. Jay Allen, Chairman**  
**Bloomington-Normal Airport Authority**

## Bloomington-Normal Airport Authority

**J. Jay Allen, Chairman**

**Carl G. Olson, Executive Director**

**Alan Sender, Commissioner**

**John Hanson, Commissioner**

**Colleen Kannaday, Commissioner**

**Steve Denault, Commissioner**

**Jay Groves, Commissioner**

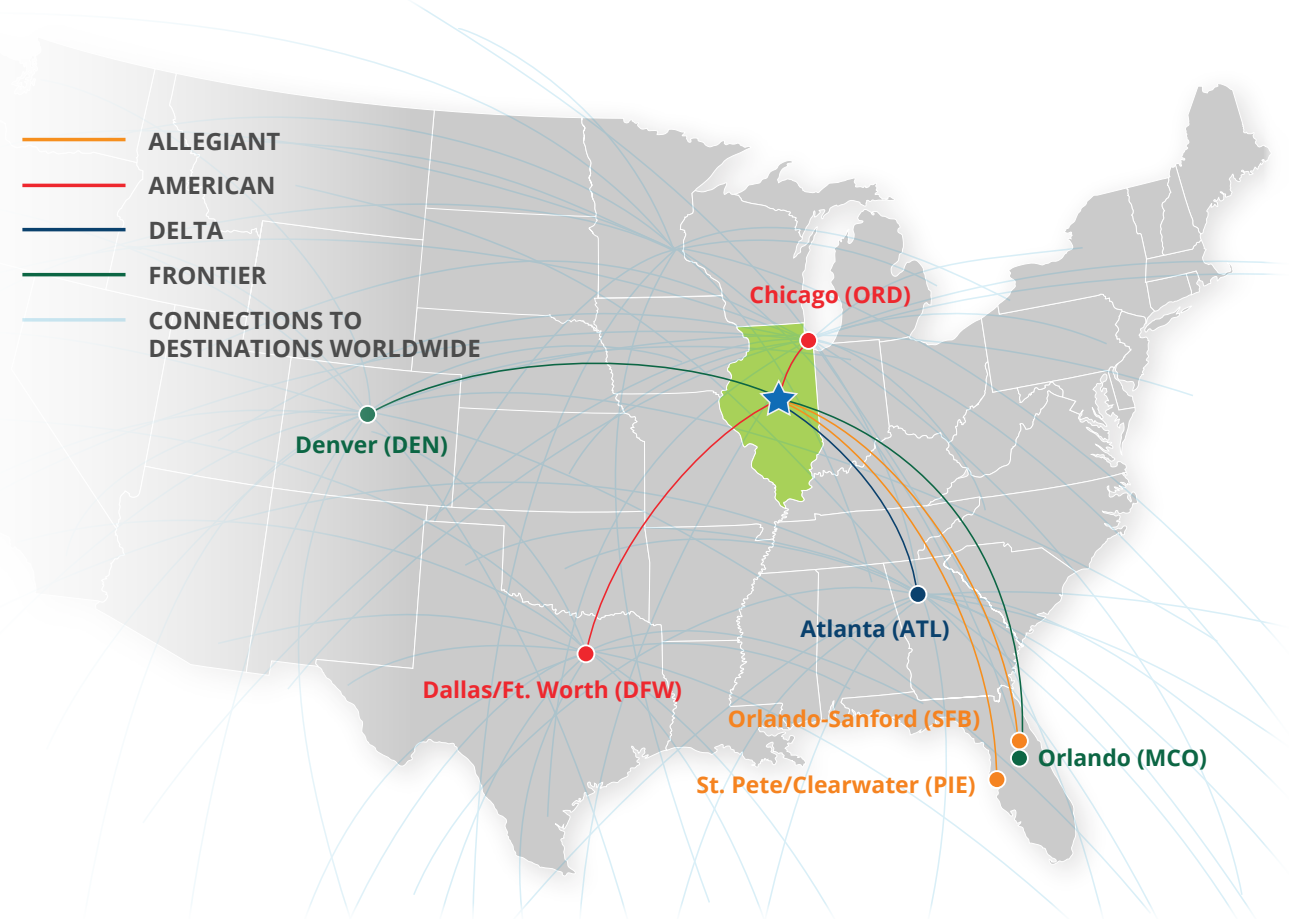
**Nicholas Moran, Commissioner**



# WHERE WE FLY



- ALLEGIANT
- AMERICAN
- DELTA
- FRONTIER
- CONNECTIONS TO DESTINATIONS WORLDWIDE



RETURNS TO  
CENTRAL ILLINOIS





# CIRA CAN CONNECT TO THE TOP VISITED CITIES IN THE WORLD!

## Bangkok

20.05 M  
2 connections

## London

19.83 M  
1 connection

## Paris

17.44 M  
1 connection

## Dubai

15.79 M  
2 connections

## Singapore

13.91 M  
2 connections



<https://www.forbes.com/sites/alexandratalty/2018/09/25/bangkok-is-named-most-visited-city-in-the-world-again/#48ae90ce4071>

## Passenger Totals Year Over Year Increases

OVERALL TOTAL PASSENGERS



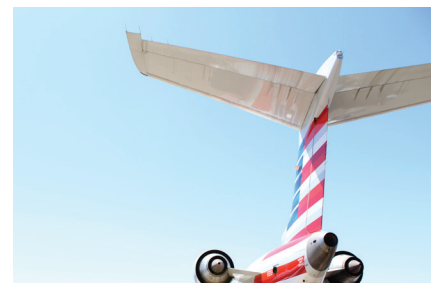
ENPLANEMENTS



AIR CARGO



LOAD FACTOR





# 2018 IN REVIEW

## Perfect FAA Safety and TSA Inspections

Seventh Perfect FAA Safety Inspection for CIRA (BMI) in nine years

## Construction Projects on the Airfield

Phase I & Phase II of the Airfield Pavement Rehab Project were completed

## CIRA Board

Nick Moran was appointed to the Bloomington-Normal Airport Authority Board

## FAA Grant

Congressmen Darin LaHood and Rodney Davis announced a \$2.3 million grant to provide funds for the pavement rehabilitation of a primary taxiway and aircraft apron at CIRA

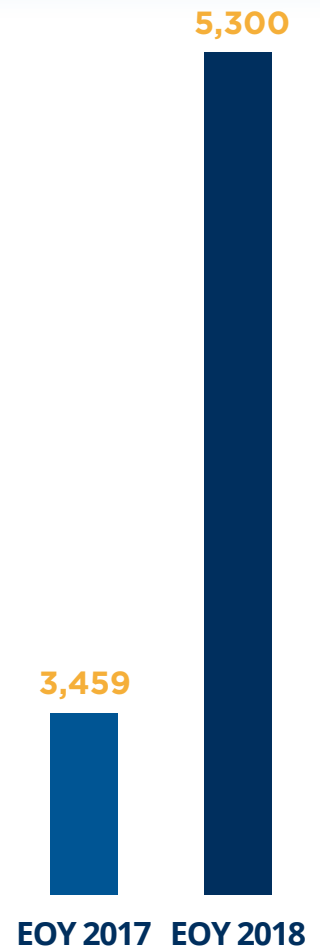
## Social Media Performance

Social engagement has grown, with 3,459 Facebook Followers on Jan 1, 2018, and 5,300 on Dec 31

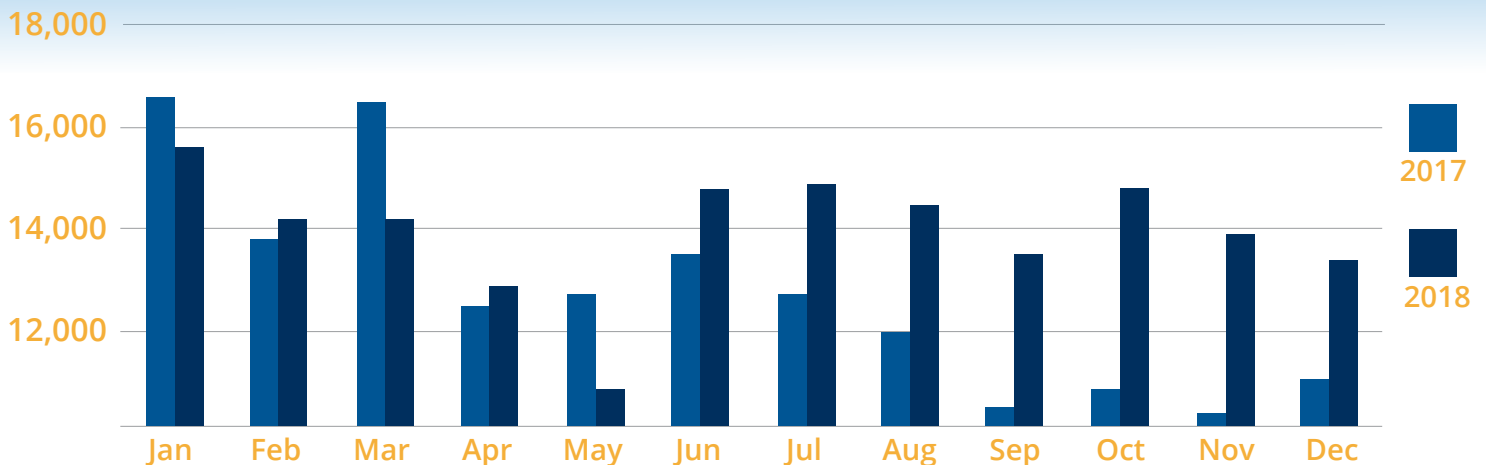
## Online Performance

Total website sessions grew from 220,037 in 2017 to 241,387 in 2018, showing an 9.7% increase

## Facebook Followers



## Website Use Year Over Year Increases





# AIR SERVICE

## Overview

- Air service momentum grew over Q2-4, while Q1 was less robust, as is typical for our region. The banner event of the year was the addition of Frontier Airlines to Denver (DEN) and Orlando (MCO), which contributed to strong passenger growth in Q4. We started 2018 with three airlines and six destinations: American served Chicago O'Hare (ORD) and Dallas-Ft. Worth (DFW) hubs; Delta served Atlanta (ATL) and Minneapolis-St. Paul (MSP) hubs; Allegiant offered nonstop service to Orlando/Sanford (SFB) and Tampa/St. Pete (PIE).
- Overall, CIRA saw a 9.1% year-over-year increase in passenger traffic with a total of 364,482 passengers in 2018.

### Q1

American and Delta reduced their schedules due to historical trends that point to lower passenger traffic during the post-December holidays

Allegiant increased capacity (available seats) to SFB with a few additional flights

### Q2

Airline schedules were restored to their typical frequency, leading to increased load factors (percentage of seats filled on each route) and resulting in a year-over-year increase in passenger traffic for each airline

Frontier announced on June 19 they would return to CIRA with nonstop flights to DEN and MCO

### Q3

Frontier nonstop service to DEN\* began September 24; the route is served by Airbus 319 and 320 aircraft with 157-180 seats

### Q4

Frontier's nonstop service to MCO began October 2 on Airbus 319 and 320 aircraft with 157-180 seats; with the addition of this service, CIRA became the only airport in central Illinois with nonstop service to DEN and MCO

Delta upgraded all flights from CIRA to ATL to the CRJ 900 aircraft with 76 seats and additional seat classes, including Comfort+ and First Class

Despite strong load factors through the summer and fall months, Delta discontinued MSP service as of November 26

Buoyed by stronger loads on existing carriers and the addition of Frontier service, the last quarter trended very positively, contributing to a 9.1% year-over-year increase in passenger traffic

\*Denver service is seasonal. It was paused on November 9 and is slated to resume in spring 2019.



# MARKETING & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

## Throughout the Year

- Partnered with Allegiant throughout the year to provide special send-offs for Make-A-Wish children and their families
- Hosted four blood drives with the American Red Cross and Delta Air Lines
- Enabled hundreds of travelers to enroll in TSA's Precheck program through four enrollment events



### Winter (Q1)

Partnered with DESTIHL Restaurant and Green Top Grocery for a WINTER Wonderland Facebook promotion that positioned CIRA as a community partner, highlighted the positives of winter travel and kept CIRA top-of-mind during the winter travel season

### Spring (Q2)

Launched the Don't Travel Before You Travel campaign to communicate the benefits of traveling from CIRA versus driving to a big city airport, including an emphasis on free parking, access to the world, convenience and shorter TSA lines and the benefit of arriving back to an airport just minutes from home



### Summer (Q3)

Developed and launched the Start here, Get Anywhere campaign to highlight one-stop air service to thousands of destinations on American and Delta — and nonstop flights to Allegiant to Florida

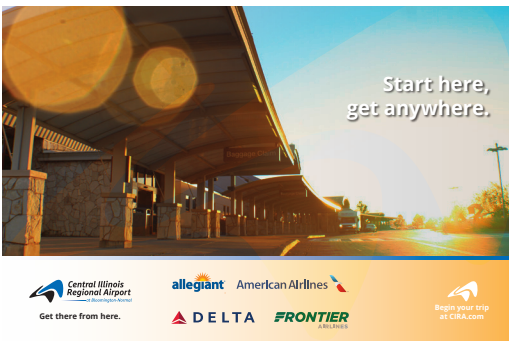
Promoted Frontier's announcement of its impending return to CIRA in Fall 2018

### Fall (Q4)

Supported the return of Frontier Airlines with marketing and advertising campaign highlighting nonstop service and low fares to DEN and MCO

Partnered with America's Gold Star Families to host the second annual Fallen Heroes Tree of Honor through the end of December; the names of the fallen were hung on the tree by loved ones and members of the Gold Star Families organization

Upgraded the airport-wide free Wi-fi and placed new rocking chairs in the departure area to improve the passenger experience





# OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE

## Zero Flight Delays Due to Construction

### PHASE I

The project consisted of joint and crack sealing, surface treatment and painted markings on the shoulder of the airport's two runways. This was conducted in fifty (50) calendar days and four (4) phases—no major airport operations disruption was reported during this project.

### PHASE II

The Airfield Pavement Rehab Project of Taxiways E, F & G was completed July 24, 2018. The project was completed in 37 days out of the 48 original days estimated. No interruptions to aircraft operations were reported.



## Airport Operations & Maintenance Activities

### PERFECT FAA SAFETY & TSA INSPECTIONS

- TSA Inspection completed May 2018, FAA Safety Inspection completed November 2018
- Seventh perfect FAA Safety Inspection in the last nine years

### GENERAL AVIATION ACTIVITY AND SPECIAL EVENTS

- Ford Tri-Motor visit: June 14–17
- B-17 visit: August 13–16

### ENVIRONMENTAL INITIATIVES

- New recycling program in the terminal
- New Cooperative Service Agreement with the USDA for wildlife management

### SNOW OPERATIONS

- Winter season (2017–2018) snowfall: 32.1 inches





# FINANCE



## March 2018

Restructured debt — saves taxpayer money; streamlined airport's debt — generated future cash flow savings of \$1.3 million



## April 2018

Implemented an investment program generating an additional \$46,979 in revenue from April–December

The percentage of tax revenue utilized in the general fund for the operating expenses of the airport was reduced to 39% from 43% the previous year. The remaining 61% was generated from the business operation of the airport.\*



## August 2018

Adopted a new tax levy that will result in an estimated property tax decrease of 15%



## September 2018

Positive Audit Results with no findings (from FY18):

Eleventh consecutive year of positive results for the airport's general fund

Fourth consecutive year of positive results for the hangar fund



## December 2018

Abatement of Property Taxes for Debt Service on Passenger Facility Charge (PFC) Bonds:

Abated a total of \$1.3 million in property taxes for debt service that will instead be paid from PFC revenues, resulting in savings to taxpayers

A total of \$8,968,977 has been abated over the last 10 years and reflects savings to the property taxpayers

\*This result includes both property tax and state replacement tax. The percentage of property tax revenue only was reduced from 37% in FY17 to 34% in FY18.



# COMING IN 2019



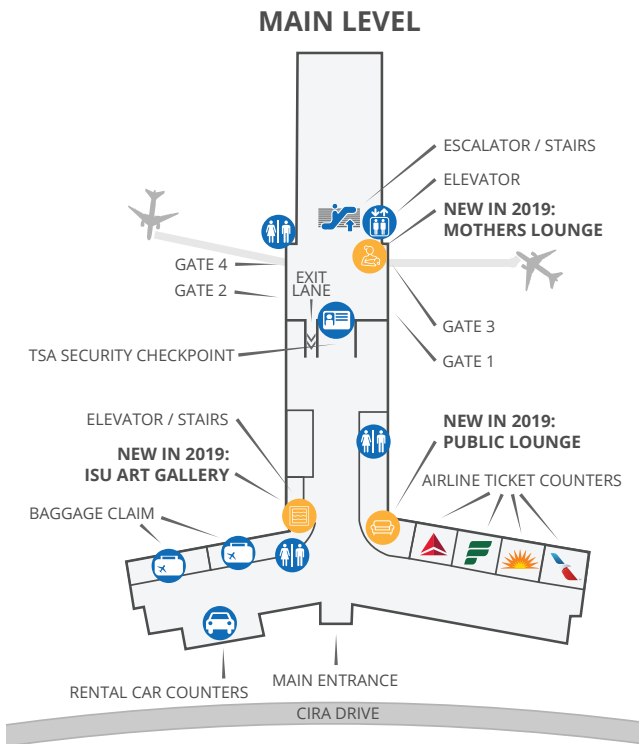
## Mothers Lounge

**GATE AREA:** A private area in the departure lounge has been designated as a Mothers Lounge. Located beyond Gate 3 in the lower level gate area, this room will provide a place for private and semi-private pumping and nursing and will house comfortable seating, a private room within the room, a sink and changing table. The Mothers Lounge is scheduled to open in Summer 2019.



## Public Lounge

**FORMER COFFEE SHOP AREA:** Comfortable seating, community information, plenty of charging stations and great people-watching views are coming to the mall area of the terminal building. CIRA will open a general lounge area for passengers and guests of the airport to relax and find out more about the happenings and attractions of the Bloomington-Normal area. The new lounge will be located pre-security near the main entrance.



## ISU Art Gallery

**FORMER GIFT SHOP:** The College of Fine Arts at Illinois State University will create a new student art gallery in the mall area of the terminal building, occupying the former gift shop space. Student art will be showcased for the community, travelers and guests to enjoy. Pending light renovations to the space, the gallery is expected to open in late spring 2019.



**Central Illinois  
Regional Airport**

at Bloomington-Normal

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