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Gateway to announce expansion details

By Andre Bowser
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BIG PLANS UNDERWAY: The Phoenix-Mesa Gateway Airport Authority on Monday will announce an expansion of the passenger terminal at the airport.

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The Phoenix-Mesa Gateway Airport Authority plans a major announcement Monday about the expansion of the Charles L. William Passenger Terminal, according to Mesa officials.

"This is an initiative led by the city of Mesa concerning a 25,000-square-foot terminal expansion," Brian Sexton, airport spokesman, said Friday.

Allegiant Air sees jump in passenger traffic [<http://www.eastvalleytribune.com/story/142180>]
Mesa to study options for land near airport [<http://www.eastvalleytribune.com/story/142039>]

Earlier this year the airport announced it was planning the terminal expansion that would include air-conditioned waiting areas, new baggage areas and other amenities. Monday's announcement is expected to go into details about the time line, funding and other details, Sexton said.

The mayors of Mesa, Gilbert and Queen Creek plan to be in attendance, along with representatives from the Arizona Department of Transportation, Allegiant Air and the state Department of Commerce, and other state and federal officials.

A previous \$3 million expansion of a passenger terminal was made through a loan from Allegiant in 2008. The loan will be paid back with \$1 million in interest through the purchase of passenger tickets, according to airport officials.

That expansion took 2 1/2 months and added a 10,080-square-foot annex building, as well as an extra 300 parking spaces.

Allegiant needed more space at the time in light of additional flights, according to airport officials.



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