



Contact: Greg Haug
Airport Director
Bismarck Airport
(701) 355-1808

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Security Checkpoint Expansion 1yr Anniversary

October marks the one-year anniversary for the dedicated Transportation Security Administration (TSA) Pre-Check lane at the Bismarck Airport. Last October the TSA and Airport completed a joint project to expand the security checkpoint area and install an additional x-ray machine and testing equipment. The additional lane has reduced wait times for all passengers going through the TSA security checkpoint at Bismarck. The passengers experiencing the greatest benefit are those enrolled in the TSA's Pre-Check program.

"The airport worked closely with the TSA to design and expand the security checkpoint area to make it work better for passengers" said Airport Director Greg Haug. The expanded queuing area and checkpoint has improved the passengers experience as they move through the security checkpoint to the boarding area. Haug noted that the airport has received positive feedback on the expansion from passengers and employees. In addition, the airport has seen an uptick in the number of passengers utilizing the pre-check because of the dedicated lane.

The main advantage of the pre-check program is the time savings. In August 2017, the American Association of Airport Executives reported that 97% of the passengers enrolled in the pre-check program waited in line for 5 minutes or less at security checkpoints across the country. Other advantages passengers can expect if they are enrolled in the pre-check program include being able to leave on their shoes, light outerwear and belt. In Bismarck passengers can keep their laptop in its case and keep 3-1-1 compliant liquids/gels in a carry-on bag.

"In order to take advantage of the 'fast lane' at the checkpoint you need to sign up for the TSA pre-check program" said Haug. A TSA pre-check enrollment event will be taking place at the Bismarck Airport October 9th through the 13th for people interested in becoming enrolled in the program. Information on the enrollment event can be found at the Bismarck Airport website, www.bismarckairport.com. If you're interested you can make an appointment, but walk-ins are welcome and will be accommodated on a first come first serve basis in between scheduled appointments. Applicants must bring a current U.S. passport or a driver license and certified copy of a birth certificate and fingerprints will be collected during the in-person session.

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