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Rep. John Barrow Announces \$1,000,000 Transportation Grant for Athens-Ben Epps Airport

Money will fund ongoing airport improvement and construction projects; study the facility's current and long-term needs

Washington, DC – 12th District Congressman John Barrow announced today that Athens-Ben Epps Airport is slated to receive a \$1,000,000 federal grant from the U.S. Department of Transportation. The money will fund airport improvement projects, including the final phase of construction for the airport's rescue and fire fighting building, as well as the rehabilitation of an aircraft parking apron and taxiway to maintain current pavement investments and aircraft safety.

"Yesterday's accident in Toronto showed the world how important adequate emergency response training and equipment are in helping ensure the safety of passengers and crew during an emergency," Barrow said. "This grant will not only help strengthen airport safety, but it will also help Ben Epps evolve with the times. As the Athens area continues to grow, this money will help make sure the city's airport has the resources necessary to keep up with increases in demand."

The Department of Transportation Grant will also fund a study that will analyze the need for additional airside facilities to meet current and near term airport demand.

For more information about the ongoing and upcoming projects at Athens-Ben Epps Airport, contact Airport Director Tim Beggerly at 706-613-3420.

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