



## *San Antonio Department of Aviation - News Release*

### **Stinson Municipal Airport Holds Groundbreaking Ceremony for \$4.8 Million Expansion Project**

*On May 31, the second oldest G.A. airport in the country will begin a major transformation, with new terminal space, classrooms & concessions*

**The Event:** On May 31 at 11 a.m. another exciting chapter will be written in the rich history of Stinson Municipal Airport. That's when State Representative Carlos Uresti and City Councilman Roland Gutierrez will join several other dignitaries in a very important groundbreaking ceremony. The event will officially launch a \$4.8 million dollar expansion project which will touch just about every part of the Stinson operation. In addition to the groundbreaking itself, guests will also be treated to a flyover performed by the "Alamo Liaison Squadron." Stinsons' neighbors will also play a key role in the ceremony, with students from the Mission Road Development Center presenting the shovels to the dignitaries, and the Pastor from Mission San Juan Capistrano providing the invocation. A B-17 Bomber, along with other vintage aircraft will also be on hand providing the backdrop and will be available for viewing immediately following the ceremony.

**The Impact:** The expansion program being launched will have a dramatic impact on the facilities at Stinson Municipal Airport. Once completed, the project will bring an additional 24,000 square feet worth of space to the Stinson operation. That added space will be used in a variety of different ways, however one of the most exciting changes is the partnership which will be developed between Stinson and Palo Alto College. **Palo Alto will be moving their entire aviation department to Stinson, taking advantage of the new classroom space which will be available once construction is completed.** New businesses will find new space in which to set up operations and existing businesses will have new options should they choose to expand. Additional terminal space and concession space will also be available as a result of the expansion project.

**The History** Stinson Municipal Airport is the second oldest G.A. Airport in the United States. It started as a flight school back in 1915. That's when Katherine, Marjorie and Eddie Stinson struck a deal with city leaders in San Antonio. They agreed to rent 500 acres of land from the city in exchange for \$5/ year. With that simple beginning, Stinson launched itself into aviation history. The airport has served as a flight school, San Antonio's primary commercial airport, a training ground for WWII fighter pilots and finally, a general aviation reliever airport for San Antonio International Airport. It has served the City of San Antonio extremely well for a total of 91 years and now, with this major expansion program set to get underway, Stinson's place in San Antonio aviation is guaranteed for decades to come.



*Rendering of Airport Operations & Customer Service Facility at Stinson*

**What:** Stinson Groundbreaking for \$4.8 million expansion project

**When:** Wednesday, May 31, 2006 @ 11 a.m.

**Where:** Stinson Municipal Airport @ 8535 Mission Road