

## **FACT SHEET ON PROPOSED ELIMINATION OF EAS FUNDING**

Access to the national air transportation system keeps communities viable in a global economy. Scheduled airline service provides the Chippewa Valley with access to the world and the world access to the Chippewa Valley. Funding for scheduled airline service to and from the Chippewa Valley is currently needed through a federal program called the Essential Air Service (EAS) program. President Trump's FY2018 budget includes elimination of the EAS program. Elimination of the EAS program would not result in lowering the average resident's income tax burden. It would merely result in loss of airline service to 173 communities in 36 states, or 30% of the airports that currently have scheduled airline service in the United States.

The Chippewa Valley Regional Airport Commission is committed to continued public education of local airline service options with the goal of ultimately eliminating the need for the EAS program. Total revenue passengers utilizing the Chippewa Valley Regional Airport in 2016 increased 9% over 2015 and year over year increases have continued into 2017.

Fiscal Impact is a minimum annual reduction of \$350,000 in airport revenue if EAS is eliminated.

Respectfully submitted,

Charity Zich  
Airport Director