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For Immediate Release

October 20, 2009

Economic opportunities taking flight near the airport

Wayne County and Crain's host an Aerotropolis event in Detroit

Wayne County — Wayne County's Economic Development Growth Engine (EDGE) and Crain's Detroit Business are hosting an Aerotropolis event, "Learning about Opportunities in the Detroit Region Aerotropolis". On Wednesday, October 21, the panel of experts will provide detailed information about projects and business possibilities near Detroit Metropolitan and Willow Run Airports.

The Detroit Region Aerotropolis is an initiative to develop the region around the airports into a hub for air commerce. The project is supported by a partnership and Development Corporation made up of Wayne and Washtenaw counties, seven local governments and various partners including Business Leader for Michigan (formerly Detroit Renaissance). The goal of the Aerotropolis is to create jobs for the citizens of Metro Detroit, leverage the connectivity of our world class airports, and build off our region's strategic location in the North American and global marketplace.

Serving as the Mistress of Ceremonies is Carol Cain, columnist with the Detroit Free Press and host of Michigan Matters.

What: Learning about Opportunities in the Detroit Region Aertropolis

When: Wednesday October 21, 2009
1:30 – 4 p.m.

Who: Expert on the panel include:

Robert A. Ficano, Wayne County Executive

Cameron Preibe, Mayor of Taylor

John Rakolta, Jr., chairman and CEO of the Walbdrige Aldinger
Company

Jim Colson, founder of Growing Economies International

Azzam Elder, Deputy Chief Executive of Wayne County

Michael Finney, President and CEO of Ann Arbor Spark

Michele Hodges, President of Troy Chamber of Commerce

Turkia Awada Mullin, Chief Development Officer for Wayne County

Jeffrey S. Aronoff, Associate Attorney with Miller Canfield

Where: Courtyard by Marriott – Downtown Detroit