



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 12, 2019

Aerotropolis Hires New Executive Director

December 12, 2019 — Romulus, MI

The Detroit Region Aerotropolis Board of Directors is pleased to announce that Christopher Girdwood has been selected to serve as the organization's new Executive Director, effective immediately.

"Christopher brings a wealth of national experience and tremendous enthusiasm to the role," said David Glaab, Chair of the Detroit Region Aerotropolis Board. "Under his leadership, I believe Aerotropolis will continue to attract quality jobs and business investment to the region."

Girdwood formerly served as the Business Development Manager for Prince William County in Virginia, where he implemented strategies to grow a 1,500-acre Innovation Park by attracting and expanding life science and advanced manufacturing industries. His economic development experience also includes work in Los Angeles and at the International Economic Development Council (IEDC). Girdwood attended Michigan State University, the University of Michigan, and Harvard Kennedy School.

"I am from greater Detroit and it's great to be back home promoting economic growth in the region," said Girdwood. "The talent is here, there are many shovel-ready sites, and developers can work directly with two world class airports, three major interstates, and five Class-A rail lines."

Over the past five years, the Aerotropolis region welcomed \$470 million in new capital investments and created close to 3,000 new jobs. Many opportunities still exist with thousands of acres of undeveloped property throughout the region.

Assistant Wayne County Executive Khalil Rahal applauded the move. "Aerotropolis is central to our effort to continue to grow Wayne County as a world-class logistics and distribution hub to match our airport. I look forward to seeing Aerotropolis continue to thrive under Chris's leadership," Rahal said.

"Working with the Aerotropolis communities, we will build on the momentum of the Amazon, Penske, and Brose projects to attract even more quality jobs and investment to this area over the next decade," said Girdwood.

ABOUT DETROIT REGION AEROTROPOLIS

The Detroit Region Aerotropolis Development Corporation is a four-community, two-county public-private economic development partnership driving corporate expansion and new investment around Detroit Metro and Willow Run Airports. The Aerotropolis is the premiere location for greenfield expansion in Southeast Michigan, offering 6,000 acres of development-ready land centered in a world-class network of transportation infrastructure. Learn more at www.detroitaero.org

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