INFRASTRUCTURE

AIR

GERALD R. FORD INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT (GRR)

General Information

- The airport operates three runways:
  - Main East/West runway – 150 ft. wide x 10,000-ft. long
  - Parallel East/West runway – 100 ft. wide x 5,000-ft. long
  - North/South runway – 150 ft. wide x 8,501 ft. long
- The airport covers nearly 3,200 acres (over five square miles).
- The airport’s passenger terminal building is just over 240,850 square feet; with over 170,000 square feet open to the public.
- The airport operates its own police, fire, and maintenance departments.
- There are two concourses and 13 gates in the passenger terminal building.

PASSENGER AIR TRAVEL

Gerald R. Ford International Airport is served by five passenger airlines with 120 daily scheduled nonstop flights to and from 24 major market destinations.

- Approximately 7,700 travelers pass through Gerald R. Ford International Airport each day.
- 2.6 Million passengers traveled through Gerald R. Ford International Airport in 2017.
- Gerald R. Ford International Airport is the 79th busiest commercial airport in the nation and the second busiest airport in Michigan.

FREIGHT AIR

- There are two cargo airlines located at Gerald R. Ford International.
- More than 241,600 pounds of air cargo pass through Gerald R. Ford International Airport each day, more than 121 tons per day!

OTHER/MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION

- Gerald R. Ford International Airport is managed and operated by the Kent County Department of Aeronautics.
- The Gerald R. Ford International Airport Board is a seven-member body appointed by the Kent County Board of Commissioners with responsibility for policy setting and general oversight of the airport.
- Nearly 1,500 people work at the airport, the majority being employed by airport tenants.
- The airport generates $3.1 billion in economic output for the West Michigan region.
- The airport is financially self-supporting and receives no funding from property taxes, general funds, or special taxes. Airport operations and improvements generate local net airport revenue, rather than spend valuable tax dollars.
- GFIA’s capital requirements are met through various sources including earned surpluses, revenue bonds, passenger facility charges, and grants under the federal Airport Improvement Program and the Michigan state aviation grant program. Operational requirements are met through rates and charges assessed to airport tenants and airport patrons for the use of airport services and facilities.
An extensive system connects Greater Grand Rapids to major cities and transportation hubs throughout the Upper Midwest. Drive distances/times include:

- Grand Rapids, MI to Columbus, OH: 321 Miles, 5:00
- Grand Rapids, MI to Detroit, MI: 157 Miles, 2:22
- Grand Rapids, MI to Toronto, Canada: 361 Miles, 5:38
- Grand Rapids, MI to Toled, OH: 185 Miles, 2:44
- Grand Rapids, MI to Cleveland, OH: 307 Miles, 4:33
- Grand Rapids, MI to Dayton, OH: 310 Miles, 4:52
- Grand Rapids, MI to Indianapolis, IN: 294 Miles, 4:27
- Grand Rapids, MI to St. Louis, MO: 447 Miles, 6:46
- Grand Rapids, MI to Chicago, IL: 179 Miles, 2:47
- Grand Rapids, MI to Milwaukee, WI: 270 Miles, 4:17

**GRAND RAPIDS FOREIGN TRADE ZONE**

Foreign-Trade Zone #189 was established on January 15, 1993 by the Kent-Ottawa-Muskegon Foreign-Trade Zone Authority (KOM-FTZ) to offer FTZ benefits to West Michigan businesses.

Located near the Gerald R. Ford International Airport (GRR), FTZ #189 is available for West Michigan businesses shipping products to and from foreign countries.
RAIL

As the country’s 12th largest rail system, Michigan is well served by regional hubs in Grand Rapids and Detroit and supported by an infrastructure detailed in our State Rail Plan. A federally designated high speed rail corridor, served by Amtrak, connects Grand Rapids to Chicago.

MANUFACTURING FACTS

- Manufacturing directly employs more than 610,000 individuals in Michigan,
- Manufacturers account for 13.0% of total nonfarm employment in Michigan,
- 22% of Michigan’s Gross State Product comes from manufacturing,
- Michigan accounts for 20% of all U.S. auto-related jobs,
- From 2017 to 2017, Michigan added more than 18,500 jobs.
- 42% of all engineers in Michigan are employed by a manufacturer
- Women, a growing subsector of the manufacturing workforce, represent approximately 27% of manufacturers in Michigan,