



REGIONAL OUTLOOK

DECEMBER 2017 | Vol. 23 - No. 12 | GNHCC.COM

tweed NEW
HVN
Southern Connecticut's Airport



IMPROVED AIR SERVICE: CRITICAL TO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

JET SERVICE HAS RETURNED TO TWEED NEW HAVEN AIRPORT, an improved service that promotes economic development and makes Connecticut a more attractive place to do business. Regional jet service linking New Haven with Philadelphia, and U.S. and international cities beyond, American Eagle began replacing its 37-seat, turboprop service with 50-seat, regional jet aircraft on Nov. 29. The jet upgrade offers New Haven passengers "smoother and quieter" travel while connecting New Haven passengers to more than 21 countries and 115 destinations with a one-stop connection in Philadelphia, the airline's global hub.

Improving scheduled air service and the physical infrastructure at Tweed is one of the top economic development priorities of the region. Upgraded service and easy connections to other markets is essential for attracting corporations to the Greater New Haven region. As one of only two scheduled passenger airports in Connecticut, Tweed offers an attractive alternative to large metropolitan airports.

Last year, Aer Lingus announced it was bringing its first, non-stop flight from Connecticut's Bradley International Airport to Dublin, returning trans-Atlantic service to the airport for the first time in eight years. Dublin is a powerful hub, with connections to 28 destinations in the United Kingdom and the rest of Europe, including London, Madrid, Barcelona, Edinburgh, Amsterdam and Paris. This flight and Tweed's expanded jet service is part of a larger economic development strategy that makes international travel to and from the state easier, setting up Connecticut as a more attractive place for businesses to locate and expand.

Air service plays a large role in the region's economy. An Economic Impact Analysis of Tweed Airport prepared by the firm of SH&E, an ICF International Company, determined the annual economic impact is associated with three kinds of activity—airport businesses and tenants, capital improvement projects at the airport, and the spending of visitors who arrive by aircraft.

For local firms to grow and to attract new businesses to the Greater New Haven region and create jobs, we need reliable and frequent service to airline hubs. Highway traffic congestion and a minimum one-hour travel time to other airports are negative factors for job creation.

Business leaders in all sectors want to have easy, reliable access to transportation, so that they can remain competitive in a global marketplace. The Chamber and the business community urge our local and state elected officials to recognize that supporting improved air service at Tweed and Bradley is critical to Connecticut's job growth and economic development. To book a flight, or learn more, visit flytweed.com or bradleyairport.com.

Anthony Rescigno, President

Jennifer DeMonico, Board Chair