

Washington, DC -- Congressman Vern Buchanan (FL-13) announced today that the U.S. Department of Transportation has awarded federal funding for infrastructure improvements to airports in Sarasota and Wauchula. The Federal Aviation Administration has awarded a total of nearly \$3 million for construction and planning at Sarasota-Bradenton International Airport and Wauchula Municipal Airport.

“The success of these airports is vital to the local economies,” said Buchanan. “These improvements will help improve capacity and safety and maintain these facilities as important tools for economic development.”

The Sarasota –Manatee Airport Authority has been awarded \$2,711,379 for service road and taxiway construction, runway lighting and a drainage master plan to improve drainage.

Airport Manager Fredrick Piccolo said, “These projects will continue the work of the airport to enhance safety, convenience and environmental compatibility for our users. Congressman Buchanan’s consistent support of the airport’s efforts to improve our infrastructure to serve the community is greatly appreciated.”

The City of Wauchula has been awarded \$270,164 for the construction of an aircraft parking ramp.

Wauchula Municipal Airport manager William Beattie said, “This project will provide additional aircraft parking near newly developed facilities at the airport. We greatly appreciate the Congressman’s support of our efforts.”

Buchanan is a member of the House Transportation Committee’s Aviation Subcommittee.