

Washington, DC -- Congressman Vern Buchanan (R-FL 13) announced today that the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) has awarded a \$3.7 million grant to the Sarasota Manatee Airport Authority for important infrastructure improvements at Sarasota Bradenton International Airport.

"I congratulate the Airport Authority for their successful grant application," said Buchanan. "The aviation infrastructure improvements funded by this grant will help improve operations, enhance safety, increase access, and promote economic development in the region."

Specifically, the Airport Improvement Program grant will help design runway improvements, construct an airport service road, design and construct taxiway enhancements, and rehabilitate airfield lighting.

SRQ President and Chief Executive Officer Fredrick Piccolo stated, "The Sarasota Bradenton International Airport is grateful to Congressman Buchanan for his support of the Airport Improvement Program. This grant will further enhance the safety and efficiency of the airfield. The Authority looks forward to working with the Congressman on the upcoming FAA Reauthorization bill that is critical to keeping our aviation system safe and competitive."

Buchanan is a member of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee's Subcommittee on Aviation.