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Ford airport builds \$15M parking-garage roof

By [Charlsie Dewey](#)

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The Gerald R. Ford International Airport has seen an increase in passengers, which has resulted in a need for additional parking.

More covered spaces

The airport said yesterday that it has begun work on a \$15-million roof for the top level of its four-level parking garage.

The roof will allow the airport to keep the fourth level of its parking facility open year-round, adding 1,113 covered spaces.

The airport said that it's forced to close the roof-less fourth level during the winter months due to snow.

When construction on the roof project is complete, the garage will be able to accommodate 4,140 covered parking spaces year-round.

The project is scheduled for completion by Nov. 18.

“We are accommodating our growing passenger volume and are excited to begin construction on this project,” said Brian Ryks, executive director, Ford airport.

The [airport](#) reported a year-over-year increase in passenger traffic of 14 percent in January and 10 percent in February.

Firms

[The Christman Company](#), based in Lansing, will manage the project, and [Builders Iron](#) in Sparta is providing steel for the project.

Architecture firm [Fishbeck, Thompson, Carr & Huber](#) is the design engineer.

During construction, the contractor will be using a portion of the North Lot adjacent to the garage for staging equipment and materials.

Arrive early for parking

Because parking spaces are limited, passengers are urged to arrive at the airport at least 90-120 minutes before their scheduled departures.

“Because we are entering a busy season with spring break and then again during the summer travel months, we highly urge passengers to give themselves adequate time to park, check in and get through security,” Ryks said.



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