

# News Release



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## More New Restaurants Open at Detroit Metro Airport's McNamara Terminal/ Northwest WorldGateway

*~ Chili's Too! and National Coney Island Among New Places to Eat  
for Metro Travelers... More Shops and Restaurants Coming Soon!*

**MAY 8, 2003, DETROIT, MI:** -- A food and beverage program at Detroit Metropolitan Wayne County Airport (DTW) just wouldn't be complete without one of the Metro area's signature mealtime favorites -- a coney island restaurant, of course. Today, Detroit Metro Airport announced the opening of three new restaurant and bar locations, now available for travelers visiting DTW's McNamara Terminal / Northwest WorldGateway. The three new restaurants are: *Chili's Too!*, a colorful, sit down, neighborhood-style restaurant serving fare from the national Chili's brand; a *National Coney Island* full service restaurant; a *National Coney Island Express* and *Slapshotz Bar & Grill*. The new restaurants mean more choices for DTW travelers and have created over 150 jobs at the new terminal.

"These new restaurants provide our customers with even more variety and food selection choices, including healthy menu options, while they travel through the new McNamara Terminal," said Wayne County Airport Authority CEO Lester W. Robinson. "With these new additions, and more shops and restaurants yet to come, I'm confident our airport's concession program will rank among the industry's best."

The largest of the three new restaurants is a 4,631 sq. ft *Chili's Too!* restaurant located near the center of the McNamara Terminal's main Concourse A, across from Gate A-36. The new neighborhood-style restaurant will sell a variety of menu items from the popular Chili's restaurant brand, and will have the capacity to seat 173 customers. *Chili's Too!* is operated by one of the country's largest airport concession operators, HMSHost.

"We thank Detroit Metro for this opportunity to deliver a first-rate casual dining experience to their travelers," said Steve Izant, Vice President of Business Development for HMSHost. "Chili's is an exceptional brand and the McNamara Terminal is an outstanding transportation facility. We expect great things from the restaurant."

In addition to *Chili's Too*, the airport also opened two new *National Coney Island* restaurants as well as a hockey-themed libations location, *Slapshotz Bar & Grill*.

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The largest of the National Coney Island locations is the 3,327sq. ft sit-down restaurant located north of the McNamara Terminal's center link near gate A-45, and across from the airport's new Motown Harley Davidson and CNBC stores. The new restaurant has a seating capacity of 154 and sells many of the favorite menu items from the Roseville, MI based National Coney Island brand, including their popular *Hani* sandwiches!

A second *National Coney Island Express*, carryout restaurant also opens near the south end of the McNamara Terminal's Concourse A, near gate A-24, and sells selected items from the *National Coney Island* brand. Adjacent to the *National Coney Island Express* is *Slapshotz Bar & Grill* a locally themed sports bar which features historic photos of Hockeytown's own Detroit Red Wings, a 400 lb. hockey stick & puck sculpture at the restaurant's entrance and seating for 104.

"We are not only excited about being a part of Detroit's new and wonderful Terminal, but equally excited to be bringing what we feel are two outstanding concepts that we feel embody the spirit of Detroit," says Tom Giftos, Owner & CEO of NAC, LLC. "Plus, being able to fly the National Coney Island flag makes it that much more exciting."

"We've modified and simplified the NCI menu to accommodate operation within a secure airport environment," says Giftos. "Most of the usual NCI favorites, including beer-on-tap, will be offered, as will breakfast which will be served daily until 11am. Slapshotz will offer a full line of draft and bottled beers, along with premium liquors and wines, and a menu of grilled sandwiches, burgers, and salads."

In addition to these new restaurants, travelers will be happy to know that still more shops and restaurants are slated to open at the new terminal later this year. Among the additions yet to come are *Sora*, a sit-down authentic Asian cuisine restaurant, *Jose Quervo Tequileria* a Mexican-themed restaurant and bar, *Fox Sports Bar & Grill*, *Erwin Pearl*, specializing in quality fashion jewelry, and *Johnston & Murphy* footwear, apparel and accessories.

"We have used the time since the opening of our terminal to obtain restaurant and store concepts that compliment the products and services offered by existing concessions, while providing more variety and choices for our customers," said Myrna Mendez Director of Concessions and Quality Assurance at DTW. "These news shops and restaurants provide our travelers with an even greater mix of products and services, and are an important source of revenue for the airport."

Travelers looking for a more upscale dining experience at Metro Airport can also visit DEMA, the new open-air restaurant located in the atrium of the recently opened Westin Hotel at the McNamara Terminal. DEMA, an acronym for Detroit Metropolitan Airport, has been operating since late December, and is a full service gourmet restaurant serving breakfast, lunch and dinner, in a tranquil setting overlooking the hotel's atrium reflecting pool.

"We think the array of shops, restaurants, and amenities our new terminal offers is going to be second to none," said Robinson. "We will continue to provide additional choices and services our new terminal offers, and hopefully pleasantly surprise both new and return travelers flying through Metro Airport."

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*Detroit Metropolitan Wayne County Airport is undergoing one of the most dramatic transformations of any airport anywhere, and recently tied for 2<sup>nd</sup> place among large U.S. airports in a customer satisfaction survey conducted by J.D. Power and Associates. In addition to the new 97-gate Edward H. McNamara Terminal / Northwest WorldGateway, the airport has also recently opened a new 10,000 ft. runway, and a new airport south access road, John Dingell Dr., providing a second primary entrance to the airport off of another major area interstate highway (I-275). With the creation of the new Wayne County Airport Authority, and future terminal projects planned, Metro Airport is quickly positioning itself as one of the finest air transportation gateways in the world.*

**See more about the new Detroit Metro Airport on the web at [www.metroairport.com](http://www.metroairport.com) or call [\(734\) AIRPORT](tel:734AIRPORT) for general airport information.**

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