

Washington, D.C. – Congressman Tom Rooney (R-Fla.) today announced federal grants of \$10 million for Witham Field in Stuart and \$1.6 million for Okeechobee County Airport. The federal funding will cover construction projects to enhance safety at the airports.

“I’m glad the taxpayers of Martin and Okeechobee Counties are finally seeing a return on their federal tax dollars with these grants,” Rooney said. “This federal funding will go a long way to help protect passengers and ensure their safety.

“Unlike the failed stimulus bill, which was filled with wasteful spending and political earmarks, these competitive grants will provide timely, targeted funding that will help create jobs and grow the local economy.”

The \$10,116,773.00 grant for Witham Field will be used for construction projects to improve the airport’s runway safety area, including the installation of an Engineered Materials Arresting System, which is designed to stop or greatly slow an aircraft that overruns the runway. The \$1,635,344.00 grant to Okeechobee County Airport will provide federal funding for improvements to the airport’s taxiway.

“I encourage all counties and local governments in the 16th district seeking to compete for federal grants to contact my office for guidance and support.”

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