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American Airlines to end service at Dubuque Regional Airport in **September**

Andrew Pearce Jun 21, 2022



Dubuque Regional Airport

DUBUQUE, Iowa (KWWL) -- Beginning this fall, American Airlines will stop its service to the Dubuque Regional Airport due to a national pilot shortage.

Dubuque Regional Airport Director Todd Dalsing said in a release that American Airlines will be discontinuing service on September 7, and that the airline will contact anyone who had flights scheduled after that date.

Dubuque is one of several regional airports American Airlines has been forced to pull out of. It was recently announced that they will discontinue their service in Toledo, Ohio; Ithaca, New York; and Islip, New York. They expect other airports to be added to the list.

Molly Grover, CEO & President of Dubuque Area Chamber of Commerce, was disheartened by the news. She said that it is the current trend of the aviation industry, which especially effects regional airports.

"Since the pandemic started, over 50,000 airline employees — many of those pilots are no longer with the airlines as they were pre-COVID," Grover said. "We truly appreciate all of the community's support. You can do a lot of things in the airline industry to adapt, but the one thing you can't do when you have pilot shortages is fly planes."

Dubuque Mayor Brad Cavanagh said that American Airlines has been a partner with the city for many years, but understands the nationwide shortage.

The release says that the airport still has a \$775,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Transportation that will be used to expand west-bound travel.

Dalsing stressed that the airport remains open, and continues to host events, and some limited charter and low-cost flights. It has not been announced if a different airline will be partnering with the airport in replacement of American Airlines.

"The Airport is not closed. We have robust general aviation with multiple corporate and private aircraft, including the University of Dubuque," Dalsing said. "We host numerous events such as the July 3rd Airshow, Major League Baseball, North

American Trainers Association, Experimental Aircraft Association, and Honor Flights. We still have Sun Country Airlines destinational charters and we continue to meet with Legacy and Low-Cost Carriers."

Tags American Airlines **Dubuque Regional Airport** Airport Transports Aeronautics Airline Todd Dalsing Dubuque Molly Grover Tourism

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