



SUBURBAN O'HARE COMMISSION
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January 23, 2002

In the interests of accuracy...

News reports repeatedly refer to the cost of the Daley/Ryan deal to expand O'Hare Airport as \$6 billion, more or less. In the interests of accuracy and fairness, we ask that journalists note the following: The \$6-billion figure is not the cost of the entire airport expansion, as Chicago says.

Here are the costs, as best as anyone can determine from the little information that Chicago and Illinois have disclosed:

“On-site” airport improvements:	\$6.6 billion
World Gateway project (terminal and other Improvements)	3.8 billion
Road improvements, land acquisition, other expenses	10.0 billion+
<u>Undisclosed number of additional terminals</u>	<u>? billion</u>
Total:	At least \$20.4 billion

These numbers are conservative. Previously, the state had estimated the new runway configuration would cost about \$5 billion. That leaves \$1.6 billion that's unlikely to be stretched for additional terminals, taxiways and other on-site improvements needed for expansion. That doesn't include the western highway access, a ring road or by-pass road, the costs of mitigating soundproofing, relocation expenses for thousands of homes and businesses, or loss of tax base.

In comparison, a better, bigger, safer, more secure regional airport can be built in the southern suburbs for less than \$6 billion. Before Congress imposes this deal on taxpayers, please ask the city and state for the complete and honest figures. Or at least as a matter of course, please tell your readers, viewers and listeners that the \$6-billion figure is disputed. Thank you.

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