



NEWS RELEASEFOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Farmers' Market coming to Indianapolis International Airport

INDIANAPOLIS (March 27, 2019) — A new retail dining destination coming to the Indianapolis International Airport (IND) is working to put more Indiana products in the hands of the airport's 9.4 million annual travelers. Once completed, <u>The Farmers' Market</u>, featuring Indiana Grown, will showcase Indiana's rich culinary landscape by offering foods, beverages and brands that can only be found in the Hoosier state.

"The Farmers' Market will give people from all over the world the chance to experience and enjoy a taste of Indiana," said Lt. Governor Suzanne Crouch. "We have everything from small town favorites to top selling national brands, and this market will allow us to share some of these products with the world."

The 3,300 sq. ft. market, managed by SSP America, will be located in Concourse B. There will be a sit-down dining area, where visitors will be able to enjoy a fresh, locally-grown salad or hand-tossed pizza, or order from a full-service menu created by celebrity chef and Indianapolis native, Greg Hardesty. They can also sip on some of the state's top signature craft beers and local wines.

Available for purchase or on the go, The Farmers' Market will feature a wide selection of locally-sourced products. Although the full list is still being developed by SSP America, in consultation with Indiana Grown, some examples might include Indiana-based barbecue sauces, handmade snacks and local spirits.

Nationwide, this is the first time a private company has partnered with a statewide local branding program, like Indiana Grown, to open a retail dining destination in an airport.

"SSP America is honored to partner with Indiana Grown given its important role in promoting locally grown and created products," said SSP America Business Development Vice President, Bob Stanton. "We look forward to developing the market jointly with the Indiana Grown team, and we're certain the Market will be a must-visit destination for IND travelers."

The Farmers' Market was one of several projects recently <u>approved</u> by the Indianapolis Airport Authority Board, as part of its Concessions Refresh initiative. Launched in 2016, the effort addressed the pending expiration of airport concession contracts and is intended to showcase a healthy mix of national offerings, and local products and brands that represent the culture and community in Indianapolis.

"The Farmers Market is a perfect fit with the customer experience travelers have told us they want, which includes food and beverage options that reflect the authentic taste of Indiana and the Indianapolis community," said Indianapolis Airport Authority Executive Director, Mario Rodriguez.

Although construction on the market is expected to begin this year, completion of the project and opening timeline have yet to be finalized.

Indiana farmers, producers and businesses interested in featuring their products in The Farmers'

Market are encouraged to fill out an online <u>survey</u>. Participation in the survey is not a guarantee of sales.

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Note to the press: The photo below for your use is a concept image of The Farmers' Market Featuring Indiana Grown and was provided by SSP America.



ABOUT INDIANA GROWN

Indiana Grown is administered by the Indiana State Department of Agriculture in partnership with the lieutenant governor's office. The initiative educates consumers on the importance of buying Indiana Grown products, helps Indiana farmers and producers sell more products and supports Indiana processors in their effort to process more Indiana Grown products. Indiana Grown members and partners include farmers, producers, processors and artisans, as well as retailers, grocers, hospitals and restaurants. For more information, visit www.indianagrown.org.

ABOUT SSP

SSP America is a division of SSP Group, a global leader in the business of creating restaurants, bars, cafés and marches in environments where people are on the move. With over 50 years of experience, SSP's nearly 37,000 employees serve approximately 1.5 million passengers daily in 33 countries. Our operations span around 2,600 outlets across 500 locations representing more than 500 of our own and licensed brands. The SSP America team is driven by a shared vision to bring authentic restaurant experiences to every airport in North America. Our employees have a passion for exceptional food served by people who believe in heartfelt hospitality. Our airport partners trust SSP America to deliver a world-class portfolio of brands with broad passenger appeal and lasting commercial viability. Our brands heroes trust us to bring a taste of place to their hometown airport. Learn more at www.foodtravelexperts.com/america.

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