

## Quinn supports 3rd airport

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Gov. Pat Quinn's renewed commitment to building a third airport in the south suburbs earned praise today from lawmakers in Illinois and Washington.

"We will build a third airport in the south suburbs of Chicago and we will build it as fast as humanly possible," Quinn said during his budget address at the state Capitol.

Quinn said the airport - talked about for years - is part of much-needed economic development efforts around the state. .

The proposed Will County airport has been a pet project of U.S. Rep. Jesse Jackson Jr., who created the Abraham Lincoln National Airport Commission to bring the airport to an area near Peotone.

"This is a promising step forward for the Illinois economy. ... It would create thousands of jobs and generate billions of dollars for our state," Jackson said in a statement.

Last year, state officials submitted updated plans to the Federal Aviation Administration for the airport. The state has been buying land for the project, but it's unclear when it will be built.

The Illinois Department of Transportation has said the airport would create 9,700 jobs within five years after it opens.

<http://www.southtownstar.com/news/1483923,third-airport-quinn-0318.article>