

Communications Office

The City of Morgantown

389 Spruce Street, Room 16
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April 13, 2012

Morgantown to Welcome New Air Service Provider

Silver Airways will be replacing Colgan Air in Morgantown, Clarksburg/Fairmont, and Beckley.

MORGANTOWN – Georgia-based regional airline Silver Airways will begin operations at the Morgantown Municipal Airport very soon.

The U.S. Department of Transportation concluded its selection process last week to choose an airline that would continue commercial air service from Morgantown Municipal Airport (MGW) and other regional facilities.



Silver Airlines will assume the existing air service partnership with United Airlines and offer three daily flights to Washington-Dulles International Airport. It would also like to reinstate the early morning and late night flights to and from Washington, which were recently dropped.



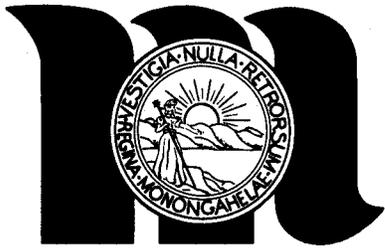
“Silver Airways believes that this proposal will provide these West Virginia communities with superior air service options, wrote Mickey Bowman, Vice President of Essential Air Service at Silver. “We feel the passengers will benefit from seamless, codeshare service to the United Airlines hub in Washington Dulles International Airport. With a renewed focus on schedule reliability, Silver Airways hopes to grow these markets.”

Passengers will see the same Saab 340 B+ turboprop aircrafts that are used by current provider Pinnacle Airlines, Corp.

“As city administration is extremely pleased with both the proposal and selection outcome,” said City Manager Terrence Moore, “direction is being offered to finalize necessary lease arrangements and other tasks to ensure a seamless transition from Pinnacle to Silver during the next few weeks.”

Pinnacle Airline’s regional air service provider, Colgan Air, cancelled essential air service to Morgantown as well as other W.Va. regional airports on March 20, 2012. Pinnacle itself filed for Chapter 11 Bankruptcy in New York on April 1, 2012.





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Under EAS rules, once an airline files its intent to suspend service, US Department of Transportation (DOT) must begin to find a replacement carrier. Pinnacle is not allowed to stop service until a new carrier has been found and starts operation.

“Pinnacle will continue its operation until the very instant that Silver is ready for take-off at MGW, alleviating any concerns regarding a lack of service during this transition,” Moore said.

If you have questions, please contact Michael Clow, Airport Director, in the Airport Administration office Monday through Friday between the hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. The number there is 304-291-7461.

