

Cheryl Dinolfo

Monroe County Executive

For Immediate Release Friday, December 8, 2017

DINOLFO ANNOUNCES NEW SEASONAL, NON-STOP SOUTHWEST FLIGHTS TO FT. MYERS, FLORIDA

More flights, more seats, more convienent, affordable options for travelers to sourthwest Florida; Service to be offered on a trial basis to gauge market demand

Monroe County Executive **Chery Dinolfo** today announced that Southwest Airlines has launched new seasonal, non-stop flights from the Greater Rochester International Airport (ROC) to Ft. Myers, Florida (RSW) on select Saturdays in February and March 2018.

"Whether you are a snowbird or a family vacationing on Winter Break, these new seasonal flights on Southwest are a convienent, affordable way to go have some fun in the Florida sun," said **Dinolfo**. "Local travelers have been asking for affordable, non-stop flights to Ft. Myers and southwest Florida for years. Now we need Southwest to see the market demand here is real so they will offer these direct flights for the long-term. Book your tickets today before they're gone!"

The new flights scheduled on Saturday February 17th, Saturday, February 24th and Saturday, March 3rd are as follows:

<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>	<u>Departs</u>	<u>Frequency</u>
ROC	RSW	11:55 am	Seasonal Select Saturday Non-Stop Flight
RSW	ROC	8:30 am	Seasonal Select Saturday Non-Stop Flight

Southwest will be flying passengers on the new non-stop service from ROC to Ft. Myers (RSW) using their 737-700 aircraft, adding over 400 seats for local passengers traveling through Ft. Myers (RSW) to destinations in Southwest Florida. The new seasonal flights are being offered by Southwest on a trial basis to gauge demand in the Rochester market.

Southwest has provided service at ROC since April of 2013 when it acquired AirTran Airways. ROC remains one of only 12 former AirTran Airways cities in which Southwest has maintained service. Today, Southwest offers daily non-stop service to Orlando (MCO) and Tampa (TPA) Florida as well as three daily, non-stop flights to their southeast hub in Baltimore (BWI) with connectivity to domestic and international destinations.

Passengers can book tickets on Southwest Airlines by visiting www.southwest.com.

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