

8/26/2025

**FOR YOUR INFORMATION**

2025-214/5-71

To: Airport Manager, Ronald Reagan Washington National (DCA), VA, FAA (AEA-600) 2264448

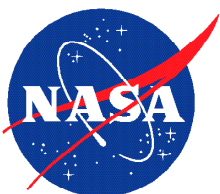
Info: FAA (AAS-1, AAS-300, AVP-1, AVP-200, AJV-A, AFS-260, AFS-200, ATM DCA Tower, Director of Air Traffic Operations ESA North, Runway Safety Team), A4A, AAAE, ALPA, AOPA, APA, ASAP, CAPA, ATSAP, ATSG, IATA, IBT, ICAO, ICASS, IFALPA, IPA, NATCA, NBAA, NTSB, RAA, SWAPA, Jeppesen Sanderson Inc.

From: Becky L. Hooey, Director  
NASA Aviation Safety Reporting System

Re: DCA Airport Taxiway Signage

We recently received ASRS reports describing a safety concern that may involve your area of operational responsibility. We do not have sufficient details to assess either the factual accuracy or possible gravity of the report. It is our policy to relay the reported information to the appropriate authority for evaluation and any necessary follow-up. We feel you should be aware of the enclosed deidentified report.

To properly assess the usefulness of our alert message service, we would appreciate it if you would take the time to give us your feedback on the value of the information that we have provided. Please contact Dr. Becky Hooey at (408) 541-2854 or email at [becky.l.hooey@nasa.gov](mailto:becky.l.hooey@nasa.gov).



Aviation Safety Reporting System  
P.O. Box 189 | Moffett Field, CA | 94035-0189



**ACN 2264448****DATE / TIME**

Date of Occurrence 202507  
Local Time Of Day 1201 to 1800

**PLACE**

Locale DCA.Airport  
State DC  
Altitude - AGL 0

**ENVIRONMENT**

Flight Conditions VMC

**AIRCRAFT / EQUIPMENT X**

ATC / Advisory - Tower DCA  
Make Model Name Commercial Fixed Wing  
Operating Under FAR Part 121

**PERSON 1**

Function - Flight Crew First Officer  
ASRS Report Number 2264448

**PERSON 2**

Function - Flight Crew Captain  
ASRS Report Number 2264726

**EVENTS**

Anomaly Deviation / Discrepancy - Procedural - Clearance  
Anomaly Ground Incursion - Taxiway  
Detector - Person Flight Crew  
Result - Flight Crew Requested ATC Assistance / Clarification  
Result - Air Traffic Control Issued New Clearance

**NARRATIVE 1**

On Taxiway N facing southeast, we accidentally turned and entered Taxiway K instead of L. The problem was that we saw the J sign and could not see an L sign. When we started the turn [we] saw K and identified that was incorrect and we must have not seen L. We were unable to see any L sign which would denote the slight left turn that connects to J would be L. A suggestion would be to include a destination or directional sign at that location displaying the 2 taxiways to prevent confusion.

**NARRATIVE 2**

Yesterday while taxiing out to Runway 19, ATC informed us to taxi N and hold short L. There was Aircraft Y parked facing us holding short of what I assumed was N on J. The FO and I were well aware that we were in a hotspot as we discussed it during the brief and once again just before we started the taxi. We taxied southeast on N, and the FO pointed out a yellow taxiway indicator for K, and the one ahead of us J. Because neither of us saw a sign for L, I parked short of K thinking I was holding short of L. We were then instructed to cross 15 at L and continued straight ahead to J and hold short of 19. I made a left turn, and the FO and I noticed at the same time we had made the wrong turn onto K instead of L. Immediately stopped, the FO notified ATC we had made the wrong turn, and ATC gave us new instructions to taxi to 19. The remainder of the flight continued without issue.

## SYNOPSIS

Air carrier flight crew reported making a wrong turn onto an incorrect taxiway at DCA and suggested signage could be improved to prevent confusion.