Florida 2020 legislative session is officially underway

Opening day was Tuesday, January 14th, when the House and Senate Chambers held their first initial sessions to convene the annual 60-day legislative session.

The Governor gave his State of the State Address, where he focused most of his attention on the environment, low taxes, deregulation and teacher pay.

Action was immediate on several FAC priorities including:

→ **SB 1192, Tax on Aviation Fuel**, (Gruters) was considered by the Commerce and Tourism Committee on Tuesday, January 14th, passed favorably and moves on to the Finance & Tax Committee. FAC spoke in **OPPOSITION** to the bill along with FAC Vice-Chair Luis Olivero (GOAA), and board member Chad Rosenstein (LCPA). Fred Baggett representing Airlines for America (A4A) spoke in support.

A companion bill in the House, **HB 6061 (Roach; McClure)** has been referred to the Ways and Means and Appropriations committees.

Informational material has been posted on the State Affairs Committee webpage. Included are talking points, messaging data and a 1-page handout regarding the importance of the fuel tax to the sustainability of our state aviation grant program.

→ **HB 915, Commercial Service Airports**, (Avila) was considered by the Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee on Wednesday January 15th and passed favorably. FAC spoke in **OPPOSITION** to the bill along with FAC Vice-Chair Luis Olivero, and board member Chad Rosenstein (LCPA). Fred Baggett representing Airlines for America (A4A) spoke in support.

A companion bill in the House, **HB 6061 (Roach; McClure)** has been referred to the Ways and Means and Appropriations committees.

Informational material has been posted on the State Affairs Committee webpage. Included are talking points, messaging data and a 1-page handout regarding the importance of the fuel tax to the sustainability of our state aviation grant program.

→ **HB 569, (Overdorf) Diesel Exhaust Fluid** is being considered by the Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee on Tuesday, January 21st. FAC **OPPOSES** this bill as currently written. Chris Rozansky, Executive Director-APF, has been working with the bill sponsor on potential amendments to the bill.

Are you on the State Affairs Committee calls?

We need the support of all of our members.

Call in agendas and bill tracking are posted on the State Affairs Committee webpage.
Protect Florida’s Aviation Funding
Say NO to further slashing the aviation fuel tax

Last year, more than 176 million passengers from around the globe traveled to the Sunshine State through one of Florida’s airports, and the aviation fuel tax provides important funding to support airports across the state. While the fuel tax is a small cost to airlines and other users, the benefit to airports is multiplied when state dollars are matched by local and federal dollars.

Florida’s aviation fuel tax rate is already below the national average, but airlines are pushing to completely eliminate it. The cost is only 4.27 cents per gallon and airlines receive a refund that brings the actual tax paid down to just 2.85 cents per gallon. These funds are mandated to be invested in aviation infrastructure projects, including terminals to improve and expand infrastructure; runways to ensure compliance with FAA regulations; and safety and security, which is each airport’s top priority for the traveling public. Entirely eliminating this funding source would deprive airports across the state of $34 million needed each year to help meet Florida’s growing aviation needs.

Aviation infrastructure has one of the best Returns on Investment in the state at $1.72 per dollar spent. At the same time, it creates jobs – Florida’s aviation industry supports 1.4 million jobs, and the industry generates $175 billion in overall economic impact.

The Results are Clear

Airlines fly where the demand is, not where the fuel tax is the lowest. Florida is among the top air travel destinations in the world, and we need robust airport infrastructure funding to meet the current and future needs of our state’s 129 public airports.

Protect Florida’s aviation funding — oppose SB 1192 and HB 6061.

Learn more at FloridaAirports.org
Governor DeSantis opens the 2020 Florida legislative session – a “season of opportunity”

See excerpts from the Governor’s speech below. Click here to read the entire State of the State address.

Florida must remain steadfast in its commitment to low taxes and fiscal responsibility. “For which of you intending to build a tower does not first sit down to count the cost?”

We live in an increasingly mobile and interconnected time. States cannot tax, regulate and spend without significant negative consequences.

Taxpayers flee. Businesses relocate. The economic base narrows and the state inevitably hemorrhages money. Rinse and repeat. According to IRS figures, Florida had led the nation for six consecutive years in the amount of income – tens of billions of dollars -- being brought to the state from internal migration.

We have the good fortune to be attracting investment and business activity and have good potential for further growth in aerospace, financial services, health care and manufacturing. To realize this potential, Florida needs to tax lightly, spend wisely and regulate reasonably.

Maintaining fiscal health will provide the type of durable foundation required for the expansion of our economic base, which means more opportunities for the people of Florida.

When I took office I issued a sweeping executive order outlining a bold approach to protecting our natural resources, improving water quality and restoring the Everglades.

Facilities & Maintenance KNOWLEDGE TRANSFER DAY
February 19, 2020

Tampa International Airport will host a ‘Knowledge Transfer Day’ focusing on its maintenance and facilities management practices on Wednesday, February 19, 2020 (see agenda). ACI-NA is assisting with facilitation of the event. Registration is now open.

Please Note: The event is limited in size to 40 airport registrants (no more than 2 attendees per airport) on a first come-first served basis.

The registration fee for this event is $75 and includes the all day session with a continental breakfast and lunch. Click here to register.

Additional questions may be addressed to ACI-NA’s Paul Eubanks.

DATES TO REMEMBER

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CFASPP Steering Committee Meetings</td>
<td>Various</td>
<td>February 18 - March 5, 2020</td>
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<tr>
<td>FAC Federal Affairs Fly-In and Reception</td>
<td>The Liaison Capitol Hill</td>
<td>March 4, 2020</td>
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<tr>
<td>FAA 2020 Southern Regional Airports Conference</td>
<td>Atlanta, GA</td>
<td>April 13-16, 2020</td>
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<tr>
<td>2020 Education &amp; Training Summit</td>
<td>Embassy Suites Lake Buena Vista South</td>
<td>April 22-24, 2020</td>
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<tr>
<td>51st Annual Conference &amp; Exposition</td>
<td>Orlando, FL</td>
<td>July 19-22, 2020</td>
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Please email lisa@floridaairports.org with calendar updates.
For the fifth consecutive year, St. Pete-Clearwater International Airport set an all-time passenger record with 2,288,692 passengers in 2019, an increase of 2 percent over 2018.

More than 196,000 domestic passengers flew into or out of the airport in December, up more than 12 percent compared with December 2018, making the month the largest December in the airport’s history. In December, domestic traffic was up 13 percent, while the number of foreign passengers, a sliver of the airport’s overall operations, was down 37 percent.

Budget airline Allegiant is the dominant carrier at the airport, which has nonstop service to 57 cities.

Sun Country Airlines started flying passengers between Minneapolis-St. Paul Airport and Sarasota-Bradenton in December. American Airlines also began flights to Philadelphia. The airport has been growing for months, a trend that started when Allegiant Air joined Sarasota-Bradenton with three routes in April 2018. Seven months later, the airline announced nine new routes and then eight more in 2019. Frontier Airlines also joined Sarasota-Bradenton in December 2018.

Piccolo said that the airport is anticipating another year of record-breaking growth. “The airport continues to make improvements to our facility in order to prepare for future growth with passenger convenience and customer service as our top priorities,” he said.

Tampa International Airport said Monday that it’s expanding its TPA All Access program that allows non-flying visitors to go through security to eat at the restaurants, shops or visit spas at the airside.

Starting Saturday, the program will go from Saturdays only to seven days a week. Since its launch last May, more than 1,700 people have taken advantage of the program, which entails signing up at least 24 hours in advance to get a pass.

Tampa airport to allow non-fliers to try its airside cuisine

“This airport belongs to the Tampa Bay community, and our All Access program is one way of making sure as many people as possible can experience all it has to offer,” airport chief executive officer Joe Lopano said in an announcement of the expansion.
As part of a $2 billion expansion, the airport has added bars and restaurants such as Cigar City Brewery, Ulele, Columbia Restaurant, Four Green Fields and the only Potbelly Sandwich Shop in Florida. We tried the new restaurants at Tampa International Airport, and we’re full.

Participants are subject to the same security screening regulations as passengers boarding a flight. Passes are available 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. and are capped at 25 people per airside. Visitors can go to one airside per visit. Participants younger than 18 must be accompanied by an adult. To sign up, visit TPAallaccess.com.

**Allegiant adds new flight to Savannah from Punta Gorda**

Allegiant is adding a new route to Southwest Florida. Starting in June, you’ll be able to fly from Punta Gorda to Savannah, Georgia. The new route will be seasonal, though the airline did not say what the season for that flight will be. It will run twice a week when it begins.

Allegiant says that to celebrate the new route, they will offer one-way fares as low as $44.

“Adding Savannah to Allegiant’s growing list routes at PGD is exciting news our local community,” said Punta Gorda Airport CEO James W. Parish. “It will be a convenient route for both southwest Floridians and Georgians to explore each area’s coastal beaches, outdoor activities and historic communities.”

**Allegiant announces five flights to Destin-Fort Walton Beach**

Allegiant announced five new flights to Destin-Fort Walton Beach. The new seasonal routes to Destin-Fort Walton Beach Airport (VPS) include Boston, Dayton, Houston, Chicago and Hudson Valley, New York.

“The new nonstop routes will operate twice-weekly, bringing thousands of passengers to the Destin/Fort Walton Beach area, contributing to visitor spending in the local economy,” officials wrote in a news release. “Flight days, times and the lowest fares can be found only at Allegiant.com.”

Allegiant is offering fares as low as $33 on its new routes. Flights to Boston and Dayton will begin May 14, while Hudson Valley flights will begin May 21. Houston and Chicago routes will begin June 5. The announcement has Okaloosa County officials looking forward to what's ahead.

“We’re very excited to be able to introduce this. This has a huge economic impact on our area because it creates jobs, it also brings tourists here and then people. When they come here and lay on these wonderful beaches in the middle of winter say ‘I wanna move here,’” Carolyn Ketchel, Vice Chairman on the Okaloosa Board of County Commissioners, said.

Allegiant officials added that Destin is one of the most popular destinations on the Emerald Coast and Kitchel says VPS is the fastest-growing airport in the United States.

“Allegiant has delivered extraordinary compounding impacts to our region. The success story continues with five more great routes into the Destin-Fort Walton Beach Airport. Allegiant has transformed our airport’s horizon and today, hundreds of new jobs have been created, the economy is booming and families are arriving to enjoy our white sand beaches and emerald green waters. Salute to Allegiant as we celebrate in our partnership,” said Ketchel.
Congressionally mandated report calls for PFC increase

The Rand Corporation last week released a congressionally mandated report that calls for raising the PFC cap to $7.50 for originating passengers and indexing it for inflation. The FAA reauthorization bill passed by Congress in late 2018 included a provision that required DOT to enter into an agreement with an independent non-profit organization to conduct a “Future Aviation Infrastructure and Financing Study.”

The 215-page report on airport infrastructure funding and financing comes as AAAE and airports around the country continue to urge Congress to raise the PFC cap and take other steps to help airports build critical infrastructure projects. The report may be viewed here.

Celebrating a Life

Abutalib (Al) Gulamali
Director, Airport Operations and Safety
Lee County Port Authority

Ceremony to be held
Thursday, January 23, 2020; 3:00 PM (sharp) – 4:30 PM

Location: Lakes Park “The Lodge”
Address: 7330 Gladiolus Drive
Fort Myers, FL 33908

Please park in lot 3 (right of entrance)
Cost for parking is $5/vehicle

Click Here for a map of the area

AROUND THE NATION

FAA opens new fire research facility

The FAA Reauthorization Act of 2018 directed FAA to stop requiring the use of fluorinated chemicals in aircraft firefighting foams within three years.

Congress prepares for infrastructure push (Source: ACI-NA)

Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) said last week that House Democrats will roll out their infrastructure proposal during the week of January 27. House Transportation and Infrastructure Chairman Peter DeFazio (D-OR) said his starting point for the measure is a rewrite of highway and transit laws, but aviation and water projects also are likely to be included.

With House members back in their districts next week for a House recess, we encourage you to reach out to your House delegations to make sure that aviation infrastructure funding – particularly through an increase in the Passenger Facility Charge – is addressed in the House legislation.

Meanwhile, Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-KY) has told Republican chairmen to prepare a surface-transportation bill for Senate floor consideration once President Trump’s impeachment trial has concluded. The Senate measure currently includes a provision making airport projects eligible for the Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (TIFIA) program, but no adjustment to the PFC or increase in AIP funding.
Naples Airport Authority (NAA) invites the submission of Letters of Interest and Statements of Qualifications from all interested and qualified parties with demonstrated expertise in civil engineering design, including landfill excavation and reclamation, site layout design, stormwater design, taxiway extension design, permitting, bidding and construction administration. Thorough knowledge of SFWMD, DEP, FAA and FDOT regulations will be necessary to successfully complete this project. A copy of the detailed Request for Qualifications and instructions for submittal may be obtained from the Naples Airport Authority online at https://flynaples.com/doing-business-with-the-authority/open-bids/ beginning January 6, 2020. Responses are due no later than 10:00 a.m. EST, February 6, 2020.
The Lee County Port Authority (“Authority”) invites all interested and qualified parties to provide submissions for the above referenced solicitation.

**SOLICITATION DOCUMENTS**: All documents and instructions for submittal may be obtained online at [www.publicpurchase.com](http://www.publicpurchase.com).

**PRE-SUBMISSION MEETING**: A NON-Mandatory pre-submission meeting is scheduled for 1:30 PM, Wednesday, January 29, 2020, location provided in the solicitation document. Note: When mandatory pre-submission meetings are conducted, only submissions from vendors in attendance will be considered.

**RECEIVING AND OPENING**: Solicitation submissions must be received at the Southwest Florida International Airport Terminal, Purchasing Office, 3rd Floor prior to 2:00 p.m., Tuesday, February 18, 2020.

**AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT NOTICE**: The Lee County Port Authority will not discriminate against individuals with disabilities. Any person needing special accommodations for attendance at any public meeting should contact the Purchasing Office at least seven (7) days before the scheduled meeting.

**CONTACT**: Any requests or questions concerning this solicitation shall be addressed to the Purchasing Office, Lori DeLoach, CPPB, Senior Procurement Agent, E-mail: LKDeLoach@FlyLCPA.com Telephone (239) 590-4555, Fax (239) 590-4539.

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**BROWARD COUNTY AVIATION DEPARTMENT**

**FORT LAUDERDALE-HOLLYWOOD INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT**

**EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position:</th>
<th>Airport Manager - Airside</th>
<th>Position:</th>
<th>Aviation Accounting Manager</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Salary:</td>
<td>$76,855 - $122,662 Annually</td>
<td>Salary:</td>
<td>$82,619.68 - $131,861.39 Annually</td>
</tr>
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</table>

The Aviation Department which operates the Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport (FLL) and the North Perry Airport is seeking qualified applicants for the position of Airport Manager in the Aviation Operations Division - Airside section. This is advanced specialized work in the management of all activities related to Airside Operations and management at FLL. The Airport Manager for Airside Operations should possess a thorough understanding of Federal, State, and Local regulations pertaining to Airside Operations at a Large Hub Commercial Service Airport. Duties involve tenant, governmental, and vendor relations; procurement and competitive bidding of contracts associated with Ramp Control and ARFF agreements; participation in facility design and planning; contract negotiations & drafting; report preparation; budget preparation and oversight; coordination of tenant improvement projects; and inspections of county-owned facilities. This position requires significant interaction with airport stakeholders and will supervise assigned Aviation Department Staff. This class works under administrative supervision, developing and implementing programs within organizational policies and reports major activities to executive level administrators through conferences and reports.

Interested applicants must apply online at [www.broward.org/careers](http://www.broward.org/careers).

The Announcements are open until a sufficient number of applications are received.

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**The Hillsborough County Aviation Authority Invites Applications For Director of Research & Air Service Development**

The Hillsborough County Aviation Authority is seeking a Director of Research & Air Service Development for the Tampa International Airport (TPA). This position is responsible for directing the execution of strategic and tactical plans to support and increase flights to existing domestic and international markets and attract prospective new airlines and destinations. The incumbent will provide key leadership for the Airport by developing and exploring real-time business analytics and consumer data to inform short and long-range strategies and strategic initiatives that support all areas of the Airport business.

**Position Qualifications**

Position requires a combination of education and experience reflecting possession of the required knowledge, skills and abilities, to include graduation from an accredited college or university with a Bachelor's Degree in business, marketing, market research, or other related field; plus eight years of demonstrated experience in work directly associated with airline route economics, including route planning experience at an airline, as an airline or airport consultant, or similar experience in the Aviation industry.

**Salary & Benefits**

The salary range for this position is $103,700 - $215,600 and there is an extraordinary range of benefits. Anticipated starting salary is commensurate with experience. For instructions on how to apply, please click here to see the recruitment brochure, or visit the searches tab at [www.adkexecutivesearch.com](http://www.adkexecutivesearch.com).

Posting closes February 16, 2020.
### Communications Coordinator

**Position:** Communications Coordinator  
**Salary:** $21.44 Hourly  

**THE POSITION**  
We’re looking for an experienced Communications Coordinator to be responsible for the internal and external communication of information, encompassing all print and electronic media.

**Some of the position duties include:**
- Performs Line Technician duties when not performing quality control responsibilities.
- Coordinates and serves as public and media contact;
- Assists in strategic development and implementation of public affairs communications and media relations;
- Create, design and ensure consistent and correct brand imaging and values;
- Coordination of regularly scheduled calendar events and speaking engagements, while also planning for new initiatives and event requests.

### Quality Control Coordinator

**Position:** Quality Control Coordinator  
**Salary:** $21.44 Hourly  

**THE POSITION**  
We’re looking for an experienced Quality Control Coordinator to be responsible for the oversight of fuel quality control in accordance with company procedures and industry regulations.

**Some of the position duties include:**
- Work alongside, and sign off with, the Facilities Department to ensure proper inspections, maintenance and repairs are being conducted. Submits work orders.
- Serve as liaison to NATA and maintain the NATA Fuel Quality Control Management Software.
- Maintain records and serve as the primary contact during any and all inspections.
- Train staff on quality control standards.
- Performs Line Technician duties when not performing quality control responsibilities.

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Naples Airport Authority application must be completed. Application and job description available at the City of Naples Airport Authority, Administration Office, 160 Aviation Drive North, Naples FL 34104 or our website [www.flynaples.com](http://www.flynaples.com) EOE/V/Pre-employment drug screening required.

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**The City of Naples Airport Authority Invites Applications For Director of Planning & Strategy**

The City of Naples Airport Authority is seeking a Director of Planning & Strategy who will be responsible for engaging internal and external stakeholders regarding Authority organizational strategy, planning, land use, master planning, noise compatibility planning, outreach and related programs. The incumbent will need to be comfortable presenting at public and community meetings.

This position is responsible in ensuring that the Authority maintains an up-to-date master plan, makes recommendations and assists in the implementation of the airport master plan. The position facilitates strategic planning, monitors progress and prepares reports on organizational performance in achieving strategic goals and objectives. The Director of Planning and Strategy also establishes and implements other planning initiatives, including but not limited to those pertaining to environmental compliance and stewardship, sustainability, resiliency and business continuity. This position will be called upon to meet with customers, tenants, elected officials, other government officials, business and civic leaders to discuss technical matters and future planning endeavors as well as working closely with internal and external stakeholders in support of timely achievement of strategic projects and initiatives. The Director of Planning and Strategy manages the community Noise Compatibility Committee and makes presentations to the committee, civic groups and the Authority Board of Commissioners.

**Position Qualifications**

The successful candidate will have an undergraduate degree in airport planning/management, planning, or related discipline with eight (8) years of experience in the development of airports or an associate degree in a related discipline and more than ten (10) years of related airport experience. The individual will possess excellent strategic thinking, communication and customer service skills.

**Salary & Benefits**

The salary for this position is $93,000 - $130,000, depending on qualifications, and is accompanied by an attractive benefits package. For instructions on how to apply, please [click here](http://www.adkexecutivesearch.com) to see the recruitment brochure, or visit the searches tab at www.adkexecutivesearch.com.

**Filing Deadline:** February 16, 2020