State Affairs Update

With three weeks left in the 2020 regular session, several bills impacting FL airports continue to move through the process.

State funding for the Airport Development Grant Program - Governor DeSantis’ budget recommendations for 2020/21 include $8.8 billion for the State Transportation Work Program (based on the five-year plan), with $323.9 million for aviation improvements, and FDOT has allocated $43 million for spaceports within the aviation total. The House and Senate budget proposals both allocate $395 million for the program.

Aviation Fuel Taxes - SB 7097 is the new Senate Transportation package that is to be heard by the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Tourism and Economic Development Tuesday, February 25, 2020. This bill reduces the fuel tax commercial carriers from 2.85 cents per gallon to 1.89 cents per gallon, while other smaller operators will continue to pay 4.27 cents per gallon.

Commercial Service Airports – FAC and commercial service airport sponsors have been working closely with the bill sponsors to formulate acceptable language. So far, FAC cannot support the bill. This bill is also related to the fallout of the FIU bridge collapse. This legislation focuses on transparency in governance and procurement of contracts at commercial service airports. The bill proposed specific contractual limits for contracts required to go before the airport’s governing body; requires the posting of certain planning documents on the web, and posting of employees’ positions, salaries and more. SB 1258 is on agenda for its last stop, Senate Rules Committee on Wednesday, February 26, 2020.

Diesel Exhaust Fluid – HB 569 filed by Representative Toby Overdorf (Stuart) and the identical Senate companion, SB 1036 by Senator Ben Albritton, appears to be on life support. It has been referred to its next committee of reference in the Senate (Environment and Natural Resources), but has not been scheduled to be heard. If it dies, it will be back next year.

PFAS - It appears there will not be legislation introduced this year to address PFAS, but we need to be ready for the 2021 session.

Turo/Peer-to-peer vehicle transactions - Several bills have been moving in the House and Senate. Senate Bill 478, the final bill moving, has stalled and may not be heard this session.

Engineering - Certified Engineering Inspection (CEI) - Senate Bill 7054 is included in the Senate Transportation Package, currently on agenda for the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Tourism and Economic Development Tuesday, February 25, 2020. This bill includes language exempting airports from the 2019 CEI provision.
REGISTRATION NOW OPEN FOR EDUCATION AND TRAINING SUMMIT

The 2020 Education and Training Summit Planning Committee is pleased to announce the opening of registration for the Summit to be held at the Embassy Suites Lake Buena Vista South in beautiful Kissimmee, FL April 22-24, 2020. This 2 ½ day event offers a great training and professional development opportunity - we hope you will send your professionals to take part in this important event. The Summit will feature sessions hosted by the FAC Corporate, General Aviation, Environmental, Noise Abatement and Community Affairs, Legal and Training Committees.

- **Again this year,** FAC is offering discounted registration for First-Time attendees - If you or a member of your staff has not attended a Specialty Conference since 2016 or the 2019 E & T Summit, consider attending this year’s event.
- **Opening Session** - Wednesday’s opening luncheon will include a presentation from Amy Armstrong, National Manager of Community Relations at Clean the World
- **General Sessions** - Wednesday through Friday, topics will transcend multiple disciplines including:
  - FAA South FL Metroplex - An overview of South-Central Florida Metroplex: Understand the process and what to expect in 2020 presented by Michael O’Harra, Southern Region Administrator
  - FDOT Update - A presentation from Aaron Smith from the FDOT central office addressing important statewide topics
  - Florida Spaceports update - Todd Lindner, Director, Cecil Spaceport
  - AC 150/5050-4A, Community Involvement in Airport Planning
- **Workshops** - Extended periods of training on important topics will be featured:
  - The Environmental Committee will host 2 concurrent sessions discussing the impact of PFAS and DEP initiatives.
  - The Corporate Committee will host 2 concurrent sessions called “Innovation Stations” - learn from FAC corporate members the latest innovations in aviation and airport project planning & delivery.
- **Trade Show** - This year’s format will be more intimate and provide additional opportunities for vendors to interact with summit attendees. All meals and General Sessions will take place in the Exhibit Hall. We can only accommodate fifteen (15) exhibitors so be sure to register early to secure the most desirable location for your booth. The Exhibit Hall will be open during all sessions, allowing multiple opportunities to visit with the exhibitors during the event. Wednesday’s schedule includes a *Welcome Reception with Exhibitors* in the evening.
- **Sponsors** - Sponsorship is a fantastic way for airports and corporate members to support the conference, your clients, and your customers. Regardless of the size of your company or the level of participation, you will receive one of the best values in the aviation industry. Your sponsorship will provide your company with increased brand awareness, visibility and recognition.

In addition to the outstanding program, the conference provides an excellent opportunity to network face-to-face with your peers, industry leaders, vendors and consultants. The program allows time during breaks for exhibitors and sponsors to meet and talk with airport and industry representatives.

For more information on registration, the agenda, hotel reservations and sponsorship and exhibiting opportunities, please visit [www.floridaairports.org](http://www.floridaairports.org) OR CLICK HERE to be directed to the conference registration website.

We look forward to seeing you all in April!
Florida Airports Council
2020 Federal Legislative Fly-In
March 4, 2020 - Washington, DC

The Florida Airports Council has successfully advocated for the issues that matter most to our state’s publicly owned and operated airports for over 50 years, proudly serving as the voice for Florida’s airports, now...and into the future.

Please join FAC and the Federal Affairs Committee to “walk the halls” of Congress and promote Florida Aviation.

There will be a reception on the evening of March 4th at the conclusion of our meetings in the Rayburn Office Building Banquet Room from 6:00 p.m. until 7:30 p.m.

RSVP to gina@floridaairports.org by Wednesday, February 26th. Click HERE for more information and/or to sponsor the reception.

DATES TO REMEMBER

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<tr>
<td>CFASPP Steering Committee Meetings</td>
<td>Various</td>
<td>February 18 - March 5, 2020</td>
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<td>FAC Federal Affairs Fly-In and Reception</td>
<td>The Liaison Capitol Hill</td>
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<tr>
<td>Florida Aviation Professionals Academy (FAPA) Course</td>
<td>FDOT District 2 Headquarters</td>
<td>March 10-11, 2020</td>
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<td>1109 South Marion Avenue, Lake City, 32025-5874</td>
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<td>FAA 2020 Southern Regional Airports Conference</td>
<td>Atlanta, GA</td>
<td>April 13-16, 2020</td>
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<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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<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.
Editorial: The start of a revolution in transportation  
(Source: The Gainesville Sun)

A slow-moving autonomous shuttle on a short test route might not seem particularly revolutionary. But hopefully Gainesville’s experiment with self-driving vehicles paves the way for their broader acceptance and use, making roads safer and less congested.

On Monday, Gainesville’s first autonomous shuttle started offering rides to the public. An operator will remain on board during an initial test period and be able to take over in case of an emergency. The shuttle is equipped to drive at 25 mph but will not go faster than 15 mph during the test phase. The shuttle will offer free rides during the period and is equipped to carry up to 12 people — six sitting and six standing.

The project has been in the works for more than two years, but was pushed back due to delays in getting federal approval. During the test period, the shuttle will run on a route between the University of Florida Innovation Hub and the Southwest Third Street parking garage. The route has bike lanes, roundabouts and other challenges that will show whether it is ready for wider use. A successful test run is important to getting more widespread acceptance for the technology.

After all, any missteps with self-driving vehicles tend to be magnified in the media — like the self-driving Uber that killed a pedestrian in Arizona in 2018. But vehicles with human operators have a far deadlier safety record, including more than 6,200 pedestrians killed in 2018 alone.

The potential for autonomous vehicles to reduce traffic crashes is one of the reasons to encourage their wider use. But proponents must also recognize and respond to other consequences such as job losses for people who drive for a living.

Gainesville’s autonomous shuttle is funded by a $2.5 million grant from the Florida Department of Transportation, which is a partner in the project with the city and UF. The project shows the value of the city-UF partnership, which allows the city to be used as a living laboratory to the benefit of both residents and researchers.

A state law approved last year removed restrictions on self-driving vehicles in Florida, spurring on tests of the technology here. An autonomous semi truck has operated on the Florida Turnpike, self-driving taxis are being used in The Villages and Jacksonville is converting its automated people mover into an autonomous vehicle network.

Self-driving technology has the potential to further transform transportation when used with on-demand vehicles. Already Gainesville has the Last Mile, First Mile program, which uses more traditional vans to bring east-side residents from their homes to a bus transfer station.

Traffic congestion and the greenhouse-gas emissions it causes could be reduced by wider use of self-driving autonomous vehicles. Gainesville’s autonomous shuttles are electric powered, so their impact on the environment will be dictated by the shift to using renewable energy locally.

The broader benefits of autonomous vehicles might be hard to recognize when driving behind a slow-moving shuttle. But Gainesville’s experiment with self-driving vehicles is likely just the start of revolutionary changes in the way we get around.

Lyft study shows company encourages multimodal transportation in South Florida  
(Source: Communitynewspapers.com)

Lyft recently unveiled findings for 2020 from its annual Economic Impact Report, showing the impact that Lyft makes in South Florida, as well as insight into its rider and driver communities with the city. Lyft improves transportation and connects communities by helping people move around their cities. The report indicates that companies like Lyft are increasingly helping create a seamless city living experience by making it easier for people to get around and experience South Florida.

The study found that the company has encouraged the use of multimodal transportation as well as a reduction in car ownership. Key supporting statistics include:

- 54% of riders have used a Lyft service to get to or from public transit
- 37% of Lyft riders do not own or lease a personal vehicle
- 35% use Lyft to get around when public transit does not operate
42% of rides start or end in low income areas
96% of riders living with a disability state that Lyft has increased their independence

“Every day, people across South Florida use the Lyft platform for reliable, affordable transportation and a flexible earnings opportunity,” said Ariel Meyer, regional director, general manager for Lyft. “We’re proud to continue operating and investing in the South Florida community to benefit the city, riders and drivers, and we look forward to continuing to find new ways to ensure transportation access is available to everyone.”
Check out the full survey results for South Florida and all others.

**Plan aims to attract aerospace and aviation business** *(Source: becononline news.com)*

A LURE FOR MANUFACTURERS? — This large tract of land on the south side of DAB recently was given a special designation to lure more aviation and aerospace businesses to Volusia County. Approximately 435 acres of undeveloped land on the south end of the Daytona Beach International Airport property has long been eyed as a prime location for aviation- and aerospace-related businesses and the high-paying jobs they bring.

In January, the Volusia County Council unanimously approved a special designation of the property that will make it significantly more valuable to such companies without any cost to the taxpayers. Making use of Florida’s Manufacturing Competitiveness Act, the council established a plan to speed up the state permitting process for companies looking to set up shop on the airport property. Economic-development boosters hope the plan will help entice more aviation and aerospace businesses to establish a presence in Volusia County.

Local business recruiters are also promoting other benefits of the site, like being right on airport property and adjacent to Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, in close proximity to the Cape Canaveral Spaceport, and just down the road from transportation hubs I-4 and I-95.

The Florida Legislature established the Manufacturing Competitiveness Act to help spur economic development in the manufacturing sector. Even though the act has been in existence since 2013, just two governments in the state — Manatee County and the City of Bradenton — have taken advantage of it. Now Volusia County is the third.

To participate, local governments are required to adopt an ordinance establishing a plan targeting specific locations for development. That’s exactly what the Volusia County Council did, incorporating a manufacturing site plan program into the county’s land-development regulations.

Under the plan, a proposed business project that meets the eligibility requirements will be able to go through an expedited process for getting state review and approval. Once approved, the development order will be good for 10 years instead of the customary one year. "This is the first step in many different efforts to try and improve our overall response to economic development," said Clay Ervin, the county’s director of growth and resource management. "So what you see before you is an amendment to our ordinance that hopefully will put together a pilot program that will give us another tool in our toolbox as far as economic development."

The airport property covered by the plan is located on both sides of Bellevue Avenue Extension. With the County Council making jobs creation a high priority, Volusia County’s Economic Development staff floated the idea for the manufacturing plan as a way to make the airport property more desirable to targeted industries such as aviation and aerospace, clean technology, life sciences, info-tech, homeland security and defense, financial and professional services, and emerging technologies.

The hope is that expediting the state permitting process will appeal to manufacturers that may feel dissuaded from opening or expanding a business because of government red tape.

**Welcome Back FAC Member!!**

Inspector+ by WNS
Andrew Eagan, Business Development Manager
17746 Old Excelsior Boulevard
Minnetonka, MN 55345
(952) 249-1999
andrewe@wirelessns.com
Northwest Florida Beaches Int. Airport announces plans for major project
(Source: wjhg.com)

Northwest Florida Beaches International Airport continues to grow, and it hopes to grow the community along with it.

Planning is underway for the Aviation Center of Excellence. (WJHG/WECP) “On a Saturday this summer, we’re expecting about 9,200 people,” ECP Executive Director Parker McClellan said. “We’ve been working with multiple companies, domestically and internationally, that have an interest to be at our airport,” Bay Economic Development President Becca Hardin said.

Planning is underway for the Aviation Center of Excellence. It has four projects including maintenance, aircraft refinishing, training, and education. Hardin said the aviation campus will, “support the needs of the businesses and the community. “It will also create nearly 400 local jobs. “Part of the airport’s role, and the role of the community, is to grow the community. And we see this as an opportunity to create jobs,” McClellan said.

The goal of the airport expansion is also to educate the next generation. Project Goodwrench is a partnership with Haney Technical Center. The center will expand Haney’s Airframe and Power Plant program. Although there’s a clear plan in place, officials said the center is only at the beginning stages.

“It could be six months before we finalize all negotiations to be able to actually talk about who is coming to the community and announce the names of the companies,” Hardin said.

Also underway at ECP, a 7,000 square-foot addition to relocate gates 6 and 7, and expand holding rooms and loading bridges.

Governor Ron DeSantis announces nearly $5M FL job growth grant fund award
On February 19, 2020, in News Releases, by Staff

Pensacola, Fla. – Today, Governor Ron DeSantis announced he is awarding nearly $5M to the city of Pensacola for infrastructure enhancements to the Pensacola International Airport through the Florida Job Growth Grant Fund. The Governor was joined by Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO) Executive Director Ken Lawson and Enterprise Florida Inc. (EFI) President and CEO Jamal Sowell. “Pensacola has worked for years to bring the aviation maintenance and repair industry back to the city like it once was years ago,” said Governor DeSantis. “This investment in Pensacola International Airport’s infrastructure will allow them to support a significant expansion of state-of-the-art hangars and other development so the city can finally reach their goal.”

The funding will assist with the construction of necessary taxiways, ramps and flatwork so that the airport can support additional Maintenance, Repair and Overhaul (MRO) facilities and other development. In particular, the new infrastructure will allow the Airport to support ST Engineering’s plan to build one of the biggest MRO operations in North America. ST Engineering’s plan, known as “Project Titan,” will bring three additional MRO hangars to the Airport and create over 1,300 new jobs.

Once fully complete, the state-of-the-art maintenance campus will consist of four aviation repair hangars, office buildings, warehouse facilities, supporting aprons and other site developments. The expansion of Pensacola Airport and this MRO campus would not be possible without the collaboration of many stakeholders. Significant investment has been made through previous state investments, from the private sector, Florida Department of Transportation, Escambia County, Triumph Gulf Coast and others.

“Governor DeSantis has led the state of Florida in making smart, strategic investments to diversify our economy,” said DEO Executive Director Ken Lawson. “Investing in the necessary improvements to make the Pensacola International Airport more accessible for industry development makes sense. Not only does the investment in the aerospace and aviation industry provide Pensacola with another avenue to support their workforce, it also keeps Florida on the list as one of the most industry diverse states in the nation.”

Photo Credit: Governor’s Press Office
Airport Members in the News

Airport’s Clara Bennett Chamber’s latest “Diamond”

Boca Raton Airport executive director Clara Bennett got a standing O at Boca Chamber’s 2020 Diamond Award luncheon.

The 14th annual honor recognizes a professional woman in south Palm Beach County who contributes significantly to the community.

“She’s a leader’s leader. Kind. You don’t have to watch your back,” 2019 honoree Ethel Isaacs Williams said to introduce her. “In the words of Maya Angelou, she’s a ‘phenomenal woman.’”

Bennett was “instrumental” in the new U.S. Customs facility, among her achievements Chamber CEO president Troy McClellan said.

He called her a “soaring example” of excellence, a nod to the airport’s slogan “helping our community soar.”

The Pearl Award for future leaders went to Rhea Jain, a graduating senior at Pine Crest School. Part of the Chamber’s YEA! Program for young entrepreneurs, she launched Renoosh, a line of fashions for petites. “We’re ready to open our online store,” she announced at Friday’s luncheon attended by 230 people at the Greater Boca Raton Resort & Club.

Also taking a bow were the Chamber’s former Diamond honorees. They included Chamber chair-elect Jackie Reeves, former chamber chairs Cheryl Budd and Susan Saturday and Mary Sol Gonzalez. Also Yvonne Boice, Barbara Camba, Mary Wong, Victoria Rixon and Rocki Rockingham.

Eight women have chaired the chamber since 1977 and 10 of 13 key members are women, McClellan noted.

Around the Nation

GAO report finds airport infrastructure funding gap

The Government Accountability Office released a report on airport infrastructure funding and financing showing the average annual infrastructure needs for airports will be approximately $22 billion between FY 2019 and FY 2023.

The GAO report also said that airports received an average of $14 billion annually for capital projects between FY 2013 and 2017, leaving a significant funding gap. The report points out that airport infrastructure needs have increased by 19 percent from the previous GAO estimate.

The report indicates that the infrastructure funding gap is having an adverse impact on airports. According to GAO, “some airport officials stated that to address funding challenges, they have deferred some needed infrastructure investments or completed projects in phases, steps that increased construction times and costs.”

GAO also examined funding and financing of foreign airports. The report indicates that the foreign airports it reviewed charge passengers between $9.65 in Helsinki to $58.58 at Heathrow. Meanwhile, airports in the United States are urging Congress to raise the federal cap on local Passenger Facility Charges, which has been stuck at $4.50 since 2000.
Delta commits $1 billion to carbon neutrality

Delta Air Lines announced that, starting March 1, it is committing $1 billion over the next 10 years with a goal of mitigating all emissions from its global business. The airline will invest in driving innovation, advancing clean air travel technologies, accelerating the reduction of carbon emissions and waste, and establishing new projects to mitigate the balance of emissions, Delta said in the announcement.

“There is no substitute for the power that travel has to connect people, which our world needs today more than ever before. As we connect customers around the globe, it is our responsibility to deliver on our promise to bring people together and ensure the utmost care for our environment,” said carrier CEO Ed Bastian.

“The time is now to accelerate our investments and establish an ambitious commitment that the entire Delta team will deliver.”
GREATER ORLANDO AVIATION AUTHORITY

REQUEST FOR STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS (SOQ) FOR SOUTH TERMINAL C - ORIGINAL EQUIPMENT MANUFACTURER FOR PASSENGER BOARDING BRIDGES AND AFFILIATED EQUIPMENT (WS146) AT THE ORLANDO INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

Pursuant to the policies and procedures of the Greater Orlando Aviation Authority ("Aviation Authority"), all interested firms ("Proposers") are invited to submit Statements of Qualifications ("SOQ") to provide Passenger Boarding Bridges ("PBBs") and their affiliated equipment (including Air Handler Units ("AHUs"), PBB Roofing Cooling Unit, Ground Power Units ("GPUs"), PBB Belt Loaders, and Potable Water Cabinets) for South Terminal C – Original Equipment Manufacturer for Passenger Boarding Bridges and Affiliated Equipment at the Orlando International Airport (WS146) ("Project").

Please refer to the Submission Requirements for evaluation criteria and information.

The scope of this Project includes the manufacture and delivery of thirty (30) PBBs and Affiliated Equipment for use at the South Terminal C, Phase I currently under construction at the Orlando International Airport and includes the related warranty and customer service such as commissioning, testing and training services. The successful Proposer will be required to coordinate with other entities including the PBB installation provider and CMAR currently building the South Terminal C. “Affiliated equipment” includes, at a minimum, Air Handler Units, PBB Roofing Cooling Unit, Ground Power Units, Potable Water Cabinets, and PBB Belt Loaders. The Aviation Authority, may, in its own discretion, choose to implement or carry out any portion of the Project Scope, or acquire affiliated equipment from its own sources.

The Pre-Submittal Conference will be held in the Carl T. Langford Boardroom, Greater Orlando Aviation Authority, Orlando International Airport, One Jeff Fuqua Boulevard, Orlando, FL 32827, at 10:00 AM, Eastern Time, on March 2, 2020. The Project Scope; Submission Requirements; Minority and Women Business Enterprise ("MWBE") Participation, Local Developing Business ("LDB") Enterprise Participation, and Veteran Business Enterprise (VBE) Participation Programs for the Statement of Qualifications; other procurement and contracting requirements, and questions from Proposers regarding submissions will be addressed at the Pre-Submittal Conference. All potential Proposers are strongly encouraged to attend the Pre-Submittal Conference either in person or via Webinar Meeting. Webinar instructions will be posted to the Aviation Authority’s website prior to the meeting.

GREATER ORLANDO AVIATION AUTHORITY

NOTICE OF CONTINUING SUSTAINABILITY AND LEED® CONSULTING SERVICES (W413)

ORLANDO INTERNATIONAL AND EXECUTIVE AIRPORTS

Pursuant to Section 287.055, Florida Statutes and the policies and procedures of the Greater Orlando Aviation Authority (the “Authority”), notice is hereby given that Letters of Interest are invited from firms and individuals ("Proposers") to render Continuing Sustainability and LEED Consulting Services (W413) (the “Services") to the Authority at the Orlando International Airport, Orlando Executive Airport and other facilities operated by the Authority (the “Airport”).

The Services include the performance of Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design™ (LEED®) compliance and administration and sustainability directives and related professional services, including but not limited to, Scope: Administration of LEED® for Existing Buildings, Operations and Maintenance (EBOM). Staff support for sustainability initiatives and Sustainability Management Plan administration including annual reporting and all other related services including coordination with the Authority, its Consultants, the City of Orlando and all agencies having jurisdiction over the Airport.

A Pre-Submittal Conference will be held at 11:00 am on March 3, 2020 in the Maintenance Shops Building, Greater Orlando Aviation Authority, Orlando International Airport, 8648 Casa Verde Road, Orlando, FL 32827. The Services Scope, the Submission Requirements, the Minority and Women Business Enterprise (MWBE) Participation, Local Developing Business/Veteran Business Enterprise (LDB/VBE) Participation and Disadvantage Business Enterprise (DBE) Participation Program for the Letters of Interest and questions regarding the Services will be reviewed at the Pre-Submittal Conference.

The Advertisement, Submission Requirements, Exhibits, Addenda, Responses to Inquiries, and Pre-Submittal Conference minutes, will be posted on the Aviation Authority's website at www.orlandoairports.net/airport-business/#business-opportunities