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# AIRMAIL '20



**May 1, 2020**

**Issue 20-09**

## *Gov. DeSantis issues guidelines on Florida's reopening*

*(Source: Gray-Robinson)*

**W**ednesday evening, Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis delivered a press conference in Tallahassee outlining the state's phased reopening "Safe. Smart. Step-by-Step, Plan for Florida's Recovery," which begins Monday, May 4, 2020.

The following will be implemented as Phase 1 of the Recovery Plan:

- Distance learning continues through the end of the academic year
- Elective surgeries can resume
- Restaurants can reopen outdoor dining using social distancing guidelines (6 ft. apart), and indoor dining is allowed at 25% capacity
- Retail stores can reopen at 25% capacity
- Bars, movie theaters, hairdressers, and gyms remain closed
- Visits to senior living facilities remain prohibited
- Essential services and essential activities may continue to be conducted under existing safety guidelines issued by the CDC and OSHA

These relaxed Phase I guidelines do not pertain to Miami-Dade, Broward, or Palm Beach counties (with the exception of the lifting of the prohibition of elective surgeries). The Governor explained those three counties should continue to adhere to the guidelines originally put in place by Executive Orders 20-87 and 20-91, due to the amount of fatalities that have occurred there from the coronavirus. Future allowances for services and activities in those three counties will be considered in consultation with local government leaders

Gov. DeSantis also noted that the most vulnerable populations, including the elderly and those with underlying health conditions, should remain sheltered in place. All individuals, when in public, should maximize their distance from others, and avoid socializing in groups of more than 10 in circumstances that do not allow distancing.

Phase I of Gov. DeSantis' Plan will remain in place until he can determine Phase II Gating Criteria guidelines are met.

Clarifying details regarding Florida's phased reopening were included in Executive Order 20-112. The Governor also issued Executive Order 20-111, effectively extending Executive Orders 20-87 and 20-91 until 12:01 a.m. on Monday, May 4, 2020.

*FAC has posted all relevant Executive Orders on our homepage.*

**Airports:** If you would like your plan to re-open made available on FAC's website, please sent an email to [gina@floridaairports.org](mailto:gina@floridaairports.org).

## [Statement by Senate President Galvano on Governor DeSantis' Safe, Smart, Step-by-Step Plan for Florida's Recovery](#)

Florida Senate President Bill Galvano (R-Bradenton) released the following statement regarding Florida Governor Ron DeSantis' Safe, Smart, Step-By-Step Plan for Florida's Recovery as the state continues to flatten the curve of the coronavirus pandemic.

"The Safe, Smart, Step-By-Step Plan for Florida's Recovery announced today by Governor DeSantis represents a fact-based, strategic and measured approach that responsibly balances the resilient spirit of hardworking Floridians across our state who are eager to return to work with sensible and science-based public health guidelines developed in conjunction with medical professionals.

While no function of government is more important than the safety of the people we serve, it is also imperative that we protect the rights of Floridians to exercise their liberties and earn a living. I was honored to serve on Governor DeSantis' Re-Open Florida Task Force and appreciate the critical work the Governor and his team undertook to develop strategies that will help our fellow Floridians and our economy recover as quickly as possible, while maintaining a focus on public safety as our number one priority.

Floridians have shown great patience and sacrifice in tolerating severe economic hardships and many other inconveniences for the good of others during this unprecedented time. While it appears that the worst of this pandemic is behind us, here in Florida we must remain vigilant in order to avoid any setbacks as we work to re-open our state. I remain confident in Florida's ability to recover and look forward to returning to the quality of life that has made our state the best place to live, work, raise a family, and retire."

## [Around the Nation](#)

### [Hotels prepare to reopen; room revenue lost among U.S. properties tops \\$15 billion](#) (Source: NorthStarmetingsgroup.com)

As some states begin lifting stay-at-home orders and preparing plans to reopen, hotels are readying to welcome guests back. The Rosewood Inn of the Anasazi in Santa Fe, N.M. plans to reopen at the end of the week and is accepting bookings from May 1st and on.

In Maine, Governor Janet Mills has prepared a gradual reopening plan. While the stay-at-home order has been extended to May 31, hotels and bars are expected to open in July as part of the third stage of the state's reopening plan. Meanwhile, several counties in South Carolina are preparing to reopen hotels. Properties in Horry County will reopen on April

30. Georgetown County and North Myrtle Beach will reopen hotel reservations on May 1. In Charleston, S.C., the Avocet Hospitality Group announced plans to bring back more than 100 furloughed hospitality and restaurant workers.

To keep travelers and hotel employees safe, major chains such as Hilton and Marriott have unveiled new cleanliness protocols. The American Hotel & Lodging Association has established a Safe Stay Advisory Council to develop industry-wide cleaning standards.

The economic impact is staggering, with occupancy rates dropping into the single digits across the country. According to the American Hotel and Lodging Association, nearly 3.9 million total jobs have either been eliminated or will be eliminated in the next few weeks. With 70 percent of direct hotel employees laid off or furloughed, hotel workers are losing more than \$2.4 billion in earnings each week.

[Read more....](#)

### [FAA announces AIP grant awards](#)

On April 30<sup>th</sup>, FAA announced the award of \$1.187 billion in airport safety and infrastructure grants to 439 airports. The total includes \$731 million in Airport Improvement Program (AIP) grants and an additional \$455 million in Supplemental Discretionary grants. The money will be available for 100 percent of the eligible costs under the CARES Act. A [complete listing of grants](#) (PDF) and an [interactive map of airports receiving funding](#) is available on the FAA website.



**American Airlines loses \$2.2 billion in first quarter as coronavirus roiled air travel** (Source: AAAE.org)

American Airlines had a loss of more than \$2.2 billion in the first three months of the year — its biggest since 2008 — as the coronavirus pandemic drove down demand for air travel.

American’s revenue dropped nearly 20% from a year earlier to \$8.52 billion, slightly below analyst estimates. The airline’s shares were down more than 3% in afternoon trading.

American, like other airlines is facing a sharp decline in passengers because of Covid-19. U.S. airline travel volumes have dropped by about 95% in recent weeks from a year earlier as travelers stay home because of concerns about the virus and shelter-in-place orders.

U.S. airlines earlier this year, fresh off of their 10th consecutive year of profitability, were expecting further growth in air travel demand. The coronavirus upended those plans, forcing them to park hundreds of planes and cut routes to better match paltry ticket sales.

“Never before has our airline, or our industry, faced such a significant challenge,” American’s CEO, Doug Parker, said in an earnings release.

The company has raced to cut costs, slashing flights, freezing hiring and retiring some jetliners early. In the second quarter it expects to burn through roughly \$70 million in cash a day, which it forecast to fall to about \$50 million a day in June. Close to 39,000 employees have volunteered for unpaid or partially paid leave, Parker said in a staff memo. American had more than 133,000 staff members as of the end of last year.

American is also taking steps to shore up liquidity, which it expects to increase to \$11 billion at the end June, up from \$6.8 billion at the end of the first quarter. It said it can access \$10.6 billion in federal payroll grants and loans under the \$2.2 trillion coronavirus relief package Congress approved last month. The payroll grants prohibit recipients from involuntarily furloughing or cutting the pay rates of any workers through Sept. 30. However, many employees are working fewer hours, meaning smaller paychecks for many workers, because of the reduced flight schedules.

American lost \$2.65 per share on an adjusted basis in the three months ended March 31, compared with a \$185 million profit in the same period last year. The airline took \$744 million in fleet impairment charges as it retires aircraft like its Boeing 757s and 767s ahead of schedule as travel demand drops. It also reported a one-time expense of \$218 million for a new contract with aircraft and fleet maintenance workers.



**DOT IG report validates value of contract towers**

FAA contract towers, which constitute an “essential part” of the National Airspace System because they manage about 28 percent of the nation’s air traffic control operations, are more cost effective than comparable FAA towers and have similar safety records, according to a just-released audit by the DOT Inspector General (IG).

The audit report, requested by the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure and its aviation subcommittee, compared 351 air traffic control towers with similar characteristics, and examined the numbers of takeoffs and landings, types of aircraft handled, and runway configurations.

“We found that between fiscal years 2015 and 2018, contract towers were more cost effective per aircraft handled than comparable FAA towers, and that the safety records of contract and comparable FAA towers were similar,” the audit concluded.

The IG made no recommendations for changes in FAA’s Contract Tower Program in its report .

**DATES TO REMEMBER**

( New ← )

	Location	Date
<b>51st Annual Conference &amp; Exposition</b>	<b>Orlando, FL</b> Hyatt Regency Grand Cypress	<b>July 19-22, 2020</b>
<b>FAA 2020 Southern Regional Airports Conference</b>	<b>Atlanta, GA</b> Click <a href="#">here</a> for additional information	<b>August 10-14, 2020</b>
<b>2020 Education &amp; Training Summit</b>	<b>Embassy Suites Lake Buena Vista South</b> Click <a href="#">here</a> for more information and to register	<b>October 7-9, 2020</b>

Please email [lisa@floridaairports.org](mailto:lisa@floridaairports.org) with calendar updates.

## *Austin airport participating in virtual music festival in May*

The Austin-Bergstrom International Airport is taking part in a virtual music festival during the COVID-19 pandemic. The Austin airport announced on Monday, April 27, it is participating in Jet Stream Music Festival, along with more than 20 other airports across the U.S. Austin's Latin-pop songstress, Gina Chavez, will perform and host the event, according to Austin airport officials.

"Austin is the Live Music Capital of the World. Typically, we have 31 live performances across seven stages in our terminal. Live music and supporting our local artists is who AUS is, even during the difficult times," said Jacqueline Yaft, chief executive officer of Austin-Bergstrom International Airport. "Airports are known for bringing people together, and we want to continue doing so even when you can't travel. Virtual music is a great way to do that."

Florida airports participating includes Fort Lauderdale Hollywood International and Jacksonville International Airports.

"For so many airports across North America, live music entertainment in the terminal has become a fun way to delight and engage passengers," said ACI-NA President and CEO Kevin M. Burke. "Despite the sudden and significant drop in passenger traffic at North America's airports because of the coronavirus health pandemic, this effort by Austin-Bergstrom International Airport and many other North American airports provides a unique opportunity to connect with their passengers. We look forward to hearing these musicians again in airport terminals soon."

The festival will take place on May 6 at 5 p.m. on Facebook. The full lineup for the Festival will be released later this week. For more information — including how to tune in — [click here](#).

## *Socially Distant Airshow raises \$25,000 for airshow community*

The largest aviation event in the world — so far in 2020 — was held online April 21-23, livestreamed over Facebook and YouTube.



The Socially Distant Air Show was a fundraiser for the International Council of Air Shows Foundation to help those who make their living through airshows during the COVID-19 pandemic.

"We just wanted to raise whatever we could to help our family," said Rob Reider, an airshow announcer who joined with other airshow announcers Matt Jolley and Ric Peterson for the three-day event. The three also host a podcast called Show Center.

The idea for the online air show came when the men found themselves out of work as air shows around the country are cancelled and postponed. "When we found ourselves the victims of the coronavirus — as so many others — we thought, 'we're out of work,'" said Reider. "But there are some people in our business who depend on this in a big way. And without work, some of them could be in a world of hurt."

The virtual airshow raised about \$25,000 for the ICAS Foundation.

If you weren't able to catch the airshow live, you're still in luck. All three days of the fundraiser are on [LiveAirShowTV's YouTube channel](#), including all the chat messages that were streamed from viewers around the globe during the airshow. [Read more...](#)

**TSA screened 119,629 passengers on April 29th, which is 95 percent lower than the more than 2.3 million travelers the same day a year ago.**

[See the latest TSA throughput numbers.](#)

**Welcome  
New FAC  
Member!!**

**Shell Creek Airpark**  
Nicole Williams  
Airport Manager  
36880 Washington Loop Road  
Punta Gorda, FL 33982  
(239) 673-8328  
[williams@applicationdynamics.net](mailto:williams@applicationdynamics.net)

## *Around the State*

### *Aerion Supersonic will move global headquarters to Florida*

**G**overnor Ron DeSantis announced Aerion Supersonic will construct a new state-of-the-art campus – Aerion Park – in Melbourne, Florida. Aerion Park will form a new global headquarters and integrated campus for research, design, build and maintenance of the company's supersonic aircraft. The new project involves a multi-year \$300 million investment that is expected to generate at least 675 jobs in Florida by 2026.

"The Space Coast has become a hub for the aviation and aerospace industry, and my administration continues to make it a priority to expand this high-wage and important business sector," said Governor DeSantis. "We are thrilled that Aerion has selected Melbourne for its new global headquarters and look forward to the company's success."

"We are building the next generation of high-speed transportation networks that will revolutionize global mobility without leaving a carbon footprint on our world," said Tom Vice, Aerion Chairman, President & CEO. "Our AS2 business jet – the world's first privately built supersonic aircraft – is the first stage in that exciting endeavor. Having evaluated a number of potential locations for our new home, we are excited to partner with Florida and the Melbourne community to create a sustainable supersonic future."

Over the past decade, Florida's Space Coast executed a successful strategy to diversify its economy to drive high-wage job creation. Brevard County now leads Florida in manufacturing job growth and is increasingly home to headquarters for some of the most innovative companies in aerospace. The announcement of Aerion Supersonic's integrated campus and long-term investment in Melbourne is a major win for a community looking to emerge from the economic consequences of the COVID-19 crisis.

"Today's announcement is great news for Brevard County," said Jamal Sowell, Florida Secretary of Commerce and EFI president & CEO. "Florida's strong talent pipeline and low tax business climate continue to make it top of mind for businesses looking to relocate. We look forward to Aerion's success as they start a new chapter in the Sunshine State."

***"We are incredibly honored and thrilled to bring this news to our community at a time when it's needed the most," said Greg Donovan, A.A.E., executive director at Orlando Melbourne International Airport.***

"This is a truly transformational project for Florida that changes the game both for high speed air transportation as well for advanced aerospace manufacturing in the state," said Frank DiBello, President and CEO of Space Florida. "The decision to locate manufacturing of this technologically advanced supersonic flight vehicle here in Florida is a testament to the growing strength and global recognition of the importance of Florida as a world-leading aerospace state. Space Florida is pleased to have provided financing, structure and development assistance to this project."

"Brevard County is home to the pioneers of space exploration and now the pioneers of sustainable supersonic transportation." said Economic Development Commission of Florida's Space Coast President and CEO Lynda Weatherman. "Aerion Park raises the profile of the Space Coast as the premier site for the most innovative aerospace companies in the world and is an example of what can be accomplished, even in the most challenging times, when the EDC and its state and local partners work together."

"Governor DeSantis, Space Florida, the Economic Development Commission of Florida's Space Coast, and private industry are actively taking steps to help our community recover from a once-in-a-lifetime pandemic," said Chair of the Brevard County Board of County Commissioners Bryan A. Lober, Esq. "One of the earliest such steps is the introduction of an estimated 675 high-wage jobs to Brevard County in crafting the Aerion AS2 supersonic business jet, which will help solidify not only our economy, but also our reputation as the world's preeminent location for the aerospace industry."

"We are incredibly honored and thrilled to bring this news to our community at a time when it's needed the most," said Greg Donovan, A.A.E., executive director at Orlando Melbourne International Airport (MLB). "We are proud to be the location of the future where Aerion will innovate, create and introduce new technologies and products to the aviation industry worldwide."

[Read more...](#)



## FAC Member News

### Elite Airways plans to resume Vero Beach flights in May as city officials take steps to charge airport fees

Commercial airline service still may be alive at the Vero Beach Regional Airport.

Elite Airways, which was grounded last month when City Council terminated its lease agreement, plans to resume its Vero Beach-Newark, New Jersey, routes May 8. There currently is no way for the city to prohibit Elite from landing or to charge the Maine-based airline to use the airport terminal and facilities.

Doing so could jeopardize the city's federal grant money, said City Attorney John Turner. Officials took the first steps Thursday to establish a common-use fee schedule for designated airline carriers, with the Airport Commission's unanimous recommendation of the proposed resolution.

City Council is expected to consider the same resolution at Tuesday's meeting. Airport commissioners had some reservations about approving the resolution, and complained they had little time to review the document. But time is of the essence, City Manager Monte Falls said, because Elite plans to resume service.

Without any plan in place, the city is unprotected, he said. "If



we don't have an agreement in place, we have no way to charge anyone to use our facility," Falls told airport commissioners.

Under the proposed resolution, commercial airlines such as Elite could apply to be a designated carrier at the airport. Carriers would be required to pay \$2,013.99 in monthly fees, a \$750 ticket counter fee, show proof of insurance and have an account with the city covering three months of fees. The city could draw from that account if the carrier failed to pay fees.

Airlines that failed to meet carrier qualifications would be designated as non-signatory carriers, subject to 30% higher rates, under the resolution. The city could prohibit delinquent airlines from using its terminal facilities but could not stop airlines from landing at the airport, Falls said.

Elite, which has provided passenger service at the airport since 2015, plans to apply for a letter of authorization to become a designated carrier, Falls said. First, the airline would have to settle its outstanding balance owed the city, and establish the three-month draw account, he said.

It will cost Elite \$27,975.85 to become a designated carrier, officials said. That includes \$16,695.95 still unpaid from Elite's agreement, which was in place from January through March, and \$11,279.90 to set up a draw account.

Elite canceled flights in March and April because of COVID-19 concerns.

### Even in trying times, some things never change

**How 6 Hoyle, Tanner & Associates employees are stepping up in their neighborhoods during a pandemic**

With the global pandemic challenging the way we are interacting as a society, some of Hoyle, Tanner & Associates' employees have taken it upon themselves to help their communities in inspiring ways. Though they've admitted they don't think their actions are big or glamorous, we want to acknowledge the wonderful ways they are making big impacts for those in need.

Inspired by one person's drive to collect snacks for Lowell General Hospital, Dave Langlais and his family quickly jumped to action collecting commercially packaged snacks to donate to the doctors and nurses serving on the front line in our hospitals. Nichole Davis, Jeff Collins and Dave then partnered together to collect cookies, crackers, and granola bars, among many other snacks, to spread our gratitude to the front-line workers at Concord Hospital. Collecting hundreds of snacks for these caregivers was a simple way to show continued appreciation as these medical professionals risk their own safety for the wellbeing of others. [Continue reading...](#)

**Hoyle, Tanner & Associates, Inc.**



**Business & Employment  
Opportunities**



**LEGAL NOTICE**  
**Request for Bids 20-53MMW**  
**Passenger Boarding Bridge Replacement for RSW**

The Lee County Port Authority ("Authority") invites all interested and qualified parties to submit a bid pursuant to the above referenced solicitation.

SOLICITATION DOCUMENTS: All documents and instructions for submittal will be available on April 28, 2020 online at <https://flylcpa.ionwave.net/Login.aspx>.

PRE-BID MEETING: A **NON-Mandatory** pre-bid meeting is scheduled for **10:00 AM, Friday, May 08, 2020. Instructions for participation are in the solicitation document.**

RECEIVING AND OPENING: Electronic submissions must be uploaded to IonWave at <https://flylcpa.ionwave.net/Login.aspx>, prior to 2:00 p.m., **Friday, May 29, 2020.**

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES: 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, Melissa Wendel, Procurement Manager, e-mail: [mmwendel@flylcpa.com](mailto:mmwendel@flylcpa.com); telephone (239) 590-4557.

**CONTACT US**

**Business Office**

5802 Hoffner Ave.,  
Suite 708  
Orlando, FL 32822  
Phone: (407) 745-4161

**Governmental Affairs  
Office**

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Suite L103  
Tallahassee, FL 32303  
Phone: (850) 205-5632  
Fax: (850) 222-3019

[www.floridaairports.org](http://www.floridaairports.org)

[info@floridaairports.org](mailto:info@floridaairports.org)

**Request for Bids #20-002**  
**Commercial Terminal Expansion**  
**and Improvements - Phase III**  
**Passenger Boarding Bridges**



**Request for Proposals #20-003**  
**Security Guard Services**

The Gainesville-Alachua County Regional Airport Authority (GACRAA) is soliciting sealed bids for the "Commercial Terminal Expansion and Improvements - Phase III Passenger Boarding Bridges" project. The work shall include the procurement and installation of two new passenger boarding bridges and the refurbishment of select items on the existing three passenger boarding bridges.

Complete sets of bid documents will be available beginning **Wednesday April 29, 2020** at the office of:

AECOM  
7650 W. Courtney Campbell Causeway  
Tampa, Florida 33607  
Attn: Diane Kline  
[diane.kline@aecom.com](mailto:diane.kline@aecom.com)  
Tel: 813.286.1711

A **non-mandatory pre-bid conference** will be held on **Wednesday, May 6, 2020 at 10:00 a.m.** via a teleconference. **Bids are due at 2:00 p.m. Wednesday, May 27, 2020.** For additional information, contact Bill Prange, AECOM at (386) 898-2298 or [bill.prange@aecom.com](mailto:bill.prange@aecom.com).

The Gainesville-Alachua County Regional Airport Authority (GACRAA) is soliciting proposals to **provide Security Guard Services** at the Gainesville Regional Airport. The Gainesville Regional Airport uses licensed Class D Security Officers to fulfill a portion of the security requirements required by the Transportation Security Administration (TSA).

Complete sets of proposal documents will be available beginning **Friday, May 1, 2020**. Copies of the proposal documents may be obtained by emailing Operations Manager, Shaun Blevins at [shaun.blevins@flygainesville.com](mailto:shaun.blevins@flygainesville.com).

**Proposals are due at 3:00 pm, Monday June 15, 2020.**

More information on both notices may be found at [www.flygainesville.com](http://www.flygainesville.com) or by clicking [HERE](#).

**Attention FAC Members:**

If you have business and/or employment opportunities that you would like to see advertised in the Airmail Newsletter, simply send the posting to

[gina@floridaairports.org](mailto:gina@floridaairports.org)