Florida Airports Council 2020 Strategic Plan takes shape

The Board of Directors approved the initiation of the 2020 Strategic Plan Update at the October 17, 2019 Board meeting. The update is guided by a subcommittee of Directors including, Nina MacPherson, Parker McClellan, Luis Olivero, Roy Sieger, Mark Kistler, Chad Rosenstein, James Parish and James Furiosi.

Sachs Media Group facilitated the process, which included a comprehensive survey of members and five highly productive conference calls with subcommittee members and staff. The final report of the Strategic Plan Update was reviewed by the Board of Directors and discussed at their April 24, 2020 Board meeting. The principle updates include:

Updated Mission and Vision statements

MISSION
Our mission is to represent Florida’s airports through a shared vision and unified voice, effective advocacy, and professional development to sustain and enhance the role of airports in Florida’s economy.

VISION
To be the leading voice on statewide airport and aviation issues, serving Florida’s airports and business partners through robust and active member participation.

The updated plan also includes updated goals, tactics and timelines and measures of performance. Strategic goals were reduced from 13 to 7, and Board Champions have been assigned to each to facilitate success. Each Strategic Goal includes several tactics designed to enable success.

⇒ STRATEGIC GOAL 1: Promote policies and funding that enhance the successful operation of Florida’s airports and participate in the legislative process more actively and frequently
  Champions: FAC Chair, Vice Chair and Chair of the Federal Affairs Committee

⇒ STRATEGIC GOAL 2: Leverage the strength of the FAC’s network to build new strategic partnerships
  Champions: Chair, Immediate Past Chair, and Corporate Board Director

⇒ STRATEGIC GOAL 3: Increase the level of professional development of Florida’s airport industry
  Champions: Board Liaisons for the Training and Education Committees

⇒ STRATEGIC GOAL 4: Grow membership and participation in FAC
  Champions: Kerry Keith and Karen Feaster

⇒ STRATEGIC GOAL 5: Enhance the image and reputation of FAC
  Champions: Immediate Past Chair, TBD

⇒ STRATEGIC GOAL 6: Secure and grow FAC’s fiscal strength
  Champions: Secretary/Treasurer, Chad Rosenstein

⇒ STRATEGIC GOAL 7: Grow the aviation talent pool
  Champions: James Furiosi and Mark Cervasio
The draft plan has been forwarded to the Past President’s/Chairman’s Council enabled by the Board at their meeting on August 3, 2019. The Board will review the input received and present the final plan to the membership for consideration. An item has been placed on the August 19th General Membership meeting agenda to discuss the updated plan.

Moving forward, the 2020 Strategic Plan will be reviewed annually with the Board of Directors to monitor progress and adjust, as needed. As a baseline, a full assessment of FAC’s accomplishments under the old Strategic Plan has been performed. Copies of the Draft 2020 Strategic Plan Update and the assessment of past accomplishments can be found on the FAC website, Bulletin Board page (members only section).

**SAVE THE DATE...August 19, 2020 General Membership Meeting**

The FAC Constitution and By-Laws require that the Association hold an annual meeting to discuss the business of the Council.

Under normal circumstances, we have two general membership meetings as part of the Annual Conference each year. This year, we will conduct one general membership meeting virtually, on Wednesday, August 19, 2020 at 12:30 p.m. EST/11:30 p.m. CST.

Visit the FAC website to register or click here.

**Nominate a Florida Airport/Aviation Professional or Corporate Member for special recognition**

Each year, FAC honors airport and corporate members with two awards: the Aviation Leadership Award and the Corporate Eagle (Member of the Year) Award. Nominations can be made by any FAC member and submitted electronically. Under normal circumstances, the awards are presented at the Leadership Luncheon during the Annual Conference and Exposition. However, this year, the 2020 FAC Awards will be presented at the October 7th Awards Luncheon during the Education and Training Summit.

The **Aviation Leadership Award** is presented to a professional or individual that has demonstrated outstanding service and contribution to the Florida aviation/airport community, the Florida Airports Council, the FAC Education Foundation, its Board of Directors, or one or more FAC committees. Membership in FAC is **not** a prerequisite for this award. The **Corporate Eagle (Member of the Year) Award** is presented to a Corporate member or firm that has performed a service or function “above and beyond the call of duty.”

Members interested in submitting a nomination should provide the following information to gina@floridaairports.org on or before Friday, Sept. 4, 2020:

1. Name of Award Nomination
2. Name and title of the Corporate member/firm and/or individual
3. Name and contact information of the FAC Member submitting the nomination
4. Description of why this member/company/individual is being nominated, including specific contributions to the Council and/or Foundation over the last 12 to 24 months

COVID-19: Simulating Airport Challenges & Potential Mitigation Measures

In the current situation with COVID-19, there is no practical experience with how to solve the problem of social distancing. We don’t know what mandates will come next. With simulation, we can play out different scenarios and quickly learn from the results.

In this webinar presented by Hans Dorries, a member of the Training Committee, you will learn how to use computer simulation to understand a new situation and make better decisions.

We will focus on airport terminals and discuss the following:

- Examples of preliminary analysis results related to COVID-19 impacts
- How to use computer simulation for better operational decision-making
- Simulation of hypothetical airport terminal scenarios

The restrictions caused by a COVID-19 have significantly reduced the number of operations at Florida airports. Passenger demand is currently low, and the impact on terminal capacity is not evident. As passenger demand continues to increase, the terminal capacity may reach a saturation point. Passenger demand may reach a point where it is larger than the available terminal capacity under COVID-19 restrictions. Computer simulation helps you identify the trigger points at which the terminal may not meet the passenger demand. In this webinar we will discuss some examples.

Presented By:

Benchmark Data: Measuring Baseline Noise Levels During Low Air Traffic

The COVID-19 pandemic has resulted in a drastic reduction (in some cases over 95%) in air traffic operations at airports around the country. The only other time such extreme conditions occurred was after 9/11 (with three days of a total ground stop). The data gathered during that time period has been used in a number of studies since as an extreme condition comparison point, and serves as our best estimate of what “ambient” noise and air quality levels around airport communities would be in the absence of aircraft activity. The current situation presents an opportunity to collect significantly more data to better understand: 1) how much airport noise and air quality have changed, as compared with a similar “normal” period; 2) how much aircraft noise and air quality have changed in comparison to the total number of airport operations; 3) how much complaint numbers have changed, as compared with a similar “normal” period; 4) correlations between airport operations, noise, air quality, and complaints (number of complaints, time of day, location, frequent vs. first time callers, etc), and how complaints change as operations start to recover. This research will also help airports better understand non-acoustic factors of annoyance, and quality of life issues, which will in turn enable airports to focus on issues they can control or influence in the future, particularly as the industry starts to return to normal operations (the timeline for which is currently unknown).

HMMH has worked with several airports to analyze noise monitoring, air quality, and operations data to address these questions. During this webinar, HMMH will present the preliminary findings from this research and engage participants in a discussion on noise, air quality, complaints and community engagement during COVID.

Presented By:

DATES TO REMEMBER

| FAC General Membership Meeting | Click here to register | August 19, 2020
| This meeting will be conducted virtually and will require registration | 12:30 p.m. EST |
| CFASPP Statewide Meeting | Click here for more information | August 20, 2020 |
| WEBINAR: COVID-19 - Simulating Airport Challenges and Potential Mitigation Measures | Click here for more information | August 20, 2020 |
| WEBINAR: Benchmark Data - Measuring Baseline Noise Levels During Low Air Traffic | Click here for more information | August 25, 2020 |
| 2020 Education & Training Summit | Embassy Suites Lake Buena Vista South | October 7-9, 2020 |
| Click here for more information | |
| FAA 2020 Southern Regional Airports Conference | Atlanta, GA | April 5-8, 2021 |
| Click here for additional information | (New Dates) |

Please email lisa@floridaairports.org with calendar updates.
FAC initiates statewide effort to address aviation fuel contamination

The FAC General Aviation Committee and FAC leadership have initiated a major effort to address an important industry safety issue - fuel contamination and specifically Diesel Exhaust Fluid.

The scope of FAC’s effort is broad and intended to call attention to the issue, educate airports, users, fuel providers and community leaders about the safety concerns and how to avoid fuel contamination. FAC is working closely with our industry partners at NATA, NBAA, FAA and FABA to develop a program of Operational Best Management Practices that all Florida airports and fuel providers can add to their training programs. If you would like to get involved in this effort, please reach out to the GA Committee Chair, Scott Kohut at scott@bocaairport.com or by phone at 561-391-2202, ext. 212 or lisa@floridaairports.org.

Northwest Florida Beaches International Airport adds 250 seats with new terminal

The Northwest Florida Beaches International Airport continues to expand after adding a new terminal that recently opened.

The project has been in the works for the last six months and the terminal provides additional space that the airport needed. It has added around 250 extra seats in the terminal and two new gates; gate six and seven.

The airport held a ribbon cutting ceremony to celebrate the new terminal. Even with COVID-19 seemingly grinding a lot of things to a halt, ECP has been seeing increases in flights compared to when the pandemic started.

"Nationally it’s being reported that they’re down 70% from 2019, our numbers are down about 43%,” said Parker McClellan, executive director of the airport. “As I look at July, I think you’re going to see a significant improvement in those numbers and we think the destinations of Panama City Beach and South Walton are attractions to our passengers.”

Once the passenger traffic recovers, ECP is prepared to add flights and destinations with the new terminal.

The new terminal cost about $5.8 million and was paid for with help from the Federal Aviation Administration and the state of Florida. It’s a modular facility, which reduced cost compared to building an addition to the building, according to McClellan.

If the terminal had to be moved, it has the capability to do so. It would cost money to do it, but if the airport continues to expand and officials needed to move the terminal they could.

Dan Rowe, president of Visit Panama City Beach, said he was really excited about the new terminal. Rowe said he believes the expanding airport will continue to help the local economy.

“It used to be for years the sidewalks would roll out on Memorial Day and Labor Day, but the airport has helped to demonstrate that this is a very vibrant destination 12 months out of the year,” Rowe said. “It also helps drive our other economic development in the community. To be able to develop new products to diversify our economy and having all the major carriers flying into our airport.”

Rowe added that there was an 85% drop in business in the month of April, but as soon as the beaches opened back up, people have been coming back. According to Rowe, the summer has been busy, just not as busy as usual.

There will be continued improvements to the terminal, which will include a possible concession area. The pandemic put things on pause, but ECP is prepared to bring something to the board next month.

Successful back to school supply drive held at the Boca Raton Airport

For the third year in a row, the Boca Raton Airport Authority, along with Airport tenants, including Signature Flight Support, Reliable Jet Maintenance, Atlantic Aviation, Fairfield Inn and Suites, Boca Aircraft Maintenance and Privaira collected school supplies for the Spirit of Giving Network’s Back to School Bash.

“This year, with the help of our Airport Tenants and the local community, we were able to fill eleven boxes with supplies. We are excited to share that we received more supplies than in the previous two years,” said Boca Raton Airport Authority (BRAA)
Executive Director Clara Bennett. "With the current COVID-19 situation, and the uncertainty of what the 2020-2021 school year will look like, it is important to provide students with the tools they need to succeed this year. The Boca Raton Airport and our tenants are proud to support Spirit of Giving in achieving this goal."

Some of the school supplies collected include paper, notebooks, pencils, pens, crayons, markers, glue sticks, backpacks, socks and personal hygiene products. These items will be used to prepare backpacks, which will be distributed to students in need. Spirit of Giving originally planned to host the Back to School Bash, a drive through distribution event for families, on Saturday, August 1st, but due to Hurricane Isaias that event was cancelled.

Spirit of Giving Network, Inc. is a registered 401(c)(3) nonprofit that serves children and families in Palm Beach County. Their vision is to create more unified, vibrant communities. The Spirit of Giving has two signature projects during the year, the Holiday Gift Drive and the Community Back to School Bash.

Lindy Harvey, Spirit of Giving Executive Director, stated that last year they provided over 4,000 children in Southern Palm Beach County with backpacks full of supplies to begin the school year. Due to COVID-19 they know the need this year will be even greater and are committed to getting all the supplies the children need to start the new school year with some normalcy. Ms. Harvey stated they anticipate distributing over 10,000 backpacks this year.

Spirit of Giving is always looking for donations and volunteers. Please visit their website to learn about available opportunities. www.spiritofgivingnetwork.com.

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**ATTENTION:** FAC Operations Committee Members,

To maintain compliance with Part 139, ARFF firefighters must participate in at least one live-fire drill every 12 consecutive calendar months. Since some cities and counties are prohibiting travel due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Operations Committee would like to gather some information on how airports are planning to comply with the annual live-fire drill requirements for ARFF. Please click on the link below to provide your feedback.

Live Fire Training Requirements for ARFF

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**FDOT announces next Florida Aviation Professionals Academy training course**

The Florida Department of Transportation Aviation Office is pleased to announce the next iteration of the Florida Aviation Professionals Academy (FAPA) course, FAPA 2020! After a successful Spring course in March, the Fall FAPA course is scheduled for Tuesday, November 17, 2020 and Wednesday, November 18, 2020 at the Tallahassee International Airport (TLH), Airport Observation Room located at 3300 Capital Cir SW, Tallahassee, Florida 32310.

FAPA provides relevant academic and technical knowledge to airports, FDOT staff, and other professionals regarding FDOT aviation office processes, policies, and operations including:

- The foundation for new personnel in understanding aviation processes, policies, and requirements within Florida
- Assistance in helping personnel transition into new roles related to working with FDOT
- Skill enhancement relevant to job specific duties and responsibilities

Please complete your registration no later than Monday, November 2, 2020 by going to [https://cvent.me/YgRoKA](https://cvent.me/YgRoKA)

If you have any questions, please reach out to Nick Harwell at nick.harwell@dot.state.fl.us

or by phone at (850) 414-4510
**House approves spending bill for DOT**

The House on Friday approved a minibus appropriations package that includes the fiscal year 2021 spending bill for DOT, almost $6.4 billion for airport infrastructure, and a $2.8 million plus-up for FAA’s Contract Tower Program.

The bill provides $3.35 billion for the traditional AIP and $500 million for supplemental discretionary grants. It also includes an additional $2.5 billion for airport infrastructure, which partially reflects the authorized funding in a separate Democratic infrastructure bill that the House passed earlier in July.

Among other provisions, the measure would require airline, Amtrak and transit passengers to wear face masks during the COVID-19 pandemic.

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**New Toolkit helps Americans travel responsibly, confidently**

(Source: Northstartravelgroup.com)

The travel industry is encouraging travelers to do their part by traveling responsibly so they and others can do so confidently amid the coronavirus pandemic. The U.S. Travel Association has launched a new Travel Confidently Toolkit featuring industry guidance for promoting the health and safety of all travelers, including enhanced sanitation, redesigned public spaces, improved health screening measures and much more.

“Travelers also have a responsibility,” U.S. Travel stated. “They must adopt new travel practices and follow science-based guidelines to help protect the health of their family and those around them, including fellow travelers and industry employees.” When travel businesses, residents and travelers all do their part, Americans can travel confidently.”

U.S. Travel also published a short video highlighting some of the elevated safety measures travel businesses have already implemented as well as the steps travelers must take to protect themselves and others. Travelers are highly encouraged to wear a face mask in indoor spaces and when social distancing isn’t possible and to wash their hands regularly. Many places, including airports, hotels and restaurants have rolled out contactless check-in and payment systems and have also added hand sanitizing stations to make disinfecting even easier.

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**A life well lived - Emily Howell Warner**

Emily Warner was a trailblazer for American female aviators.

Emily Howell Warner, was the first woman to be a permanent pilot for a major American airline in 1973. In 1976, she became the first female captain and eventually commanded the first all-women commercial flight crew. Warner died July 3, 2020. She was 80 years old.

*Click here* to watch a video honoring her accomplishments.

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**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.