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AIRMAIL '20



December 22, 2020

Issue 20-19

AROUND THE STATE

[House Speaker Sprowls announces COVID-19 protocols and committee assignments](#)

In a December 18th letter to House members, Speaker Sprowls announced specific measures that will be in place during committee weeks to comply with public health guidelines. In late February, the Speaker plans to announce protocols for the regular session that begins March 2nd. 2021 Committee weeks are: ***Weeks of January 11th & 25th, February 1st, 8th, & 15th.***

The protocols related to mitigating the risk of COVID-19 include an alternating schedule that will result in a more condensed committee schedule by reducing the number of days Members will need to be in Tallahassee, specific room sanitation procedures, smart space management to allow proper distancing, limitations regarding audience seating during meetings, access to house spaces, and more.

The memo recommends that Members and House employees use conference calls and virtual meetings as alternatives to in-person meetings and to take advantage of the testing that's available. A negative COVID-19 test is a prerequisite for access to House spaces and masks are required when around others. Speaker Sprowls' 4-page memo is posted on the FAC State Affairs Committee page.

The Speaker also announced several important committee appointees:

- ⇒ **Appropriations** - Chair Jay Trumbull (R-6/Panama City), Vice Chair Lawrence McClure (R-58/Plant City)
 - Infrastructure & Tourism Appropriations Subcommittee - Chair Jayer Williamson (R-3/Pace) Vice Chair Bob Rommel (R-106/Naples)
- ⇒ **Agriculture & Resources Subcommittee** - Chair Josie Tomkow (R-39/Auburndale) Vice Chair James Buchanan (R-74/North Port)
- ⇒ **Commerce** - Chair Blaise Ingoglia (R-35/Spring Hill) Vice Chair Brad Drake (R-5/DeFuniak Springs)
 - Tourism, Infrastructure & Energy Subcommittee - Chair Brad Drake (R-/DeFuniak Springs), Vice Chair Chip LaMarca (R-93/Lighthouse Point)
- ⇒ **Rules** - Chair Paul Renner (R-24/Palm Coast) Vice Chair Chuck Clemons (R-21/Jonesville)
- ⇒ **Ways & Means Committee** - Chair Bobby Payne (R-19/Palatka), Vice Chair Adrian Zika (R-37/Land O'Lakes)

We hope everyone has a wonderful holiday season and a happy new year!

FAC's Offices will be closed December 24th, 25th, and January 1st

[FAC organizing virtual State Affairs Fly-In](#)

Mark your calendars and save the date - the Council is working hard to coordinate virtual meetings to advocate for Florida airport priorities with House and Senate members in compliance with public health guidelines. Meetings are being scheduled during committee weeks and throughout the session. Airport members will be invited to ALL conference or virtual meetings scheduled with their elected representative - just like we do during the in-person Fly-In.

An informational virtual conference is planned for February 23rd and February 24th, 2021, the week before the legislative session begins. Virtual meetings will be held in the afternoon and will include sessions featuring FDOT Secretary Thibault, Enterprise and Visit Florida, and FL DEP representatives, just to name a few. Stay tuned via the FAC website under "Upcoming Events."

All Members - Please refer to the FAC Legislative Priorities posted on the State Affairs Committee webpage. A few changes have been made since the December 15th call.

[On-site COVID-19 testing service arrives at FLL](#)

On Wednesday, December 9th the Broward County Aviation Department (BCAD) began offering COVID-19 testing at Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport (FLL) as an additional amenity for the traveling public. The opening of FLL's on-site testing service comes as more international and domestic destinations require travelers to present a negative COVID-19 test as part of their entry requirements and/or submit to quarantine restrictions.



"We recognize this is an amenity that's in demand by our patrons due to destination requirements, and by giving passengers the option to get tested at FLL, we're hoping this will be another opportunity to boost consumer confidence in flying," said Mark Gale, CEO/Director of Aviation. "The testing offered will be available to all airline passengers flying from FLL."

BCAD is partnering with Miramar-based Spirit Airlines and Nomi Health of Utah on the testing service as a way to support a safer and healthier travel experience for airport guests and employees. The Nomi Health-operated service will be located pre-security in Terminal 3, on the lower level near baggage claim. Initial operating hours of the site will be 7AM to 9PM daily.

[More...](#)

[FDOT & FAC discussing funding options for emerging commercial service airports](#)

Over the past several years, FAC has been working with FDOT to consider how to best support emerging commercial service airports. The transition from GA to CS can be economically challenging since current policy limits FDOT's flexibility to support projects at alternate funding levels during the transition. Once an airport reaches the 10,000-boarding threshold, the airport designation and funding classification changes and reduces the state match from 80% to 50%.

In 2019, FAC formed an Ad Hoc Committee to examine the issue and recommend potential policy changes that would be transparent, uniform, and consistent with the State's goal of growing economic development and commercial air service opportunities. The Board considered a more aggressive approach and specific language earlier this year, but because of the financial strain on FDOT regarding 2021 budget challenges, the FAC Executive Committee has taken a slower approach.

Just this month, FAC initiated a poll of commercial service airports regarding a language change proposed by FDOT that would not require legislative action and that might be considered a first step in the right direction. The pole asked.... "In order to allow District Office flexibility regarding project funding at emerging commercial service airports, FAC is considering the support of an internal change to FDOT's funding formula. This change would support State funding of projects at nonprimary airports (those with 2,500 to 10,000 annual passenger enplanements) up to 80%. The current policy limits State project funding at nonprimary airports to 50%."

To date, only 6 of our 20 commercial service airports have shared their opinion. If you wish to share your input, commercial service airport or GA, please feel free to send an email to lisa@floridaairports.org.

FAC requests COVID-19 vaccine priority for Florida airport workers

In a letter to the Florida Surgeon General, Dr. Rivkees, on December 21st, FAC Chairman Luis Olivero requested that the Florida vaccine implementation plan prioritize the 1.4 million Florida airport workers during the next phase of the vaccine program. Since the pandemic began, airports have remained open and have continued to provide essential services, such as emergency response, supply-chain support, and critical transportation services for travelers, businesses, and cargo operators.

Aviation will play an increasingly crucial role in supporting the social and economic recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic, through the movement of goods - including the distribution of the vaccines - as well as facilitating the increasing number of people who will be traveling in the coming months. A strong rebound of the travel industry will undoubtedly be crucial to returning the state's tourism industry to the thriving business it was pre-COVID-19.

Other affiliated industries have submitted similar letters to Florida's Governor and Congress. A copy of the FAC letter can be found on the State Affairs committee webpage.

Naples Airport Authority initiates RED Program

Kudos to Chris Rozansky and the Naples Airport Authority for initiating the Remember Everyone Deployed program recently.

R.E.D was created to show solidarity and support for deployed service members every Friday until they return home to their families. The goal is to carry the message to national levels, serve the military community and help their families by showing them that they are never forgotten. It is the sole mission of Remember Everyone Deployed to unite all Americans who support this cause and have the entire United States wearing RED on Fridays.

Naples Airport employees were given a red polo with the **R.E.D** logo on it and asked to wear them on Fridays in support of the program.

Thank You APF for your strong support of those that make America Strong!

Click here
to learn more...



Welcome To FAC!!

Carrabelle Thompson Airport
Courtney Dempsey, Administrator
1206 Highway 98 E
Carrabelle, FL 32322
(850) 697-3618
caabx13@gmail.com

Florida economists see budget shortfall despite uptick in projected cash

(Source: JB Lobby Team/PoliticoFlorida.com)

(December 21, 2020)

Higher-than-anticipated growth in Florida's main budget account in recent months isn't enough to ward off the state's economic strains under the pandemic, economists laid out in new projections Monday. Despite some pep in the economy, legislators will likely have to grapple with a \$1.9 billion budget shortfall.

The numbers: State economists projected general revenue tax collections for the current fiscal year and 2021-22 would be \$1.48 billion and \$623 million higher, respectively, than what was anticipated back in August. However, they pointed out part of this increase was tied to a burst of spending that occurred after the lifting of lockdowns imposed at the height of the pandemic. "You saw a lot of pent-up demand being released," Amy Baker, coordinator for the Office of Economic and Demographic Research, said in an interview.

Baker explained that economists were "banking" increased tax collections that have occurred in the last six months, but they were wary of projecting a similar growth rate in the year to come — especially with signs of a resurgence in coronavirus infections. "It's really saying that while we have confidence to put in place what we have already been seeing, we don't have as much confidence changing our forecast going forward," Baker said.

The governor's stake: These December general revenue estimates are crucial for Gov. Ron DeSantis because he must rely on them when he puts together his formal budget recommendations that he must present to state legislators ahead of the 2021 session that starts in March. Holger Ciupalo, who works for DeSantis' Office of Planning and Budget,

quarreled with Baker and other economists over the numbers during their public meeting to hash out the estimate. Even after a consensus was reached on Monday, Ciupalo quipped "I think all the numbers are wrong."

Budget woes: Back in September, Baker told state legislators they were confronting a likely \$2.7 billion budget shortfall for the 2021-22 fiscal year that will begin July 1, 2021. Florida had a roughly \$92 billion budget for 2020-21 but its economy collapsed this spring due to pandemic's devastating impact on the state's tourism industry. The only reason that the budget shortfall wasn't worse was because of \$5.8 billion in assistance that Congress sent to Florida as part of a coronavirus relief package.

General revenue — which consists of sales taxes, as well as corporate income taxes — is one of the biggest building blocks for the state budget. The revised estimates for general revenue adopted Monday do help mitigate the shortfall, but the economic fallout of Covid-19 has triggered a spike in the number of people enrolling in Medicaid. The number of people in the safety net program has surged 16.5 percent this year and enrollment is expected to grow again in the next year. The increased Medicaid costs are offsetting some of the projected revenue gains, potentially leaving legislators to bridge a shortfall with budget cuts.

What's next: DeSantis must submit his budget recommendations for the coming fiscal year by the end of January. State economists will then draw up a new round of general revenue estimates in March that will be used by Florida legislators as they write a new budget.

Florida Revenue Estimating Conference meets December 9th regarding Transportation Revenue forecast

The Revenue Estimating Conference met on December 9, 2020, to consider the forecast of revenues flowing into the State Transportation Trust Fund (STTF). Including the estimates for FY 2020-21, overall revenues to the STTF during the work program period ending in FY 2025-26 were increased by \$82.3 million or about 0.3 percent.

DATES TO REMEMBER

(New )

	Location	Date
FAA 2020 Southern Regional Airports Conference	Atlanta, GA Click here for additional information	April 5-8, 2021 (New Dates)
2021 FAC Education & Training Summit	SAVE THE DATE	April 13-15, 2021
2021 FAC Annual Conference & Exposition	SAVE THE DATE	July 18-21, 2021

Please email lisa@floridaairports.org with calendar updates.

For revenues from fuel taxes, the overall forecast was shaped by recent changes in all of the following: decreased consumption of motor fuel and other fuels (diesel, aviation and off-highway fuel) related to the effects of the Coronavirus outbreak and the associated lower economic expectations going forward; the projected fuel tax rates; technological advancements in fuel efficiency and the implementation of the Corporate Average Fuel Economy (CAFE) Standards; and aviation fuel refund activity. The projection for revenues from all types of fuel was decreased by -\$8.4 million or -0.1 percent over the entire work program. Within the total for fuel-related taxes, Highway Fuel Sales Tax and the SCETS fuel tax were both raised in the later years of the new forecast, producing a combined increase of \$42.1 million for

the work program period.

This increase was offset by a decrease to the Aviation Fuel Tax of -\$42.6 million, or -50.1 percent. Revenues from Fuel Use Tax and Off-Highway Sales Tax were also decreased relative to the previous forecast, while the Natural Gas Fuel Tax forecast was slightly increased. A fallout of some of the other forecast changes, the Local Option Distribution over the work program was reduced by -\$3.5 million or -1.2 percent over the prior forecast. Finally, the forecast for the Rental Car Surcharge was decreased by -\$45.7 million, or -6.0 percent. This reduction resulted primarily from the impact to tourism caused by the ongoing Coronavirus pandemic. Over the longer run, the increased use of alternatives to rental cars such as ride sharing services, destination-provided

shuttles, and increased remote work options come more into play. The forecasts for motor vehicle license and registration-related fees were previously adopted by the Highway Safety Licenses and Fees Conference held December 4, 2020.

In this work program period, receipts to the STTF from motor vehicle related licenses and fees were increased by \$139.9 million or 1.7 percent over the entire work program. Motor Vehicle Licenses are up \$41.1 million, Initial Registrations are up \$70.6 million, Title Fees are up \$33.6 million, and Motor Carrier Compliance Penalties are down by -\$1.5 million over the work program period. The related transfers to the General Revenue Fund during the 2020-21 fiscal year were increased by \$3.9 million or 11.2 percent.

AROUND THE NATION

From our partners at ACI - NA: Senate passes COVID-19 relief package

Late Monday night, the Senate passed the latest COVID-19 Relief Package by a vote of 91 - 7. The bill now heads to the President's desk to be signed into law. You can view the 5,593 page \$1.4 trillion FY21 omnibus bill, which includes the \$900 billion coronavirus supplemental and accompanying reports [HERE](#). The bill includes \$2 billion of additional emergency funding for airports, \$400 million of supplemental funding for the Airport Improvement Program (AIP), \$840 million in supplemental funding to maintain Customs and Border Protection (CBP) officer staffing, and the protection of Transportation Security Administration (TSA) programs slated for elimination in the administration's budget request. The bill would provide airports \$2 billion in general fund revenue available to them until September 30, 2021, with specific instruction that the funds be directed to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the COVID-19 pandemic under the conditions outlined below. Certain conditions also apply and the new funds would be divided as follows:

- **PRIMARY AIRPORTS:** Not less than \$1.75 billion set aside for primary and cargo airports for costs related to operations, cleaning, sanitization, janitorial services, combating the spread of pathogens at the airport, and debt service payments. The FAA would distribute the funds first using AIP passenger and cargo entitlement formulas (double entitlements, no PFC giveback, no maximum ceiling), and then based on enplanements.
- **CONCESSIONS:** Not less than \$200 million would be set aside for primary airports that provide rent and minimum annual guarantee (MAG) relief to on-airport car rental, on-airport parking, and in-terminal airport concessions from the date of enactment. The FAA would distribute the funds to airports based on enplanements, provided that airports give a commensurate amount of rent/MAG relief to their concessionaires (to the extent practicable and permissible under state laws, local laws, and applicable trust indentures) based on their relative size at the airport. The provision also directs airports to prioritize relief to minority-owned businesses. Certain on-airport concessions that received assistance from the Small Business Administration for rent or MAG payments would not be eligible. Airports may retain up to two-percent of their allocation for administration of the rent/MAG relief.
- **GENERAL AVIATION AIRPORTS:** Up to \$45 million would be set aside for general aviation airports for costs related to operations, cleaning, sanitization, janitorial services, combating the spread of pathogens at the airport, and debt service payments. \$5 million of this amount would be directed towards non-primary airports in the contract tower program, while the rest would be distributed based on the categories published in the most recent National Plan of Integrated Airport Systems report.

ACI thanks all airports and organizations that joined the effort.

From our partners at AAAE: U.S. Government releases Runway to Recovery Guidance & FAA Policy on Revenue Use for Health Screening Programs

On December 21st, a U.S. Government interagency group released, **"Runway to Recovery: The United States Framework for Airlines and Airports to Mitigate the Public Health Risks of Coronavirus" [r20.rs6.net]** (Version 1.1), an updated guidance document developed jointly by the U.S. Departments of Transportation (DOT), Homeland Security (DHS), and Health and Human Services (HHS). The document, originally released in July, includes the U.S. Government's new and updated guidance to airports and airlines for implementing measures to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 during air travel. The revised document specifically recognizes the value of COVID-19 testing programs for reducing the spread of COVID-19 and provides a recommended framework for implementing a testing program as part of a broader, multi-layered strategy.

In addition, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) **released an update [r20.rs6.net]** to its existing guidance to permit airports to use their revenue to cover the costs of health screening programs or activities, including COVID-19 testing programs, under certain conditions. This is a shift from FAA's current policy where the agency indicated that the use of revenue for public health screenings is generally not permitted. As AAAE had requested in its comments to FAA earlier this month, FAA emphasized that airports may voluntarily choose to undertake health screenings in order to jump start a recovery, but such programs are not mandatory.

Collectively, the updates from the interagency group and FAA are part of a broader effort of the federal government, working with industry and international authorities, to provide airports with a framework for health screening programs and to promote a recovery in air travel.

Business & Employment Opportunities



Position Title: AIRPORT MANAGER
Position No.: 20-0037
Salary Range: \$41,846.90 - \$68,494.93

The City of Lake City is accepting applications for the position of Airport Manager at the Lake City Gateway Airport. This is administrative and technical management work requires independent judgment and a high degree of responsibility performing functions and activities necessary for the effective operation and development of the City's Airport. The position has the responsibility for coordinating and supervising the activities and growth of the City's Airport.

Ideal candidate will have the ability to develop and implement airport operational policies and procedures to ensure the efficient operation and optimum safety and security of all facilities under the jurisdiction of the City. This candidate will be able to successfully develop, direct, and coordinate major programs and functions of the Fixed Base Operations (FBO) emergency coordination, airfield management, methods and procedures, duty management, terminal management, noise abatement, special projects and other activities as assigned; is responsible for the selection, training, supervision, and evaluation of subordinate personnel. The ideal candidate will have the ability to create and guide the implementation of capital improvement plans and programs as well as Coordinates business affairs with airport tenants, analyzes pricing trends for rate setting, recommends lease terms drafts professional services agreements, reviews and recommends proposals.

Minimum Qualifications:

Applicant have graduated from an accredited college or university with a Bachelor's degree in Public or Business Administration or a field relating to the area of supervision. Applicant must have at least four (4) years of experience in a related field. Any equivalent combination of education, training, and experience may be substituted.

Applicants can apply online at www.lcfla.com or applications may be obtained from and returned to Human Resources, City Hall, 205 N Marion Avenue, Lake City, FL 32055.

**The City of Lake City is an EEO/AA/ADA/VP employer.
 Women and Minorities are Encouraged to Apply.**

THIS VACANCY WILL CLOSE ON FRIDAY, JANUARY 8, 2021 at 4:30PM

Position: Director, Maintenance
Department: Maintenance

<https://www.indeed.com/job/directormaintenance-1676d70861fc5956>



The Orlando Sanford International Airport (OSIA) is an FAA Part 139 Certificated Airport that serves domestic and international airlines. The Sanford Airport Authority (SAA), which owns and operates the airport, is comprised of 3000 acres of land, over 10 million square feet of paved roads/taxiways/runways/aprons, and supports over two hundred tenants comprised of businesses and private and corporate aircraft. This staff position will join the SAA approximate 100 staff team to carry out the airport's safe and efficient operation. The maintenance obligation performed by the SAA team is essential to meeting the overall mission of owning and operating a safe and efficient airport that satisfies the needs of all airport tenants, which then generates transportation, jobs, and economic benefit to the region.

SCOPE:

This position manages the approximate twenty-five maintenance department staff responsible for the care of airport property performance, grounds, pavements, and some facility assets. Including functions to respond to requests for maintenance, repairs, and construction projects, oversee and develop the software-based work order system, supervise and direct the activities of grounds and facilities team members. The critical aspect of this position is to plan the routine maintenance to sustain the airport's safety and efficiency.

ESSENTIAL DUTIES:

- Manages the Sanford Airport Authority Maintenance Department to ensure the airfield, airport grounds, tenant facilities, and Authority equipment are maintained in a safe, reliable, and operational condition.
- Receive, review, and prioritize all requests for maintenance or repairs, including lighting systems, pavements (airfield, lots, roads), grounds, airfield, and roads markings, signage, and any of the airport tenant buildings that require the airport to maintain certain parts of the building according to the lease agreement.
- Create and maintain all pertinent building records of completed and anticipated maintenance and items. Manage the department's expenditures consistent with the budget parameters previously planned, and manage all procurement associated with the budget.
- Plan and assign team members and contractors duties, ensuring that all comply with Building Codes, 14 CFR FAA Part 139 or 49 FAA CFR Part 1542, as applicable to maintain airport according to regulations and tenant obligations. Read and review plans and blueprints.
- Develop departmental operating budgets for Maintenance, conduct the associated procurement of goods and services, and monitor these expenditures, and complete approvals for payment of these obligations.
- Plan, organize, and manage all maintenance department obligations through subordinate supervisors and administrative staff to ensure effective planning and execution of Airport asset life cycle maintenance and help establish infrastructure management standards. Work with the management team to develop capital improvement project budgets.
- Proactively monitor conditions in and around the Airport to ensure regulatory compliance and safety. Orchestrate ongoing preventative maintenance tasks by staff and special assignments as required.
- Interact with vendors, contractors, and team members, in determining the extent of project requirements and expectations. Work with other larger airport construction project management staff to coordinate the interface with other airport grounds and facilities while keeping functionality.
- Participate in the interviewing of maintenance staff candidates, then manage the training of new hires. Provide consistent technical oversight, direction, and mentoring, of the maintenance team, both as a department and individually. Evaluate performance, conduct counseling, cross-training, and coaching to employees. Inspire and maintain a harmonious team and employer relations focused on the airport mission.
- Review safety procedures with team members and ensure procedures are followed, and appropriate PPE is used. Report immediately on any workplace accidents. Ensure team members are aware and operate in compliance with Airport security restrictions and TSA procedures.
- Work cohesively with the airport management team in planning and decision making. Interact harmoniously with tenants and the general public at the highest customer service level.

OTHER DUTIES:

- Optimize the daily maintenance operations as required to maintain productive workflow to meet schedules and quality requirements
- Plan and manage time off maintenance staff consistent with the demands of meeting the airport maintenance performance objectives and ongoing responsibilities.
- Create scope of work and specifications documents to use in the procurement of services and materials.
- Perform other related duties as assigned.

TOOLS AND EQUIPMENT USED:

Use computer and computer systems, common office equipment, including Microsoft Office and other applications, maintenance work order software, vehicle, equipment, and radio systems.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- Minimum of five years related full-time management or supervisory experience in facility maintenance, construction management, technical trade, engineering, or construction.; AND some level of degree, license, or certification in facilities management or related field. In addition, training or work experience in basic wiring, plumbing, HVAC systems, mechanics, carpentry, refrigeration systems, pavement maintenance, or building construction preferred. Airport experience preferred but not required.
- Must possess a valid Florida Driver's License or ability to obtain within 30 days from date of hire.
- Must able to obtain and maintain a Secure Identification Display Area (SIDA) Badge.

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