

In this issue:

E&T SUMMIT INFO	1
→ 2021 Virtual Fun Run Flyer & Info	2
→ State Legislative Update	3
WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!	3
AROUND THE STATE	4
→ Southwest Airlines resumes pre-pandemic boarding	4
→ FAA to implement South-Central FL Metroplex in April	4
→ Passenger growth has airport officials scrambling to keep up at SRQ	5
DATES TO REMEMBER	5
→ Orlando increases relief—concessions, rental cars	6
→ JetBlue considers leaving NYC for Florida	6
AROUND THE NATION	7
→ Top industries press administration for May 1 roadmap/reopen of Intl. travel	7
→ FAA issues new rule for commercial space operations	7
WASHINGTON UPDATES	8
→ From our partners at ACI-NA	8
→ President's jobs plan requests \$25 Billion for aviation	8
→ ACI-NA Applauds House Approval of AIP Incentives Bill	8
BUSINESS & EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES	8

AIRMAIL '21



APRIL 2, 2021

ISSUE 21-05



EDUCATION AND TRAINING SUMMIT

APRIL 20 -22, 2021

VIRTUAL

Registration is Open for the 2021 Virtual Education & Training Summit!

Check out the schedule of sessions and speakers for the April 20th through 22nd Summit.

Register for the virtual General Sessions, beginning at 1:00 p.m. each day:

- ◆ New Statewide Airport Marking Program – presented by Sightline, Daton Hydroblasting
- ◆ Urban Air Mobility – presented by Corgan
- ◆ SSI Trusted Agent – presented by SSI Inc.,
- ◆ World's First Airline Monument – presented by Flight 2014 Project
- ◆ Returning to Office Engagement – panel including perspectives from FAA, BCAD, DAB, LCPA
- ◆ FAC Legislative Update – presented by the State Affairs Committee
- ◆ Cyber Security Awareness – panel including ASERO, Amazon Web Services, and Epic Engineering & Consulting
- ◆ Amazon's New Regional Hub for Prime Air – presented by Lakeland Linder Intl. Airport
- ◆ FAA Update – presented by the Orlando ADO
- ◆ General Aviation Safety & Regulatory Update – presented by the National Air Transportation Association (NATA)

Sponsors – We can't do it without you! Sponsoring will give your organization high visibility during the 3-afternoon event including logos on the event platform, complementary registration for staff, linkage to your company webpage, and more.

[Click here to go to the Education & Training Summit Registration website.](#)



2021 VIRTUAL FUN RUN CHALLENGE

READY, SET, GO.....

**Support the Education Foundation
And sign up for the 6th Annual
Run for Education.
Registration is Open!**

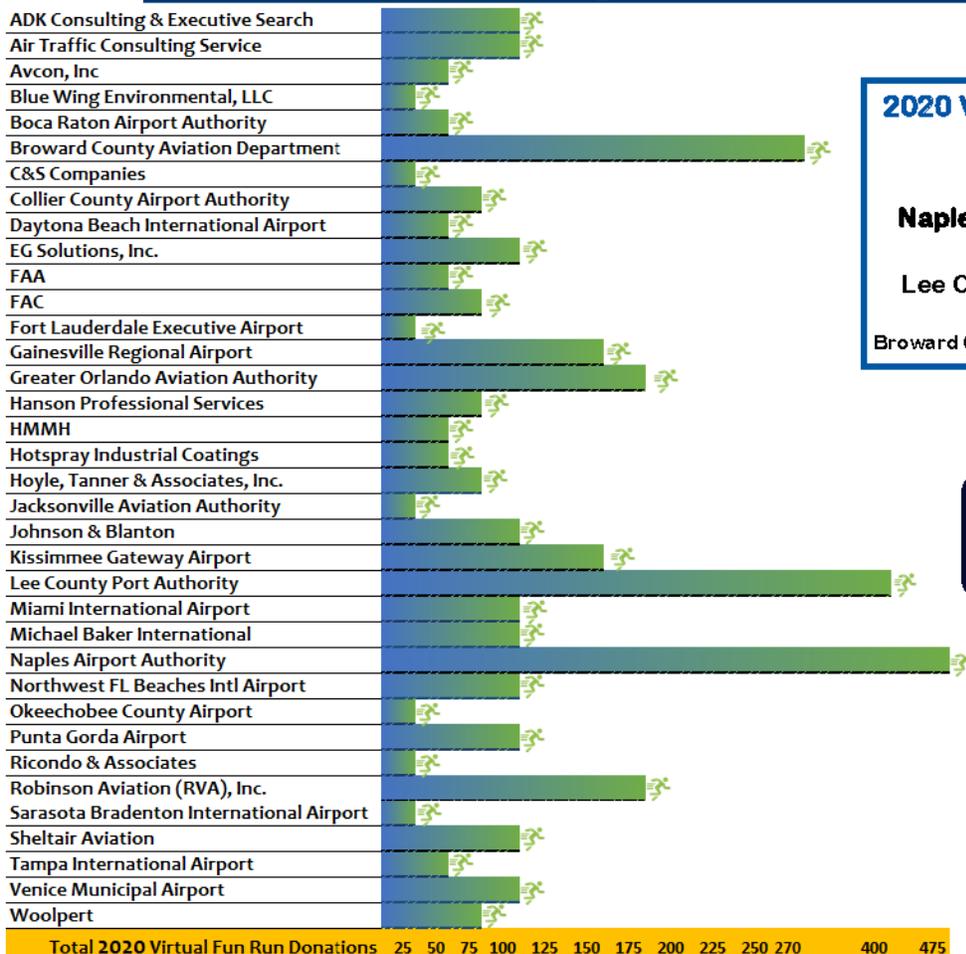
All proceeds benefit student scholarships and education programs. You can run, walk or crawl in your neighborhood any time convenient to you, or run virtually. Different levels of participation are provided, and all participants will receive a medal donated by Roy Sieger, Director, Flagler Executive Airport, FAC Vice-Chairmen.



**2021 Fun Run medal
3rd series**

Challenge your friends, family and colleagues to join the race today! Form a Team with your organization & join in the Fun!

2020 Virtual Fun Run Challenge Results - Teams raised \$3,740!



2020 VIRTUAL FUN RUN WINNERS

- First Place:**
Naples Airport Authority
- Second Place:**
Lee County Port Authority
- Third Place:**
Broward County Aviation Department

RISE TO THE CHALLENGE
[Click Here to Donate](#)



State Legislative Update...

The State Affairs Committee, chaired by Roy Sieger has initiated weekly conference calls to monitor FAC's 2021 legislative priorities. The committee posts the call agenda and tracking reports on the State Affairs committee page, under the members only section. The following is the status of the legislative priorities the committee is working on:

High Priorities:

- ◆ Aviation Work Program State Funding for Airport Development Grant Program - House and Senate have funded the grant [program for 21-22 fiscal year at \$325,896,494.
- ◆ Certified Engineering Inspection (CEI) Services required in addition to design Engineer of Record (EOR) - FAC SUPPORTS an exemption from this provision. Several bills in the House and Senate are moving forward favorably.
- ◆ Diesel Exhaust Fluid - FAC has developed a BMP for the prevention of fuel contamination. FAC OPPOSES legislative action that interferes with airport management and FBO contracts regarding the use of DEF. House Bill 77 is on the move through House committees; SB 1082 was voted upon favorably.
- ◆ Ad Valorem Tax Exemptions for airport leases - FAC SUPPORTS clarification of FS 196.012 regarding the exemption of airport leases associated with aviation related services from local ad valorem tax assessments, consistent with historical precedent. SB 1702 was filed Feb. 25, 2021 and Rep. Harding filed HB 1555 and it was referred to several committees.
- ◆ Commercial Service Airports - Transparency in governing airports, FAC is working with the 2020 bill sponsor Rep. Avila to address an increase in the thresholds for contracts and procurement and clarification of other conflicts in the 2020 bill. Sen. Diez has submitted SB 154, relating to local government transparency and it has been referred to committee.
- ◆ PFAS - FAC is seeking legislation that provides exemptions to liability from the costs associated with any investigation or clean-up and any 3rd party claims. Several bills have been proposed and referred to committee.

High Priorities, Cont.:

- ◆ Turo/Peer-to-peer vehicle transactions - FAC will work with industry stakeholders to seek legislation that ensures parity for this line of business. HB 365 and SB 566 are moving. FAC is working with the Senate sponsor to amend 566 to include language acceptable to airports.

Support: FAC is supporting bills proposed to provide businesses COVID-19 Liability relief and funding of Enterprise Florida and Visit Florida.

Monitoring: The Council is monitoring 14 other bills that have the potential to impact Florida airports: Concealed weapons/open carry in airport terminals, TNC's, Real-ID, Legislative review of professions and occupations, Legislation related to Special Districts, Aircraft Sales & Lease Tax, Drones, Public works projects Electric vehicles, State preemption of seaport regulations, Transportation projects, and more.

Go to the State Affairs Committee webpage, uploaded documents, to learn more.

Welcome New Members!

Corporate Air, Inc.

Mr. Ivan Vasquez, Co-Founder
3450B Airport West Drive
Vero Beach, FL 32960
(772) 569-8473 - corpair1@aol.com

SpectrumHaven, LLC

Mr. Samuel Trotman, President
2080 Alamanda Drive
North Miami, FL 33181 - (954) 465-5409
Samuel.trotman@spectrumhaveneng.com

AROUND THE STATE

Things are getting back to normal...

Southwest Airlines resumes pre-pandemic boarding

(Source: *USAToday.com*)



Southwest Airlines has resumed its traditional boarding procedures, ditching a pandemic policy of boarding passengers in smaller groups to promote social distancing.

The nation's largest domestic carrier, which doesn't assign seats, began boarding passengers in groups of 30 on March 15. It had been boarding passengers in groups of 10 since it unveiled its "Southwest Promise" health and safety protocols in May.

"The majority of our customers are familiar with Southwest's standard boarding style and have an expectation for the normal boarding process as they return to travel," Southwest spokeswoman Brandy King said in a statement.

Travel, which has been decimated by the coronavirus pandemic, is showing strong signs of life this month as more Americans are vaccinated and coronavirus case count trends improve in many areas of the country. U.S. airport passenger counts have topped 1 million a day for 12 consecutive days and 17 days total in March, according to Transportation Security Administration screening statistics.

Passenger screenings, which topped 2 million a day before the pandemic, fell below 90,000 in April and did not top 1 million again until mid-October. King noted that Southwest, like all airlines, continues to have "physical distancing" reminders at the airport and requires passengers to wear masks at the airport and on its planes. The nation's largest domestic carrier is not the first airline to revert to pre-pandemic boarding procedures. In early March, JetBlue stopped boarding passengers from back to front and resumed its traditional boarding procedures by groups. [Keep reading...](#)

FAA to implement South-Central Florida Metroplex in April

The FAA announced that on April 22 it will implement the first phase of the South-Central Florida Metroplex, a plan to allow flights that are more direct and have more efficient climb and descent profiles in the region.

Fifty-four new procedures will be published, 17 of which will require additional training of air traffic controllers and automation upgrades at air traffic control facilities before they can be implemented. FAA said that the new routes include some changes in aircraft flight paths and altitudes in certain areas but will not result in any ground disturbance or increase the number of aircraft operations at any of the airports.



South-Central Florida is one of the FAA's 11 Metroplex initiatives nationwide and is the final project to be implemented.

Passenger growth has airport officials scrambling to keep up at SRQ

(Source: BradentonHerald.com)

In the past year, passenger growth at Sarasota Bradenton International Airport went from soaring to coming to a dead stop during the COVID-19 pandemic.

On March 22nd, Rick Piccolo told members of the Sarasota Manatee Airport Authority that not only is passenger growth soaring again, it has reached a trajectory he could never have imagined. In the first seven months of 2022, it is projected that SRQ will serve 2.5 million passengers, compared to 1.3 million in the same period of the 2020 pandemic year, and 1.3 million in the year before the arrival of the pandemic.

“Tremendous, tremendous growth that creates new issues for us,” Piccolo said. One consultant conducted a study of airport enplanement trends in the United States over the next five years that shows SRQ with 72.6 percent growth, which would make it the fastest-growing airport in the country. “I bring these up to show you some of the issues we will be dealing with,” Piccolo said, urging “preparation, not panic.”



Work is now underway to expand the airport fuel farm to increase capacity to 290,000 gallons to serve all of the new flights. Airport authority members Monday approved the final draft of the airport master plan, which includes provisions for the addition of a concourse to help handle the airport’s growing business, adding space to the existing concourse to accommodate more concessions, consolidating the baggage handling system, consolidating the rental care facility and more.

Authority member Carlos Beruff recommended starting the paperwork sooner rather than later to streamline the process of adding another concourse, which is forecast to be about a \$109 million project. The estimated cost of all items in the airport’s capital improvement plan comes to \$348 million, funded with a combination of fees, grants and the assumption of some debt. There are now 10 airlines serving 45 destinations from SRQ. Allegiant and more recently Southwest have been prime movers in boosting passenger traffic at SRQ.

On Saturday, the airport had 58 arriving flights and 58 departing flights. On Sunday, there were 57 arriving and 57 departing flights. During the downturn caused by the pandemic, SRQ implemented stepped-up cleaning and safety measures and expedited construction projects that would have been difficult to complete during a busier time. Among those projects: repaving short and long-term parking lots, redesigning the screening checkpoint and accelerating airfield construction projects.

DATES TO REMEMBER

	Location	Date
2021 CFASPP Statewide Committee Meeting	Lakeland Linder Intl. Airport; Hilton Garden Inn - Miller Room	April 14, 2021
2021 FAC <i>VIRTUAL</i> Education & Training Summit	Virtual - Click here for more information...	April 20-22, 2021
FAA 2020 Southern Regional Airports Conference	Atlanta, GA	May 2021
2021 CFASPP Statewide Committee Meeting	Hyatt Regency Jacksonville Riverfront	July 17, 2021 1:00 P.M.
2021 FAC Annual Conference & Exposition	Hyatt Regency Jacksonville Riverfront	July 18-21, 2021

Please email lisa@floridaairports.org with calendar updates.

Orlando increases relief for concessions, rental cars

For the third time since the pandemic began, the Greater Orlando Aviation Authority Board said it has approved an economic relief plan for companies doing business at the airport, including concessions and rental cars, along with additional money from the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act.

The relief passed at the March 17 board meeting adds \$19 million of aviation assistance. As a condition to receiving the assistance, the authority is requiring its business partners to submit a reopening plan that details employee hiring and how the businesses will reopen in light of increasing traffic.

Authority CEO Phil Brown, A.A.E., stated, "The board realizes that the pandemic has impacted everyone, especially our concessions. Our objective is to try to help the concessions to stay afloat, provide the Orlando Experience, and meet customer demand. They will only be able to start rehiring or bringing furloughed employees back when the traffic returns."



JetBlue considers whether to leave NYC and move to Florida

JetBlue Airways is considering whether to stay in New York, where it was founded two decades ago, or move its headquarters to Florida. A spokeswoman for the airline said Thursday that a decision is expected later this year. She said more than 1,300 employees work at the headquarters in Long Island City, across the East River from Manhattan.

x

The airline said in a statement that its current lease in expires in July 2023 and it is reviewing its options "and considering how our space requirements may evolve in a hybrid work environment post-pandemic." JetBlue said it is exploring a number of options, including staying in its current headquarters, moving elsewhere in New York City, or shifting some New York-based jobs to existing JetBlue facilities in Florida. The airline has a training center in Orlando and a travel-products subsidiary in Fort Lauderdale.

The airline said that no matter what it decides about the headquarters, it still plans to expand at all three New York City-area major airports. The airline's plans were previously reported by the New York Post, which obtained a memo to headquarters staff.



JetBlue began flying in 2000 and is currently the nation's sixth-largest airline by passenger-carrying capacity. Its strongest routes are up and down the East Coast. It flies to nearby international destinations including the Caribbean, and plans to launch service to London later this year.

Like other carriers, JetBlue has been hit hard by the pandemic. It lost nearly \$1.4 billion last year, as revenue fell more than 63% compared with 2019.

AROUND THE NATION**[Top industry groups press administration for May 1 roadmap to reopen international travel](#)** (Source: *TheHill.com*)

Top travel industry groups on Monday called on the Biden administration to develop a roadmap by May 1 to prepare for reopening international travel this summer.

The groups, including Airlines for America, the U.S. Travel Association, the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, and the American Hotel and Lodging Association, asked the administration to partner with stakeholders in making this roadmap, from airlines to unions to theme parks. They argued in a letter to Jeff Zients, White House COVID-19 response team coordinator, that this roadmap could encourage travelers to prepare for and comply with requirements for when inbound and outbound international travel opens.

The industry groups made clear they would not support easing public health protections like mask mandates, international testing requirements, and physical distancing measures during travel.

"However, the data and science demonstrate that the right public health measures are now in place to effectively mitigate risk and allow for the safe removal of entry restrictions," the groups wrote.

They called for the roadmap to avoid vaccine requirements as a prerequisite to travel and to exempt vaccinated individuals from the international testing requirements. President Biden has directed states to have vaccinations available to all American adults by May 1. They also called for an update to Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidance to state that vaccinated individuals can travel safely. The CDC recently said it would not yet change its recommendation against traveling for vaccinated and unvaccinated people.

If travel from the top inbound markets to the U.S is able to safely resume by July 4 and reaches an average of 40 percent of 2019 levels for the remainder of 2021, it would add \$30 billion in incremental spending and 225,000 American jobs would return, the groups said.

Other groups on the letter included Airports Council International-North America, National Air Carrier Association, Travel Management Coalition, and the Association of Flight Attendants—CWA.

[FAA issues new rule for commercial space operations](#)

The FAA said a new agency rule that streamlines the licensing process for private sector launch and reentry operations took effect March 21.

The rule is intended to support greater innovation, flexibility and efficiency in commercial space operations. It eliminates obsolete requirements, replacing most prescriptive requirements with performance-based criteria and reducing duplicative regulations, according to an agency announcement. The new rule also establishes a single set of licensing and safety regulations for several types of commercial space operations and vehicles. For example, one license could support multiple launches and reentries at multiple locations. The number of FAA-licensed commercial space launches has dramatically accelerated from only one in 2011 to a record 39 in 2020 — a 3,800 percent increase in just 10 years. For 2021, FAA is forecasting 50 or more FAA-licensed launch and reentry operations.

WASHINGTON UPDATES
From our partners at ACI-NA

President's jobs plan requests \$25 Billion for aviation

President Biden on Wednesday released the outline for his American Jobs Plan — a \$2 trillion infrastructure proposal that includes \$25 billion to upgrade the nation's aviation system and billions more for highways, bridges and transit systems. On the airport front, the administration's plan calls on Congress to create a new terminal development program and to improve multi-modal connections.



The White House announcement states, "The United States built modern aviation, but our airports lag far behind our competitors. According to some rankings, no U.S. airports rank in the top 25 of airports worldwide.... President Biden is calling on Congress to invest \$25 billion in our airports, including funding for the Airport Improvement Program, upgrades to FAA assets that ensure safe and efficient air travel, and a new program to support terminal renovations and multimodal connections for affordable, convenient, car-free access to air travel."

The proposal is likely to encounter stiff opposition from Republicans on Capitol Hill, who note that Congress has already spent trillions of dollars in coronavirus relief funding in the past year.

ACI-NA Applauds House Panel Approval of AIP Incentives Bill

The House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee passed by voice vote [H.R. 468](#), the Expedited Delivery of Airport Infrastructure Act, you can view the markup [here](#). Full Committee Ranking Member Sam Graves (R-MO) and Aviation Subcommittee Ranking Member Garret Graves (R-LA) sponsored this bill that would allow AIP funds to be use for incentive payments to expedite the completion of airport infrastructure projects. You can view their press release from today's markup [here](#). ACI-NA strongly supports this concept and worked with Reps. Sam Graves and Garret Graves on this legislation. ACI-NA and AAEE sent a joint letter of support for the bill, which you can view [here](#).

Business & Employment Opportunities



EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Position: **Director, Airports Planning**

Click [HERE](#) to view the job posting.



EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Position: **Enterprise Director of Finance**

Click [HERE](#) to view the job posting.

Business & Employment Opportunities, Cont.



ORLANDO INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

The Orlando Experience

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

GREATER ORLANDO AVIATION AUTHORITY
BP-00495, **EAST AIRFIELD TAXIWAYS REHABILITATION PHASE 1**
(TW'S E & F) (Project), at ORLANDO INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

For additional details, click [HERE](#).



st.petersburg
www.stpete.org

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

CITY OF ST. PETERSBURG - **ALBERT WHITTED AIRPORT**
RUNWAY 18-36 REHABILITATION PROJECT

The objective of the project is the rehabilitation of a portion of Runway 18-36 via milling and overlaying the existing asphalt pavement. Includes geometry improvements to the Taxiway Connectors, drainage improvements, and more.

For additional details, click [HERE](#).



REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

ATCT EQUIPMENT INSPECTION & MAINTENANCE

For additional details Click [HERE](#).

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Position: **Construction Project Manager**
Starting Salary: **\$73,638.00, DOQ plus benefits**
Click [HERE](#) to view the job posting.



EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Position: **Senior Aviation Property Manager;**
Starting Salary: **\$66,472.90**
Click [HERE](#) to view the job posting.
Close Date: April 5, 2021



MONTGOMERY

CONSULTING GROUP

PLANNING | ENVIRONMENTAL | ENGINEERING
TRANSPORTATION | AVIATION | INFRASTRUCTURE

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Position: **Sr. Project Manager—Aviation**
Click [HERE](#) to view the job posting.
Close Date: April 20, 2021

CONTACT US!

Business Office

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

Governmental Affairs Office

325 John Knox Rd, Suite L103
Tallahassee, FL 32303
Phone: (407) 745-4161
Fax: (850) 222-3019

www.floridaairports.org