

In this issue:

FL Legislative Session 1

→ Opening Schedule 1

NEWS FROM FAC

→ BOD Meeting Highlights 2

→ FAC Education Workshop 3

AIRPORT MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

→ MCO Seeks new CEO 3

→ Did You Know...? 4

→ New Members 4

→ Atlantic & Ross Merge 5

AROUND THE NATION

→ Agreement on 5G C-Band Network 5

→ Blue Lighting Initiative 6

→ 2022 for Aviation 6

→ Legacy Book 6

→ FL Chamber Foundation 7

→ 2022 Annual Conference & Exposition 7

→ Dates To Remember 8

→ COVID Changing Aviation 9

→ NATA Training 9

BUSINESS & EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES 10 11

AIRMAIL '22



January 10, 2022

Issue 22-01



Florida Regular Legislative Session begins January 11th

Let the sausage making begin!

The Senate and House will open the 2022 Legislative session on Tuesday, January 11th. Following Senate President Simpsons' and House Speaker Sprowls' remarks, Governor DeSantis will give his "state of the state" address.

All proceedings can be viewed at theFloridaChannel.org

FAC's State Affairs Committee is coordinating with our J & B Lobby Team to keep our legislative priorities in the forefront with key legislators and staff. FAC and airport members will be active throughout the session, participating in key hearings and committee meetings that address our issues, including aviation fuel taxes, ad valorem tax exemptions for airport leases, TNC's and Peer-to-Peer rental cars, PFAS, elimination of taxes on aircraft sales and leases, and more. Be sure to join FAC State Affairs Committee so that you receive all conference call notices and other important information during the session.

Governor DeSantis released his \$99.7B budget on December 9th and is expected to prioritize the following issues, among others:

Opening Schedule:

9:30 a.m. – Senate Session

Senate Chamber

10:00 a.m. – House Session

House Chamber

11:00 a.m. – Joint Session

House Chamber

1:30 p.m. – Post-Session Media Availability with Speaker Chris Sprowls

House Chamber Floor

2:00 p.m. – Post-Session Media Availability with President Wilton Simpson

Senate Chamber Floor

- CRYPTOCURRENCY - DeSantis has requested \$700K for cryptocurrency projects at the Dept. of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles, the Agency for Health Care Admin. and the Dept. of Financial Services, i.e, a pilot program would allow people to pay for motor-vehicle title certificates through Blockchain technology at the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles.
- ELECTIONS ENFORCEMENT: DeSantis is seeking \$5.7M for a 52-person Office of Election Crimes and Security within the Department of State to investigate and prosecute election-related crimes.
- FLORIDA STATE GUARD: DeSantis has requested \$5.4 million to re-establish a 200-member Florida State Guard, which was a defense force set up during World War II to replace Florida National Guard members who were deployed abroad. It would be used to assist the National Guard during emergencies.
- FREEDOM TOWER: DeSantis has requested \$25 million to restore Miami's Freedom Tower, which was used in the past to process Cuban refugees. Legislative proposals have already been filed for the work on the nearly 100-year-old building.
- GAS TAX CUT: DeSantis wants to suspend the state's 25-cent-a-gallon tax on gasoline for five months, starting July 1. The state would use \$1 billion in federal stimulus money to make up for the lost money, as gas taxes go toward transportation projects.
- HIRING AND KEEPING COPS: DeSantis wants increase pay for officers at the FHP, FDLE and FWC, provide a second round of \$1,000 bonuses for first responders and provide \$5,000 bonuses to help recruit law-enforcement officers to Florida.
- IMMIGRATION CRACKDOWN: DeSantis has requested \$8 million to transport undocumented immigrants out of state, while calling on legislators to expand a 2019 law targeting so-called "sanctuary cities" and a 2020 law that requires all government employers and some contractors to use a federal electronic system known as E-Verify to check the immigration status of new workers.
- SNAKE HUNT: DeSantis wants \$3 million as part of the state's efforts to remove invasive Burmese pythons, which threaten wildlife and ecosystems in the Everglades.
- TEACHER BONUSES: DeSantis wants to use \$238 million in federal stimulus money to give a second round of \$1,000 bonuses to teachers and principals in an effort to retain educators amid an ongoing teacher shortage.
- TESTING OVERHAUL: DeSantis wants to spend \$15.5 million to carry out a plan that would replace the statewide standardized tests known as the Florida Standards Assessments with a progress-monitoring system.

NEWS FROM FAC

The Board of Directors convened a meeting December 9th to address the business of the Council. Below are some highlights:

- The financial condition of the Council and the Education Foundation is strong.
- As of Sept. 30, 2021, FAC has 386 active airport and corporate members.

- 2022 Education and Training Summit is postponed until 2023 – The Board will work with FAC Committee's to determine the appropriate schedule for 2023.
- 2022 Annual Conference and Exposition, hosted by GOAA at the Orlando Hyatt Regency Grand Cypress, is on track for July 31 – August 3. Member registration will open in March/April.

FAC Education Workshop slots are available

Each year FAC sponsors workshops that focus on key issues important to our airport and corporate members. These are sponsored by our key committees and underwritten by our partners at the Florida Department of Transportation.

If you have a topic of interest, please let the appropriate committee chair know, or contact Lisa at lisa@floridaairports.org. FAC can assist with promotion of the workshop, meeting room or av fees, food and beverage and more.

AIRPORT MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

Orlando's airport seeks CEO from wide variety of finalists *(Source: OrlandoSentinal.com)*

Among the nation's biggest and a fulcrum of Central Florida's economy, Orlando's international airport is at a leadership crossroads in replacing the retiring veteran Phil Brown as chief executive officer.

The airport's parent, the Greater Orlando Aviation Authority, meets Friday afternoon to publicly vet six finalists recruited by a search firm to run an airport nearly twice the size of Winter Park, fueled by more than a half-billion-dollars annually from airline, passenger and rental fees and serving as the high-profile gateway for the region's tourism.

Of the finalists, four offer career experience from big airports, as well as gender and ethnic diversity. Holding top jobs at their current airports, they are: Lance Lyttle of Seattle; Mario Rodriguez of Indianapolis; Mark Thorpe of Ontario, California; and Jacqueline Yaft of Austin, Texas. A fifth finalist, Kevin Thibault, appointed by Gov. Ron DeSantis to run Florida's massive transportation department, offers no airport expertise but has the governor's high praise in seeking the CEO job.

Also without an airport background is the sixth candidate, Osceola County's government manager, Don Fisher. He has overseen explosive growth activity led by Tavistock Development Co., also the creator of the Lake Nona community adjacent to the airport, and by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, one of Florida's largest private landowners.

Orlando Mayor Buddy Dyer, a member of the airport authority board, said he is pleased with the variety presented by the search firm. "They got four really good choices of people with substantial CEO experience at airports and two individuals with different types of backgrounds, one who has led a transportation agency and another who has 20 years of local admin experience," Dyer said. "And they did a pretty good job of diversity. It gives us a good array of choices."



As the airport's leader for more than a decade, Brown is an amalgam of many strengths offered by the six candidates. Asked what core guidance he would offer a new airport boss, Brown responded: "My advice would be to focus on the fundamentals: safety, security, planning, employee engagement and customer service in all of its aspects," he said. "But be adaptable. The only constant that I have observed in the aviation industry is that it is always changing."

Orlando International Airport is seeking a new CEO to replace veteran Phil Brown, seen here, who is retiring. Brown served in the U.S. Army Reserve, is a CPA, with a master's degree in business administration, and is an Accredited Airport Executive. He worked in the top ranks of Orange County government through the 1980s, including for two years as county administrator.

The airport authority employed him as a deputy executive director through the early 1990s. He later worked for UBS Securities, overseeing municipal bond accounts in the Southeast. The airport authority brought him back in 2008 as a deputy executive director. In 2010, he was named as executive director and in 2017 his title was changed to chief executive officer.

During his tenure, Brown dealt with blistering airport growth, overcrowding in the terminal, a trend of airports scaling up their hospitality, the Great Recession, the pandemic and the airport's most costly construction, a \$3 billion terminal slated to test the new CEO's abilities when it opens this year. Orlando's airport is returning to pre-pandemic volumes of more than 50 million passengers annually, nearly 20,000 workers, hundreds of retail, restaurant and other businesses and about 1,000 landings and takeoffs daily.

[Keep Reading...](#)

Did You Know?...Members can view the current Directory online anytime!

Although members are issued a current Membership Directory each year, life is everchanging and FAC reflects company/airport changes in our directory quarterly. You can find this digital Directory on the 'Members Only' side of our website on the left hand sidebar, or by [clicking here](#) & logging into your FAC portal. The FAC Membership Directory & Buyers' Guide is an essential and helpful tool to connect you with other airports, companies, schools, and more in the aviation field! The 2022 copy of the Directory will be arriving to all of our members within the next month, but you can always look online for the digital version at any time. That's just another great benefit of being an FAC member.

Traka ASSA ABLOY

Heather Fraser, Marketing Manager
1925 Cannery Way
Orlando, FL 32804

Phone: (407) 735-1706

Email: heather.fraser@assaabloy.com

Join the Florida Airports

Council by clicking [HERE!](#)



Pending merger to unite two aviation companies at Witham Field in Stuart

(Source: Treasure Coast Newspapers)

A pair of aircraft fuel operators announced a merger to be completed next year, giving the combined corporation more than 80 locations nationwide.

There's just one location where both companies were already operating; Witham Field in Stuart. That's where Atlantic Aviation and Ross Aviation have fixed base operator hangars, which sell fuel for planes flying in and out of airports.

Atlantic, based in Plano, Texas, has not announced any operational changes yet for the two businesses at Witham. Under the merger, the combined company will operate as Atlantic Aviation.

The transaction is expected to close in the first half of 2022. Financial terms of the transaction were not disclosed. Witham Field Airport Director Sam Carver said he has not been notified yet by Atlantic about any changes to be made with the leases there following the merger. "They each have a hangar at the airport, but they're spread out," Carver said.

Witham Field is operated by Martin County.

Atlantic officials would not say how many people are employed at the Atlantic and Ross hangars at Witham. Going into the merge, Atlantic has more than 60 operations, including Orlando, West Palm Beach, St. Augustine and Opa-Locka. Ross' only other Florida hangar is in Sarasota.

AROUND THE NATION

Agreement Reached On Delay Of 5G C-Band Network (Source: ACI-NA)

DOT and FAA have reached agreement with AT&T and Verizon to delay the deployment of the 5G C-Band network by two weeks and to adopt some additional mitigation measures to reduce potential impacts of 5G interference on the National Airspace System (NAS).

[View the final "term sheet" of the deal published by FAA.](#)



AAAE and other aviation stakeholders participated in a briefing from FAA Jan. 4 regarding the agreement and its implications for the industry. The association is in close contact with senior leadership from FAA, lawmakers, and our airline partners, and are working to ensure that any disruptions to the NAS are minimized to the greatest extent possible.

- TSA screened 1,916,499 passengers on January 3, which is 77 percent higher than the 1,080,346 travelers the same day a year ago, during the COVID-19 pandemic; and 13 percent lower than the 2,210,542 travelers the same day two years ago, prior to the pandemic. ([See the latest TSA throughput numbers](#)).

Blue Lightning Initiative- Human Trafficking Awareness Webinar

The Blue Lightning Initiative is recognizing National Human Trafficking Prevention Month by hosting a live panel discussion for aviation industry professionals on **January 13, 2022, at 2:00 PM ET**. The Panel will feature speakers from Homeland Securities Investigations (HSI), U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP), Transportation Security Administration (TSA), and a survivor of trafficking whose experience intersected with the aviation industry.

[Register Here!](#)

2022 promises to be a good year for general aviation

(Source: NBAA InsiderDaily.com)

The new year will bring new opportunities — and challenges — to general aviation. And many in the industry predict 2022 will be a good year for GA as it continues to prove its value to the nation. “We are pretty bullish on GA,” says John Zimmerman, a vice president at Sporty’s Pilot Shop. “The pandemic was a shock, but I think it ended up showing the value of private aviation and the enduring appeal of personal connections.”

Officials at the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association (AOPA) agree.

“The pandemic demonstrated the value of general aviation from both a business and leisure perspective. As travelers avoided airline airports — by mandate or choice — GA travel saw growth and became a beacon of convenience and opportunity. We anticipate seeing continued growth in 2022, as more travelers discover the advantages of GA flying.”

“It’s a good time to be a general aviation manufacturer,” adds Pete Bunce, president of the General Aviation Manufacturers Association. “There is a very healthy order book across the spectrum from piston to rotorcraft.” What’s even

better: A lot of those orders are from first-time buyers. “We’re delivering to people who want to have the capabilities of GA for the first time,” he says.

“People with the income and the means are able to buy their own planes and that produces that demand.” The pandemic contributed to that as well, as business travelers found that they just couldn’t be sure of when they would get to their destinations flying on the airlines, he notes.

[KEEP READING...](#)



Follow us on Social Media!



@flairportscouncil



@FLairports

Great News

Interested in purchasing a 50th Anniversary FAC Legacy Book?

[Click Here](#) to get the perfect keepsake for any Florida Airports Council Member. Learn about the history of FAC and what’s in store for the future!



Time to revamp, expand state's role in supply chain *(From the Florida Chamber Foundation)*

The global supply chain has drawn unprecedented attention in the past few months, with reports of 80-plus container ships waiting offshore to be unloaded at the ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach.

There have been rapid increases in costs for shipping, loading and storing goods; and there have been shortages of everything from semiconductors to building materials to basic household goods. Three out of four businesses responding to a Florida Chamber Foundation survey in November reported experiencing a supply-chain disruption this year. Of those businesses, more than 5-of-6 reported increased costs or delays in shipments, and more than half reported shortages of skilled workers and critical inputs or reduced reliability.

What's behind this supply chain crisis?

Some of it is a response to the global pandemic and sharp economic cycle from the past few years. We have seen a dramatic increase in e-commerce and home delivery of goods, a pronounced shift in consumers' demand from services consumed outside the home to goods enjoyed at home, and rolling pauses and slowdowns of production around the globe. These trends have simultaneously increased demand for goods and decreased capacity to produce and move them. Our global supply chains have not dealt with so many disruptions in such a short period of time in the past.

The supply-chain crisis has exposed long-term trends and structural forces that have been concerns for some time:

The aging of our transportation and distribution workforce and shortages of labor in key industries such as trucking.

The offshoring of manufacturing from the U.S. to lower-cost foreign locations.

Increasing congestion and decreasing reliability in many of our nation's trade gateways and corridors.

Disruptions in our supply chain affect nearly every aspect of Florida's economy, from our large consumer and visitor populations to our agricultural and manufacturing industries, to our emerging...

FAC 53rd Annual Conference & Exposition

Hosted by the Greater Orlando Aviation Authority, Orlando Sanford Int'l Airport, Kissimmee Gateway Airport and Daytona Beach Int'l Airport



**July 31st thru
August 3rd, 2022**

*At the Hyatt Regency
Grand Cypress in
Orlando, FL*



logistics and technology sectors. Trade, logistics, and export-oriented manufacturing and services accounted for more than 1 million jobs statewide in 2020, with continued growth in e-commerce and home delivery offsetting declines in other sectors during the pandemic.

More than a decade ago, private- and public-sector leaders joined under the leadership of the Florida Chamber Foundation to develop the first Florida Trade and Logistics Study, which described an opportunity to position Florida as a global hub for trade, logistics, and export-oriented manufacturing after the widening of the Panama Canal. Today, Florida faces another opportunity: How can we ensure our state's supply chain is a competitive strength that meets the needs of our residents, visitors and businesses, while attracting new jobs and investment to the state?

The Florida Chamber Foundation has launched Florida Trade and Logistics 2030 to identify strategies for strengthening this critical element of our economy. With our partners, we are examining trends and uncertainties, while identifying opportunities for Florida, such as:

Examining how available capacity at our 15 deep-water seaports and 20 commercial service airports can support growing demand for global trade in Florida and the U.S. East.

Determining where to locate distribution and fulfillment centers to support increasing customer expectations for next-day or same-day delivery.

Encouraging U.S. and global manufacturers to use Florida as a platform for research, design, production and final assembly for markets in Florida, the rest of the U.S., the Caribbean, and Latin America.

Determining how to attract, develop and retain skilled workers to make all of this happen.

The Florida Chamber Foundation and its supporting consortium of businesses and organizations encourage Florida leaders to join this conversation in the next few months as we identify immediate, mid- and long-term opportunities, to complete the Florida Trade and Logistics 2030 study. Then there will be a call to action for all to join in advancing this dynamic area for growth during the next eight years and beyond.

"Purposely expanding manufacturing, logistics and trade will help grow Florida," said Mark Wilson, Florida Chamber of Commerce president & CEO.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Event	Location	Date
Florida Legislative Regular Session Begins	Tallahassee	January 11, 2022
FAC Federal Affairs Committee Fly-In	Washington, D.C.	March 2-4, 2022
CFASPP Round 2022-1	Various Locations	February 15–March 3, 2022
2022 FAC Annual Conference & Exposition	Orlando, FL	July 31-Aug. 3, 2022

Please email lisa@floridaairports.org with calendar updates.

COVID May Change Aviation Forever (Source: *AviationPros.com*)

Although some airlines were more impervious to the crisis than others, most would agree last year was a huge challenge and 2022 should offer some respite despite the Omicron variant threatening to keep putting a dampener on air travel.

Experts say that while Omicron transmits faster than Delta, there are indications that symptoms may be less severe. The world has also learned to build its defenses as the global vaccination rate keeps climbing and Covid-free settings become a norm in many countries.

However, the aviation business — both the full-service and low-cost segments — has been among the hardest hit and could take the longest to recover.

In fact, these have been some of the darkest days in the history of the industry, said Jared Lee, vice president of sales for Qatar Airways South East Asia (SEA), Southwest Pacific & Indian Subcontinent (SWP & ISC).

"We saw the demand for business and leisure travel essentially evaporate overnight, as a result of strict and constantly changing entry restrictions imposed around the world," he told the Bangkok Post.

Survival of the fittest

Backed into a corner, airlines fought back with everything they had.

"What resulted was a case of survival of the fittest. It has been a constant game of adapting to the latest and ever-changing pandemic situation, and a real test for our business nimbleness in executing strategic business plans.

"Our aviation industry will look quite different once we overcome the Covid-19 pandemic than it did before the virus arrived," he said.

[KEEP READING...](#)

Sign Up Today!

FAC Members are eligible for access to industry leading DEF Contamination Prevention training through the NATA Safety 1st Program

- Training will include:
 - o General misfuelling prevention
 - o DEF contamination prevention based upon Safety 1st Operational Best Practice #36
 - o Certificate of Completion

[Sign up by clicking here!](#)



The Voice of Aviation Business

Business & Employment Opportunities

Employment Opportunity

Small Business Developmental Specialist: *Broward County Aviation Department*

For additional details click [HERE](#)



Request for Qualifications 22-027

Development of Treasure Coast Intl Airport: *St. Lucie County- Treasure Coast Intl Airport*

For additional details click [HERE](#)



Request for Qualifications

Professional General Planning & Engineering Consulting Services Airport Improvements: *Keystone Heights Airport*

For additional details click [HERE](#)



Request for Proposal 22-17

IBM MAXIMO SaaS UPGRADE, MIGRATION, AND ASSOCIATED SERVICES: *Lee County Port Authority*

For additional details click [HERE](#)

Request for Bids

Septic System and Grease Trap Cleaning Services: *Lee County Port Authority*

For additional details click [HERE](#)



www.floridaairports.org

Business Office

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

Governmental Affairs Office

2713 Blair Stone Lane
Tallahassee, FL 32301
Phone: 850-765-2122
Fax: (850) 224-7704

Business & Employment Opportunities

Employment Opportunity

Airport Operations Supervisor: St. Pete-Clearwater International Airport

For additional details & to apply, click [HERE](#)



Employment Opportunity

Properties Coordinator: *Naples Airport Authority*

For additional details click [HERE](#)

Employment Opportunity

Procurement Contracts Manager: *Naples Airport Authority*

For additional details click [HERE](#)



www.floridaairports.org

Business Office

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

Governmental Affairs Office

2713 Blair Stone Lane
Tallahassee, FL 32301
Phone: 850-765-2122
Fax: (850) 224-7704