Greetings! As April takes flight, I’m excited to welcome you aboard another edition of Long Beach Airport’s Business Partner Brief. Find out about the latest happenings at LGB, from construction updates and development opportunities to community engagement, including bringing students under our wings. —Cynthia Guidry

Director’s Message

Wardlow Parcel Deadline Extended

In an effort to attract new investment and jobs, the deadline for the Request for Proposals (RFP) has been extended to April 30 for the aeronautical development of 17 acres at Long Beach Airport. The available land, known as the Wardlow Parcel, is located on the west side of the airfield. Development of the site is intended for aviation-related purposes that are complementary and respectful of nearby businesses. The Wardlow Parcel is immediately adjacent to approximately 90 acres of land owned by the Goodman Company, previously owned by the Boeing Company and used for the manufacturing of the Boeing C-17 Globemaster III military aircraft. Qualified organizations are encouraged to submit proposals through the City’s vendor portal, Long Beach Buys. Specific details related to eligibility requirements and submission instructions for RFP Number AP-23-325 are available on the Long Beach Buys website.
Fuel Subsidy, STC Reimbursements Progress

We marked a milestone last month in our sustainability journey as LGB officially processed its first Supplemental Type Certificate (STC) reimbursement application, with a $300 renumeration to be made to pilot and licensed airframe and powerplant mechanic (A&P) Steven J. Meng, owner of Long Beach Aero Maintenance. We believe this is the first of many more to come, as several requests are now in review. STCs are required for general aviation aircraft owners to transition to unleaded aviation gasoline (UL94), which is available at Signature Flight Support. LGB has incentivized the use of the alternative fuel through this STC reimbursement program as well as a waiver for fuel flowage fees and a recently authorized Subsidized Aviation Fuel for the Environment (SAFE) fuel subsidy to eliminate the cost differential between UL94 and leaded varieties. I’m so proud of the work we’re doing here at LGB to get ahead of the FAA’s 2030 goal to eliminate the use of leaded aviation fuel for all piston-powered aircraft.

New Noise Data and Charts Now Available

Long Beach Airport’s website is a useful and transparent tool for members of the community to learn about how we maintain the highest possible environmental quality of life for surrounding neighborhoods while providing economic benefits and air transport vitality to the local area. Recently, based on valuable community feedback, we’ve made website upgrades and shared additional information and more detailed monthly reports in an even more user-friendly way at lgb.org/noise. We hope you’ll check it out, and please provide us feedback. See some of the new graphs below!
Low Airfare Analysis

A recent analysis of Bureau of Transportation data by UpgradedPoints.com shows LGB’s ticket prices are among the lowest in the region. In fact, despite across the board increases, the average ticket price at Long Beach Airport in 2023 was the 20th lowest among 143 airports tracked in the study and the second lowest in the Greater Los Angeles region. Although we are proud to boast some of the lowest fares around, small hubs—especially those in popular vacation destinations—experienced more significant increases year-over-year than larger airports, and LGB notably recorded the largest fare hike in the nation when compared to the previous year’s prices. Still, we are happy to say that the average ticket price at LGB ranks below the national average and remains very competitive (fares are based on a variety of market factors and not the results of airport fees). Another great reason to #FlyLGB!

Busy Spring Break

We’re anticipating an elevated number of travelers during the spring break season through early April. Our airline partners at Delta Air Lines, Hawaiian Airlines and Southwest Airlines estimate that many flights will be at full capacity. About 15,000 travelers will pass through the Airport on peak days, representing an estimated increase of 20% more than last year. We’re grateful to the community for choosing LGB. With our resort-like feel, we hope travelers will feel like their spring break vacation begins as soon as they arrive at the Airport.

LGB Sends Off Jordan Students

Long Beach Airport provided a celebratory send-off to more than 75 students from Jordan High School traveling from Long Beach to New York City last month to perform at Carnegie Hall. We’re proud of our efforts here at LGB to collaborate with the Mayor’s Fund for Long Beach, Mayor Rex Richardson and Long Beach Unified School District to support the school’s music program. LGB provided support and our generous partners at Southwest Airlines provided flight vouchers for all the students. This was a true community effort to help these students’ dreams take flight on a national stage.
Special Olympics Gratitude

Recently, Special Olympics Southern California (SOSC) presented our staff with a plaque to convey the organization’s deep appreciation for a wonderful partnership over the years. Since SOSC started holding its annual Plane Pull fundraiser at Long Beach Airport in 2006, the heartwarming event has raised more than $2 million in charitable donations. Although it’s bittersweet to know that the Plane Pull will no longer be held here due to the anticipated future development of the Wardlow Parcel, we’re so proud of LGB’s longtime role in supporting this great event for a great cause.

Phase II Construction Update: Fresh Restrooms

New public restrooms opened last month in the pre-security concessions area, adjacent to Baggage Claim. The refreshing facilities include two stalls and three urinals in the men’s room, as well as five stalls in the women’s room. There’s also a family restroom. So glad to bring this new amenity to our travelers!

FAA Aeronautical Study - Relativity

The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) is currently conducting an aeronautical study on the proposed construction of the 199 ft (AGL) Relativity Space Test Stand (immediately west of the Airport on the former Boeing C-17 site) to determine its effect upon the safe and efficient utilization of navigable airspace by aircraft and the operation of air navigation facilities. Interested parties are encouraged to provide their input through public comments by April 6, 2024. To submit a comment, please visit https://oeaaa.faa.gov. If you have not already, you will need to register an account on the website. Here’s how:

1) Click on the “New User Registration” link located under the “OE/AAA Account” section on the left side of the webpage.
2) Complete the required information and submit your registration.
3) Once logged in, click on the “Search Archives” link at the top left of the webpage.
4) Enter the code “2024-AWP-238-OE” in the “ASN” field and click “Search.”
5) Click on the highlighted “2024-AWP-238-OE” link under “Case Number.”
6) From the case file, you can either view the public comment circularization letter by clicking the “Circularization” link next to the PDF logo or submit your comment by clicking “Add Comment.”
Terminal Roadway Improvements Update: Lane Closures

Beginning mid-April through early June, Stage 2 of the Terminal Roadway Improvements Project will include lane closures in front of the rental car area and Parking Structure A. The pick-up and drop-off areas in front of the Historic Terminal are for active loading and unloading only. Two lanes will be available for passenger drop-off and pick-up. If you’re picking up passengers, please wait in one of two free Cell Phone Waiting Lots, located on the northwest and southwest corners of Lakewood Boulevard and E. Donald Douglas Drive, until your passenger calls to let you know they are ready on the curb. For more project info, visit LGBRoadimprovements.com or contact 562-445-6439 or info@lgbroadimprovements.com.

Taxilanes K & U Update

The Taxilane K and U project continues to move forward. Last month, 215 tons of asphalt pavement was placed, and Phase 2 began. Phase 2 work included subgrade soil stabilization, new asphalt pavement and the installation of reinforced concrete pipes as part of the drainage system. Phase 2 is expected to be completed in approximately two months. Once completed, Taxilane U will provide access to Taxiway F. The Taxilane K Reconstruction Project is anticipated to begin in May.
LGB’s annual Tenant Appreciation Event was a special evening among friends last month as we celebrated Airport tenants and business partners, including representatives from commercial airlines, flight schools, FBOs, ground transportation providers and countless other aviation and non-aviation businesses that help make the Long Beach Airport complex and the local economy thrive.
We were honored to recently host 18 students from the Bachelor of Science program in Aviation Administration at CSU Los Angeles, where I serve on the program’s advisory board. For a second consecutive year, undergrads were invited to tour the LGB campus, where they learned about the Landside and Airside Ops positions and received tips about resumes and applying for government jobs. I’m so proud of the work we do here at LGB to encourage tomorrow’s aviation industry leaders!

Representatives from our Public Affairs and Leasing teams recently represented LGB at the 2024 National Business Aviation Association’s (NBAA) Schedulers & Dispatchers Conference in Fort Worth, Texas. They staffed an information booth, where they talked about investment opportunities—such as available space on the Wardlow Parcel—and all the great amenities LGB has to offer the business aviation community.

Finance and Administration Manager Claudia Lewis threw out the first pitch at the Dirtbags baseball game on March 5 as the home team beat UCLA 2-0. Long Beach Airport was the proud title sponsor of the game!
History Highlight

As we mark our 100th anniversary, we’re looking back at Long Beach’s rich aviation history. So much has changed, and so much has stayed the same in Long Beach Airport’s century of service! Here’s an aerial view of LGB in the 1950s. Read more about LGB’s history in our centennial report.

February Passenger Traffic

Long Beach Airport served 305,778 passengers in February, representing a 18.8% increase in commercial airline traffic compared with the same month in 2023.

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<th>Feb 2023</th>
<th>% Change</th>
<th>Feb 2022</th>
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<th>YTD 2024</th>
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<td>Total Passenger Traffic</td>
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Cynthia Guidry
airport Director