

# BUSINESS PARTNER BRIEF

## AUGUST 2024



### Director's Message

Greetings! Here at Long Beach Airport, we're celebrating the recent reopening of our iconic Historic Terminal, consecutive months of record-breaking passenger enplanements and much more! Read about those and other exciting happenings in this month's Business Partner Brief. —Cynthia Guidry



### Historic Terminal Reopening Celebrated

After being closed for more than a year for extensive renovations, Long Beach Airport's Historic Terminal building officially reopened! The \$17.8 million project, part of the \$125 million Phase II - Terminal Area Improvements Program, included a seismic retrofit and meticulous restoration of the building's classic 1941 design elements. In a way that was not possible during its original wartime opening, LGB celebrated with a public open house featuring a ribbon cutting, guided tours, a special cake, children's activities and swing dancing on July 27.

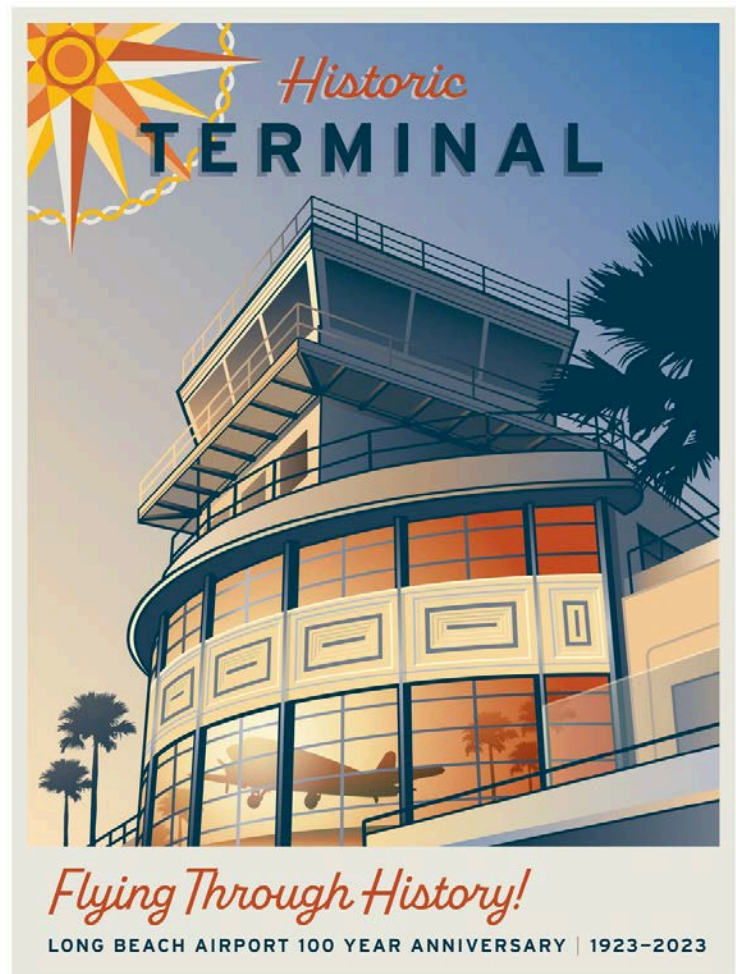


Highlights of the adaptive reuse project include the restoration of the iconic west entrance that has been covered for decades, the unveiling of the full mosaic masterwork by artist Grace Clements, preservation of the building's striking wall clock, updated restrooms, new west bay windows, ongoing conversion of the former ticketing area into space for rental car services and more! Designed by William Horace Austin and Kenneth Smith Wing, the Historic Terminal was declared a Historic Landmark in 1990 by the City's Cultural Heritage Commission. The building bridges the transition from the Streamline Moderne style of the 1930s to the geometric abstraction of the post-war International Style. This cherished architectural treasure stands as a testament to our rich history and dedication to preserving it for generations to come.



## Commemorative Centennial Poster Series

In celebration of our centennial year, we released a series of four vintage-style posters designed to serve as a timeless tribute to Long Beach Airport's past, present and future. Each is styled in an aesthetic reminiscent of the Work Projects Administration's national park posters. The first poster, "Early Days of Aviation," inspired by the early 1900s, captures the pioneering spirit that marked those formative years before the official establishment of LGB in 1923. "Historic Terminal," the second poster, pays homage to LGB's Historic Terminal building, which was completed in 1941. In "Keep 'Em Flying," the third poster reflects on Long Beach Airport's robust aircraft manufacturing history and its significant contributions during World War II. The final poster, "Welcome to Long Beach," goes past the Golden Age of Aviation into the mid-century, celebrating how Long Beach's unique climate, tourism and manufacturing industries helped the City of Long Beach thrive. Prints of the posters were distributed at the Historic Terminal Grand Reopening, and more of the 8x10 inch prints will be available at the Festival of Flight in October.





## Fast Flat Fix on Runway 26L

Nearly as quick as a race car pit crew, LGB's Airside Operations team jumped into action when an aircraft got a flat tire on the airfield. On June 20, they received a call about a disabled aircraft on Runway 26L near Taxiway Foxtrot 4 from the FAA Air Traffic Control Tower, and jumped into action to assist the Diamond Star aircraft with a right main flat tire. Runway 26L was officially closed while Operations contacted the pilots, worked with Angel City Flyers to find someone to tow the aircraft back to the hangar and conducted a special runway inspection. A manager grabbed the Iron Tire—a portable wheeled aircraft tire cradle—which was quickly installed so the plane could be moved off the runway. Runway 26L was reopened in a record-setting 10 minutes! The speedy response allowed all aircraft to land and depart with little to no interruption.



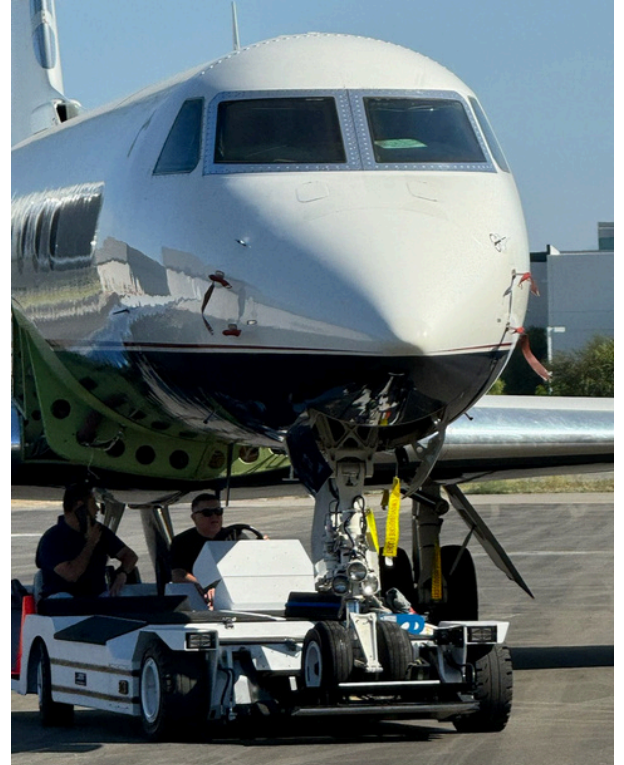
## Taxilanes K & U Projects Completed

Our Taxilane K and U Projects to improve safety on the airfield and enhance airfield operations are complete! The Taxilane K Project to reconstruct approximately 71,500 sq. ft. of pavement and the rehabilitation of approximately 67,650 sq. ft. of pavement wrapped up in July. Final work included grinding and overlay of new asphalt on the east-west section and new storm drain inlet structures, in addition to subgrade stabilization including new asphalt pavement on the north-south section. These improvements addressed a significant portion of the Taxilane K pavement that was in poor condition and reached the end of its useful life.

The Taxilane U Project, which was completed in May, repurposed an area that included portions of decommissioned Runway 16R-34L, south of Taxiway F, to provide access to the airfield for general aviation tenants. Approximately, 42,900 sq. ft. of pavement was constructed, including storm drainpipes and inlet structures, subgrade stabilization and pavement striping. The new Taxilane K and Taxilane U pavement will have an anticipated service life of 20 years.

Funding of the total \$11.6 million investment for both projects was provided by a grant from the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Airport Improvement Program (AIP) and Long Beach Airport funds. The construction contract was awarded to Griffith Company and construction management services were provided by KDG Construction Consulting. Thank you to everyone for their patience during the construction of these projects!





## “LONG BEACH” Lettering Gives Nod to Past

Next time you’re in the Meeter Greeter Plaza, look down and you’ll notice new grey, angular lettering paying homage to the “LONG BEACH” lettering that was formerly on our airfield. Similar white lettering—at a much larger scale—could be seen from the air for many decades (including in the 1950s-era photograph below), but as the FAA modernized and standardized their guidance for airfield markings, this beloved design fell out of compliance and had to be removed. Now, we’ve brought this artful bit of history back to life just west of the Historic Terminal and will be enjoyed by millions of travelers per year!





## NuSpace PCX Renews Lease

NuSpace PCX Long Beach has renewed its lease for another decade at Long Beach Airport! Founded in 1907 as Keystone Engineering Company, NuSpace PCX occupies more than 55,000 square feet on the LGB campus, serving as a leading-edge designer and manufacturer of proprietary propellant and high-pressure tanks for advanced satellite, launch vehicle spacecraft and missile platforms. We're thrilled this company continues to make Long Beach Airport its home base!

## June Enplanement Record

It's been a record-breaking year so far at Long Beach Airport, where we reached a new milestone in June, reporting the second consecutive month of the highest all-time commercial passenger enplanements. This is the third enplanement record set in 2024! June's enplanements were up 1,072 compared to May, with total passenger traffic reaching 378,610. Year-to-date, we're up 35.2% compared to the same time period in 2022. The impressive growth we're seeing underscores the trust passengers place in our 100-year-old municipal airport as the gateway of choice in and out of Southern California.

	Jun 2024	Jun 2023	% Change	Jun 2022	% Change	YTD 2024	YTD 2023	% Change	YTD 2022	% Change
<b>Passenger Traffic</b>										
Enplanements	190,507	161,795	17.7%	149,182	27.7%	1,034,351	873,330	18.4%	768,434	34.6%
Deplanements	188,103	157,677	19.3%	145,133	29.6%	1,035,914	872,426	18.7%	762,330	35.9%
<b>Total Passenger Traffic</b>	<b>378,610</b>	<b>319,472</b>	<b>18.5%</b>	<b>294,315</b>	<b>28.6%</b>	<b>2,070,265</b>	<b>1,745,756</b>	<b>18.6%</b>	<b>1,530,764</b>	<b>35.2%</b>
<b>Total Air Cargo (Tons)</b>	<b>959</b>	<b>965</b>	<b>-0.6%</b>	<b>1,077</b>	<b>-11.0%</b>	<b>5,798</b>	<b>6,105</b>	<b>-5.0%</b>	<b>7,008</b>	<b>-17.3%</b>

## History Highlight

With the Olympics in Paris well underway, here's a piece of Long Beach Airport Olympic history! Meet pilot Iris C. Cummings Critchell, the U.S. women's 200-meter breaststroke champion from 1936-1939 and a member of the 1936 U.S. Olympics swim team in Germany. She was one of 18 women aviators who flew with the 6th Ferrying Group Air Transport Command stationed at the Long Beach U.S. Army Air Force Base from 1942-1944. Read more about LGB's century of service in our [centennial report](#).



Cynthia Guidry  
Airport Director

