

BUSINESS PARTNER BRIEF

JUNE 2024



Director's Message

Summer travelers are making the most of California's sunshine, and we're ready to welcome them here at Long Beach Airport with live music playing under the palm trees. It's a busy time for us, with ongoing modernization efforts, the launch of our second annual Careers Taking Flight externship and plenty of other updates in this Business Partner Brief. – Cynthia Guidry

Business Partner Spotlight: Kenneth A. McDonald, CEO Long Beach Transit (LBT)

We're pleased to shine this month's Business Partner Spotlight on Long Beach Transit President and CEO Kenneth A. McDonald. Long Beach Transit is one of LGB's master tenants, with offices at the Long Beach Airport Business Park.

Q: Beyond Long Beach Transit's offices at the Airport Business Park, can you highlight bus services you offer serving LGB?

A: Long Beach Transit operates a commuter service between Long Beach and UCLA and the Westwood area. The UCLA and Westwood Commuter Express (Route 405) service launched in 2019. It provides a connection for students and employees, with three morning trips from Long Beach and three afternoon trips from UCLA/Westwood. There are two pickup points in Long Beach, one at Long Beach Airport and one at the Willow station. LBT provides space for



commuters to park their cars at the Airport to pick up Route 405. As a result of this arrangement, commuters do not have to slog through freeway traffic, and it reduces congestion by having less vehicles on the road. Long Beach Airport is a great location to catch the UCLA and Westwood Commuter Express because it is centrally located. Not only is the Airport right off the freeway, but it is also in the center of the City of Long Beach, making it an easy and accessible stop for commuters who are on their way to work or school in West Los Angeles.

Q: Is there anything that you'd like to share with the LGB business community about LBT, such as any exciting news on the horizon?

A: There are two exciting developments at LBT. First, in the coming months, we will place into service battery-electric coaches for the UCLA and Westwood Commuter Express. These coach-style vehicles are zero-emission and will provide a more comfortable ride to the customers making the 90-minute commute to UCLA and the Westwood area. I am excited that by the time the fall quarter begins at UCLA, LBT would have deployed these new zero-emission coaches.

Like Long Beach Airport, LBT is focused on sustainability. The five commuter coaches are part of a larger plan to convert our entire fleet to zero-emission vehicles within the next decade. Moreover, LBT will be converting its two bus facilities in Long Beach to be more sustainable with solar power and battery storage. Eventually, all LBT's zero-emission buses will be charged with sustainable energy.

Q: Leading such a large and complex organization must keep you very busy. Would you like to share anything about what you do in your personal life to relax?

A: I like to say that everyone needs to take time to recharge their batteries. Just like you must stop and refuel on a long trip, people need to recharge. I enjoy golfing on the weekends, and I am an avid reader. Fortunately, we have great courses here in Long Beach. In fact, you might see me at Skylinks, right across from Long Beach Airport, from time to time. Finally, I highly recommend the book "The Go-Giver," a little story about a powerful business idea by Bob Burg and John David Mann. Thank you for the opportunity to share with you about LBT and a little about myself.

FAA Co-Hosts GA Webinar

Co-hosted by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), Long Beach Airport is planning a [June 25 webinar](#) focused on general aviation operations. The public meeting will detail: the FAA's management of airspace; historic and current general aviation and flight school trends at LGB; available unleaded fuel options at our Airport; and more. We're delighted that the FAA has partnered with us to present this information to the community, with additional aviation community leaders expected to attend from the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association (AOPA), the National Business Aviation Association (NBAA) and the Long Beach Airport Association (LBAA). The webinar will stream live and be recorded for later viewing.

High School Externship Expands

Long Beach Airport's Careers Taking Flight High School Externship will be even bigger this summer as we enter into the second year of the program. Launched in summer 2023 with 13 students, the program provides a 40-hour, hands-on experience with a \$500 incentive payment for those with perfect attendance. This time around, we'll be expanding the externship to two cohorts with a total of 24 students! We conducted interviews of the applicants for this competitive opportunity and selected teens from Cabrillo and Jordan High Schools. The students each now have a ticket for this inside look at what it takes to succeed in the aviation industry and will be here on the LGB campus the weeks of June 17 and August 19. I'm so excited to welcome these young people to LGB as this program grows.



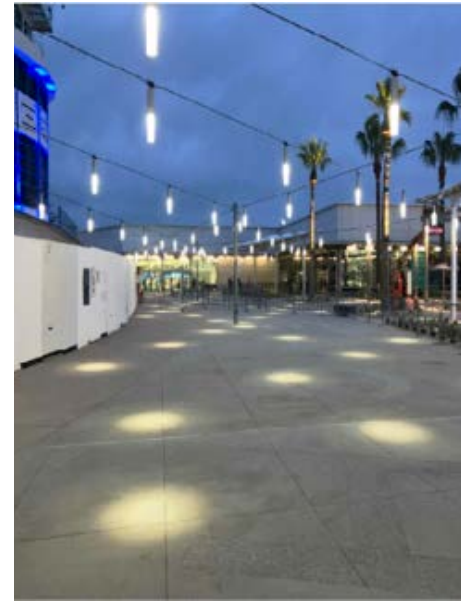
Viewing Area Now 100% Complete

A front-row seat to the fascinating world of aviation, the LGB Viewing Area in the Aero Long Beach (formerly Kilroy Airport Center) facility's parking lot is a dedicated space for plane spotters and other aviation enthusiasts to watch takeoffs and landings. We're so grateful to have such a comfortable space for the public to see our airfield, and now the location is even more welcoming with a newly installed sign to help inform and guide visitors. The sign includes QR elements that can be scanned to allow people to read about LGB's 100-year history and even listen to tower communications from mobile devices. Thank you to Aero Long Beach, our Airport Advisory Commission, Leasing and Public Affairs who helped create and install the new signage as the final touch on the observation area, which was formally constructed in 2022. Volunteer Russ Talbot served as the liaison to the local spotter community and provided valuable input, as well.



Phase II Construction Update

Phase II of our Terminal Area Improvements Program is reaching new heights! Our Historic Terminal renovation is making progress with restroom upgrades on the first and second floors, the installation of rental car counters and offices, plus new windows, frames and film. Meanwhile, in the plaza area, fresh lettering work, catenary lighting and tree ring lighting have enhanced the space and made this treasured piece of architecture shine even brighter.



Taxilanes K & U Update

The Taxilane U Project wrapped up in late May, with the final portions of the project focused on the completion of final paving operations, storm drain inlet structures, subgrade stabilization and pavement striping. The first plane to utilize the newly constructed Taxilane U took off at 8:30 a.m., Wednesday, May 22. Taxilane U provides access to Taxiway F for general aviation tenants adjacent to the Spring Street vehicle gate. Meanwhile, the Taxilane K Reconstruction Project has launched, beginning closures of the lane as work begins on grinding and overlay of new asphalt on the east-west section, plus subgrade stabilization on the north-south section. That project is expected to be complete in July.



Seen at the Scene

Wearing matching rainbow shirts, Airport staff and volunteers represented LGB at the 41st annual Long Beach Pride Parade and Festival last month as our fabulous float made its way through the parade route.



The Women's Transportation Seminar (WTS) International Annual Conference took place last month in New Orleans, providing women transportation professionals with ways to connect and learn from one another to elevate operations throughout our interconnected world. I was honored to attend and represent Long Beach Airport on a director's panel, where I talked about all the innovative work we're doing here at LGB!



Long Beach's first annual Mariachi Festival, held in partnership last month with Council District 7, was sponsored by Long Beach Airport. We brought LGB-themed promotional items with us as we celebrated Mexican music and culture.



Benefitting a great local cause, Ronald McDonald House's 2024 Long Beach Walk for Kids was a heartwarming event last month proudly sponsored by Long Beach Airport. We cheered on the walkers and handed out promotional items.



History Highlight

Long Beach Airport is celebrating a century of service this year, and it's a great time to reflect on the early days of aviation in Southern California. In recognition of Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month, which wrapped up in May, cheers to Chinese immigrant Katherine Sui Fun Cheung, who learned to fly through the Chinese Aeronautical Association in Los Angeles. She earned her license in 1932, becoming the first woman pilot of Chinese descent in the U.S. Read more about her in LGB's [centennial report](#).



April Passenger Traffic

Long Beach Airport served 274,381 passengers in April, representing a 15.4% increase in commercial airline traffic compared with the same month in 2023. Although figures were lower than the record-breaking month of March, the figures are still trending higher than in previous years—a sign that we’re on track for a busy summer season.

	Apr-24	Apr-23	% Change	Apr-22	YTD 2024	YTD 2023	% Change	YTD 2022	% Change
Passenger Traffic									
Enplanements	172,228	150,835	14.2%	136,399	654,409	557,608	17.4%	477,882	36.9%
Deplanements	177,465	152,251	16.6%	137,982	656,856	559,806	17.3%	475,869	38.0%
Total Passenger Traffic	349,693	303,086	15.4%	274,381	1,311,265	1,117,414	17.3%	953,751	37.5%
Total Air Cargo (Tons)	844	958	-11.9%	1,187	3,803	4,266	-10.9%	4,847	-21.5%

Airport Administrative Offices Holiday Closure

Long Beach Airport administrative offices will be closed on Wednesday, June 19, in observance of Juneteenth. Airport operations, security and building services will continue uninterrupted.



Cynthia Guidry
Airport Director