Greetings! It’s springtime at Long Beach Airport, and in this month’s Business Partner Brief we have major development updates and other exciting initiatives blossoming along with the flowers. — Cynthia Guidry

Business Partner Spotlight: Chasity Wills with Hawaiian Airlines

We’re pleased to shine this month’s Business Partner Spotlight on Chasity Wills, General Manager of Hawaiian Airlines’ operations at Long Beach Airport. She has been with us at LGB for nearly three months, having recently transferred from LAX.
Q: What’s your professional background and how did you get into aviation?
A: I started my aviation career from the bottom in 2009 as a ticketing agent at Seattle-Tacoma International Airport (SEA), and my career has allowed me to travel and live in multiple cities, including the ability to travel frequently back to my home state of Hawaii. In Southern California, I’ve worked at San Diego International Airport (SAN) and Los Angeles International (LAX), where I was an operations manager for 10 years. My work really got me addicted to travel. Also, I love working for Hawaiian Airlines because I’m a complex thinker and enjoy working under pressure. Another reason I love working for Hawaiian Airlines is representing my Hawaiian heritage here in the mainland and sharing that Hawaiian hospitality and aloha with the community of Long Beach and those traveling far and wide.

Q: Can you tell us a bit about Hawaiian’s operation here at LGB?
A: We run a narrow body out of LGB, the A321 Neo to Honolulu and Maui, and we are a diversion city for the A330 aircraft. We typically have two departures per day, one to Honolulu and one to Maui, but the Maui flight was on pause until this month due to the recent fire. Also at LGB, we have a maintenance base. In total, we have more than 20 full-time Hawaiian employees, plus additional contract employees who assist us with above and below wing operations.

Q: What do you enjoy most about working at LGB?
A: Long Beach is a tight-knit community. It’s so easy to connect with other airline partners and department staff. I appreciate all the care and quick responses on things. It does truly feel like a community here, and I love that because I’m such a community-oriented person!

Q: What do you like to do outside of work?
A: I’m an avid soccer fan, especially women’s soccer. I love Angel City Football Club and often travel to support the team—there’s so much of a community feel at the games. I’m passionate about bringing equity in women’s sports. I also do some nonprofit work in domestic violence prevention and education, focused on high schoolers, through arts programming for a nonprofit organization in Seattle.

Wardlow Parcel Available for Development

In an effort to attract new investment and jobs, a Request for Proposals (RFP) has been released 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, by 11 a.m. on April 2, 2024. Specific details related to eligibility requirements and submission instructions for RFP Number AP-23-325 are available on the Long Beach Buys website.
Helping Families Prepare for Takeoff

Long Beach Airport and the Stramski Children’s Development Center at MemorialCare Miller Children’s & Women’s Hospital Long Beach proudly co-hosted an inaugural Take Flight Without Fear event in early March. Neurodivergent children and their families were invited to participate in an “airport rehearsal” at LGB, where they checked in at the Ticketing Lobby, passed through a security checkpoint, waited in the concourse and then got up close to an airplane on the tarmac. The event, which brought in about 50 participants, was designed to help families feel safe and comfortable flying. I’m grateful for the partnership of Long Beach MemorialCare and also to our partners at the TSA for making this event possible, helping empower participants to navigate through life’s journeys with confidence!
Establishing an Aviation Hall of Fame

Over the next six months, Airport staff and the Airport Advisory Commission will be working on a plan to establish an educational exhibit and aviation hall of fame at Long Beach Airport, highlighting people and major milestones in LGB's 100 years of service. In a directive from the City Council, we'll be exploring a variety of ideas for consideration. This effort reflects LGB and the City Council's ongoing interest in commemorating our centennial year and the important role of aviation in our community. More details to come!

One Year CLEAR

It's been one full year since CLEAR launched at LGB, offering passengers an optional and expedited alternative identity verification process. From January through December 2023, a total of 98,689 departing passengers used the convenient service, and each CLEAR passenger generated revenue for the Airport. We are so happy to offer this convenient service for passengers at Long Beach Airport.
Terminal Roadway Improvements Update: Lane Closures

The Terminal Roadway Improvements Project is well on the road toward progress. In addition to sidewalk improvements underway on the north side of Donald Douglas Drive, a new taxi exit for improved flow is being installed on the north side of Parking Structure A. Pedestrians will find directional detour signs to safely guide them around construction zones on the Airport campus until new sidewalks are poured and cured. In April, Stage 2 of the project is expected to begin and will involve some lane closures in front of the terminal. To help relieve congestion in front of the terminal during Stage 2, motorists will be encouraged to use LGB’s two cell phone waiting lots near the main entrance off Lakewood Boulevard, rather than waiting in front of the terminal for passenger pickup. As drivers make their way through the loop, they will notice new project signage that includes a QR code to quickly access more information about the construction. For details, visit www.lgbroadimprovements.com.

Tenant Appreciation This Month

LGB’s annual Tenant Appreciation event will take place on the evening of Thursday, March 28. This invite-only event is always a special evening among friends as we celebrate 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. Check your inbox for an email invitation from lgbarpt@longbeach.gov or contact 562-570-2678 for more information.
Job Listings Wanted

Attention Long Beach Airport business partners: if you are looking for new employees or interns, we invite you to list open opportunities on our LGB Jobs page - www.longbeach.gov/lgb/about-us/jobs/. This is a free community resource for employers at LGB and local aviation-related businesses to reach candidates. Links to companies like Cessna, Gulfstream, Paradies, Signature Aviation and UPS are currently available. For more information or to join the list, email lgbarpt@longbeach.gov.

LGB Welcomes Public Service Fellows

Long Beach Airport is hosting two students from California State University, Long Beach, as part of the Long Beach Public Service Corps. The new paid fellowship program provides local college students and recent graduates with hands-on experience working in City government and exploring careers in public service. The inaugural cohort of 48 fellows have been placed throughout a diverse array of City departments and assigned to work on substantive projects and initiatives that align with their interests and career goals, as well as our strategic priorities.

Seen at the Scene

Valentine’s Day was sweet at LGB. Visitors were swept off their feet by a poet who created complimentary Valentine’s Day poems on-the-spot, and our therapy dogs (including Rider, wearing a Valentine’s Day bandana) brought everyone some much needed puppy love.
LGB proudly welcomed 30 students from USC’s Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering for a visit to enhance their studies of sustainable transportation systems. The college seniors were interested in seeing real-world applications. The tour included information about LGB’s ground support equipment (GSE) chargers, the solar canopies on our parking structures, the Airport Carbon Accreditation program, food scrap diversion, recycling and more. USC Professor Eric C. Shen shared student feedback: “Some said this tour changed their perception of negatives associated with an airport and gained a greater appreciation for the efforts by people like you.”

Long Beach Airport was proud to send representatives to the 2024 Cal State Long Beach American Society of Civil Engineer’s Civil Engineering United Career & Internship Fair. Members of our Engineering team met with more than 150 civil engineering and construction students.
I love this photograph of Hawaiian Airlines at LGB with a stunning pink backdrop of sky that might as well be one of those famous Hawaiian sunsets. Thank you to @metal_bird_aviation, an aviation spotter who posts shots like this on Instagram.

Phase II Construction Update

Renovation of Long Beach Airport’s Historic Terminal continues to progress. Work to enhance the 80-year-old structure includes seismic retrofit, improvements to the restrooms and building infrastructure, and restoration of many of its Art Deco design elements. Last month, interior work involved wall and ceiling framing, overhead mechanical, electrical and plumbing installation, and drywall placement, as well as preparation to plaster and paint the exterior of the Terminal. Meanwhile, construction of the new concessions space and baggage service offices presses on. Work entailed installation of the exterior panels above the parapet, fire alarm system tests, light installation, and site grading north of the flag poles.
Taxilanes K & U Update

Work to improve access and safety on the airfield is underway. The Construct Taxilane U Project began in January. Last month, work focused on soil stabilization by compacting approximately 50 cubic yards of subgrade (the bottom layer), and placing, grading, and compacting 250 tons of aggregate subbase to prepare for placement of new asphalt concrete pavement. Part of the drainage system, including the concrete V-gutter, storm drain inlet, and reinforced concrete pipes, was installed. When the project is complete, Taxilane U will provide access to Taxiway F for general aviation tenants adjacent to the Spring Street vehicle gate. The Taxilane K Reconstruction Project is anticipated to begin in May.
Women’s History Month Highlight

It’s Women’s History Month! And, as we mark our 100th anniversary, we’re looking back at Long Beach’s rich aviation history. We’d like you to meet Long Beach aviation pioneer Gladys O’Donnell, nicknamed the “The Flying Housewife,” who competed in women’s air races (sometimes called Powder Puff Derbies) across the country in the 1920s and 1930s. Read more about Gladys and LGB’s history in our centennial report.

January Passenger Traffic

Long Beach Airport served 294,014 passengers in January, representing a 13% increase in commercial airline traffic compared with the same month in 2023.

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<th>Jan 2024</th>
<th>Jan 2023</th>
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<th>Jan 2022</th>
<th>% Change</th>
<th>YTD 2024</th>
<th>% Change</th>
<th>YTD 2023</th>
<th>% Change</th>
<th>YTD 2022</th>
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<td>Enplanements</td>
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<td>147,303</td>
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<td>Deplanements</td>
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<td>Total Passenger Traffic</td>
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Cynthia Guidry
Airport Director