

# BUSINESS PARTNER BRIEF

## JANUARY 2025



### Director's Message

Welcome to 2025! As we embark on this new year, I have high hopes for all the possibilities Long Beach Airport has to reach new heights. Thank you for your continued partnership and commitment to our Airport's success. —Cynthia Guidry



### Business Partner Spotlight: Jessica Wehbe, Center Manager at FlightSafety

We're pleased to shine this month's Business Partner Spotlight on Jessica Wehbe, Center Manager at [FlightSafety International](#) at Long Beach Airport. FlightSafety provides aviation training and simulation services for commercial, government and military organizations.

**Q: Please tell us a bit about your professional background and role with FlightSafety.**

A: I've been in aviation my entire life. I took my first flight lesson at the age of 10, soloed at the San Gabriel Valley Airport on my 16th birthday and spent my early career conducting more than 4,000 hours of flight instruction. I flew for a regional airline as well as a 135 Charter operation flying all over North America. However, after years of being in the air, I longed for a lifestyle where I could come home every night. I joined FlightSafety International in 2016 as a Gulfstream 550



instructor. I really enjoyed returning to my passion of teaching and impacting aviation safety. I moved into management and currently lead the Long Beach Learning Center as the Center Manager. With my amazing team, we run seven full flight simulators, six graphic flight training devices, as well as two full-size aircraft, for cabin safety training. I'm inspired each and every day by the passion and professionalism that our team provides.

**Q: Can you talk about the FlightSafety operation at LGB?**

A: FlightSafety Long Beach prepares aviation professionals from around the world to save lives through exceptional training experiences. We offer professional pilot training in Gulfstream and CitationJet aircraft, as well as cabin safety courses. Aviation professionals come to our center to learn about new aircraft, stay current in their profession and challenge their skills through advanced training courses. The Long Beach Learning Center is powered by a team of 100 employees, including more than 70 instructors who provide both classroom and simulator training experiences to enhance aviation safety. We provide elevated training focused on mitigating risk and saving lives.

**Q: What do you enjoy most about working at LGB?**

A: Long Beach feels like home. As someone who grew up at an airport, I value a place where community matters. Programs like Long Beach Airport's [Careers Taking Flight](#) summer externship for high school students shows LGB not only cares about the industry but cares about our community and most importantly the future of aviation.

**Q: Do you have any hobbies or other parts about your personal life that you'd like to share?**

A: I'm a big advocate of community service and volunteerism. Currently, I'm very involved with the Pasadena Tournament of Roses and am honored to be escorting a portion of the Rose Parade down the five-mile stretch from one end of town to the other. Making your way down the route with hundreds of thousands of spectators thrilled to celebrate the new year with you is an experience like none other.

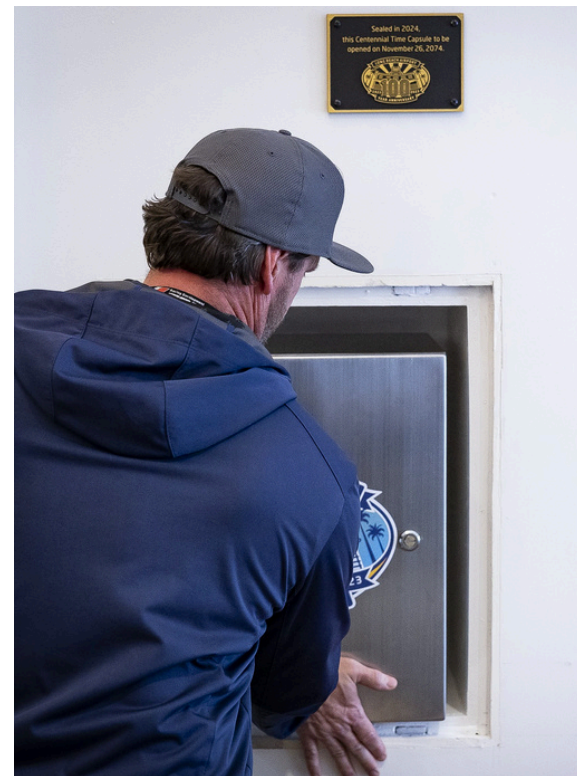
## General Aviation Update

The City of Long Beach recently released a [second update](#) to the Airport's original General Aviation Operations Report (GA Report), released on October 31, 2023, in response to increased general aviation activity. LGB has been actively engaging with our GA community as we pursue seven recommendations in response to community concerns regarding noise. I'm so pleased that we continue to make progress, particularly getting the Federal Aviation Administration opinion that allows us to proceed with increasing fines for noise violations without triggering compliance issues with the City's Noise Ordinance's grandfathered status under the Airport Noise and Capacity Act. I'm also very excited about the launch of our Fly Friendly Program that is specifically designed for general aviation. Kudos to our flight schools for working with us on this important, voluntary program to mitigate noise impacts on our surrounding communities.



## Time Capsule Sealed in Historic Terminal

LGB wrapped up its yearlong centennial celebration last month by sealing a time capsule into a wall in the Historic Terminal (to be opened in 50 years). Among the modern artifacts included in the Centennial Time Capsule are letters from Long Beach's Mayor, City Manager, Councilmembers and Airport Director, as well as a custom-made poem about the Airport, photographs of the Airport and City, newspapers, model planes, tokens from Airport business partners and airlines and much more. This is the second time capsule to be kept inside the Historic Terminal building; the first was laid in the cornerstone in 1941 and was opened in 1966.





## Coollest Airport Slogan Trademarked

During the time capsule ceremony in December, LGB revealed its newly trademarked slogan: america's coolest airport. The slogan was created following an organizational planning process that included a multi-division planning team. The team convened starting in 2021, representing all levels of the organization, to develop a phrase that would define LGB as it is today and set a vision for how the Airport wants to be seen in the coming years. Official trademark status for america's coolest airport was established in 2024 in the midst of LGB's yearlong 100th anniversary marketing campaign. The Airport also owns the trademark tagline: where the going is easy.



## Pop-Up Pickleball Is a Hit

To demonstrate just how cool we are here at LGB, we launched a pop-up opportunity for travelers to play pickleball periodically throughout the holidays and into the coming year, thanks to a partnership with Long Beach Parks, Recreation and Marine. The first games were played by local elected officials after the time capsule ceremony. The court is located just north of the Historic Terminal.



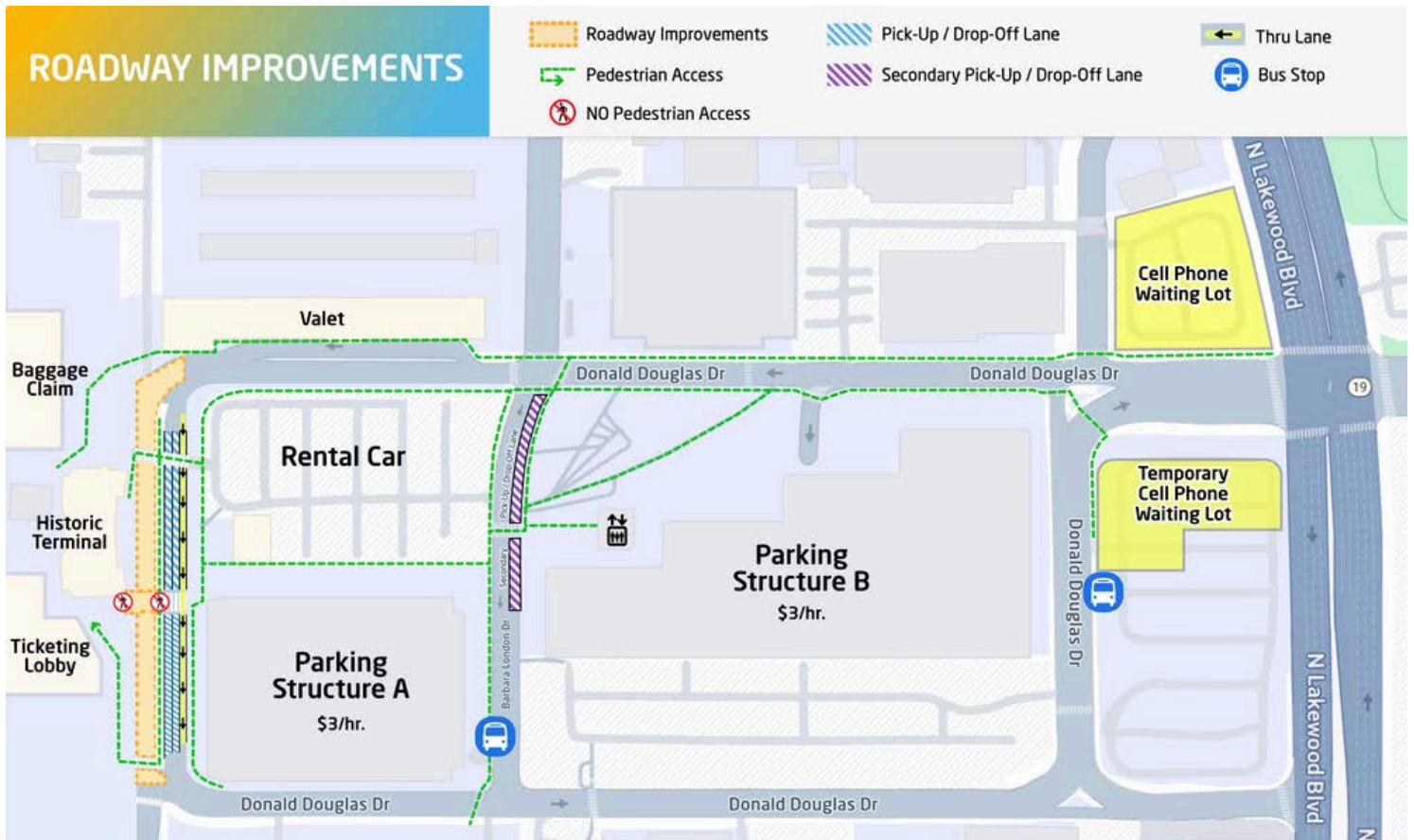
## Annual Noise Budget Review

As outlined in the Long Beach Airport Noise Compatibility Ordinance, LGB’s noise budgets are evaluated annually for each user category to ensure compliance and determine whether air carrier flights should be added or removed. Based on the findings of the 2024 analysis, LGB plans to maintain its current level of 41 minimum air carrier flight slots and 17 supplemental air carrier flight slots. The evaluation was conducted by Airport staff as well as an independent analysis. Further details are available in [this City Manager memo](#).

## Terminal Roadway Improvements Update

Work continues to move forward on the Terminal Roadway Improvements Project. A new left turn lane from Barbara London to eastbound Donald Douglas Drive was completed in December. And in front of the Historic Terminal, bollards, curbs and gutters have been installed and placement of pavement is expected this month. Most work occurs at night to reduce impacts to passenger flow.

All drop-off and pick-up of passengers along the median will continue through January, with navigators available to assist passengers and keep traffic moving. Beginning January 7, we anticipate adjustments to pedestrian access to the median. Your patience during this time is greatly appreciated! For more project information to help you plan ahead, visit [www.lgbroadimprovements.com](http://www.lgbroadimprovements.com).



## Alternate Drop-off/Pick-up Area Now Available

Barbara London Drive is available as an alternate pick-up and drop-off area for travelers able to walk a short distance to avoid the main loop during roadway construction. Skip the congestion in front of the Historic Terminal by using this option along the east curb and check out the [video that we shared via social](#) for details.



## Scene at the Scene

Long Beach Airport brought its float and a ton of holiday cheer to the Belmont Shore Christmas Parade and the Daisy Avenue Christmas Tree Lane Parade!



LGB Live! local musicians brought good cheer to Long Beach Airport this holiday season. Visitors especially enjoyed an appearance by the TSA Chorus! Our live entertainment program enhances the passenger experience and benefits local musicians, including local high school groups.



Holiday décor throughout the campus made the season bright for visitors and travelers!



## November Passenger Traffic

Long Beach Airport had more than 335,000 total passengers in November, with one of the busiest Thanksgiving travel periods on record. November's passenger traffic was slightly lower than the previous year by 3.6%. We are so honored that LGB continues to be the airport of choice for our community.

|                                | NOV 2024       | NOV 2023       | % Change      | NOV 2022       | % Change      | YTD 2024         | YTD 2023         | % Change     | YTD 2022         | % Change      |
|--------------------------------|----------------|----------------|---------------|----------------|---------------|------------------|------------------|--------------|------------------|---------------|
| <b>Passenger Traffic</b>       |                |                |               |                |               |                  |                  |              |                  |               |
| Enplanements                   | 167,988        | 173,498        | -3.2%         | 143,815        | 16.8%         | 1,894,721        | 1,698,469        | 11.6%        | 1,501,807        | 26.2%         |
| Deplanements                   | 167,047        | 174,015        | -4.0%         | 143,743        | 16.2%         | 1,900,839        | 1,697,695        | 12.0%        | 1,493,210        | 27.3%         |
| <b>Total Passenger Traffic</b> | <b>335,035</b> | <b>347,513</b> | <b>-3.6%</b>  | <b>287,558</b> | <b>16.5%</b>  | <b>3,795,560</b> | <b>3,396,164</b> | <b>11.8%</b> | <b>2,995,017</b> | <b>26.7%</b>  |
| <b>Total Air Cargo (Tons)</b>  | <b>1,066</b>   | <b>1,266</b>   | <b>-15.8%</b> | <b>1,244</b>   | <b>-14.3%</b> | <b>10,443</b>    | <b>11,164</b>    | <b>-6.5%</b> | <b>12,530</b>    | <b>-16.7%</b> |

## Administrative Offices Holiday Closure

Long Beach Airport administrative offices will be closed on Monday, January 20, for Martin Luther King Jr. Day. Airport operations, security and building services will continue uninterrupted.



Cynthia Guidry  
Airport Director