

AGTA News from the Airport Curb - 12/21/22.



AGTA News from the Airport Curb



PHOENIX SKY HARBOR INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT



Are you in the holiday spirit?
Check out how one shuttle driver can help you get there!
Click on link or on the photo below for video.

[Shuttle driver brings and sings Christmas spirit to RSW](#)
Winknews.com - Dec. 16, 2022



Due to the Christmas holiday, Curbs will not be issued next week.
We will be back in 2023 with more news for you.

GROUND TRANSPORTATION NEWS

Waymo opens Phoenix airport rides to the public, doubles downtown service area

Tech Crunch - Dec. 16, 2022

Members of the general public will be able to take a Waymo robotaxi, with no human safety operator behind the wheel, between downtown Phoenix and Sky Harbor International Airport starting Friday. Waymo will also be doubling its service area in downtown Phoenix following an [initial launch of driverless rides](#) in the area to the public last month, the company said.

The developments come a month after Waymo first began offering its [robotaxi service to the airport](#) — or rather an airport shuttle stop at the 44th Street Sky Train station — for trusted testers, riders who have been vetted by the company and have signed non-disclosure agreements.

“This is the only service of its kind in the world carrying passengers from a busy airport, especially during the holiday season, all the way to a downtown fully autonomously,” said Saswat Panigrahi, chief product officer at Waymo, during a press briefing. “All people have to do is just download an app. No wait time. No NDA. 24/7 from the airport to the downtown.”

Click on the link above to view the rest of this article.

AGTA Executive Director Dr. Ray Mundy asks, "How soon with robotaxis be at your airport?"

[SpeediShuttle awarded airport shuttle contract](#)
BizJournals.com - Dec. 15, 2022

The state Department of Transportation has awarded locally owned SpeediShuttle the contract to operate, manage and maintain the [Wiki Wiki Shuttle](#) service at Daniel K. Inouye International Airport in Honolulu. The new team was inaugurated on Dec. 12 with a traditional Hawaiian blessing.

According to an announcement from the company, which was founded by CEO Cecil Morton, SpeediShuttle intends to add a new management feature that will provide clear shuttle arrival times to the second.

"Providing real-time arrival and travel time technology has proven to enhance travelers experience by reducing stress for those wanting to understand the where, how, and timing as they go on their journey through airport terminals, may it be on arrivals or departures," Morton said in a statement.

SpeediShuttle will continue to operate the Wiki Wiki shuttle as well as provide "efficient statewide airport shuttle service in the same way it [has] been serving millions of visitors and kamaaina for more than 20 years," the announcement noted.

Click on the link above to view the rest of this article.

[Uber or taxi overseas: Which is cheaper and better while travelling overseas, and why](#)
Traveller.com - Dec. 15, 2022

Most commuters know what to expect from Ubers and taxis in their own city or state – the intricacies of dynamic surge pricing; the likelihood of a taxi ever arriving; the prospect of a cabbie illegally requesting an off-meter set fee, certainly at a higher rate.

Unfortunately much of that hard-earned wisdom goes out the window once you set foot in another country. Now it's a mystery bag of: which colour cab is the non-scamming kind? Will I get stung with an Uber airport access fee for my pickup? It sounds confusing, but you only need a handful of rules to guide your decision.

Where Uber once smoked the competition, today the playing field has levelled somewhat. Some taxi companies have made improvements on both tech and service fronts – increasingly, you can book, track and pay for cabs via an app, although some old habits die hard (in Australia, reports of taxi drivers turning off their meters are steadily increasing as fuel prices rise, so brace for the same overseas).

Click on the link above to view the rest of this article.

[The battle over gig worker status is heating up](#)
Tech Crunch - Dec. 15, 2022

The fight over whether gig workers are independent contractors or employees has been heating up this week on both state and federal levels. The stakes? A once disruptive business model could soon be disrupted itself.

On the state level, this week has seen developments in the Proposition 22 saga as companies relying on gig workers put forth a [slew of arguments](#) against last year's ruling that the law was [unconstitutional and therefore unenforceable](#). Prop 22, a California ballot initiative, [passed into law in 2020](#), allowing app-based ride-hail and delivery companies to continue classifying gig workers as independent contractors rather than employees. In August 2021, Alameda County Superior Court Judge Frank Roesch found the law conflicts with the state Constitution by restricting the legislature's ability to regulate workers' compensation rules.

In response to Roesch's ruling, the very same coalition of major gig companies — like Uber, Lyft, DoorDash and Instacart — that [spent millions](#) on advertising to convince Californians to vote for Prop 22 filed an appeal to overturn the court ruling. On Tuesday, they called the challenge to Prop 22 an "attack on voters' direct democracy powers" and out of line with California's legacy of "guard[ing] voter initiative powers and uphold[ing] their acts wherever possible."

Click on the link above to view the rest of this article.

[SYR Rolls out Convenient Parking Status Tool](#)

SYRAirport.org - Dec. 19, 2022

The Syracuse Regional Airport Authority (SRAA) announced today the rollout of a new, convenient tool to monitor the status of drive-up parking availability at Syracuse Hancock International Airport (SYR). Travelers now have the ability – 24 hours a day – to see the drive-up parking status of each parking lot at the airport by visiting the airport's [parking webpage](#).

"This is all about making our customer's travel day a little easier before they even leave for the airport," said SRAA Chief Commercial Officer Jason Mehl. "These near-real-time parking status updates will eliminate any guesswork – and hopefully a little stress as well – from the ground transportation portion of our travelers' experience."

Airport patrons are also encouraged to explore the pre-book parking option the [airport rolled out last year](#). This service offers customers the ability to guarantee a spot in their desired parking lot weeks – or even months – prior to their trip. It's important to note these premium pre-book parking spaces represent only a small fraction of the overall parking capacity at the airport. The vast majority of parking capacity is intended for drive-up parking.

Click on the link above to view the rest of this article.

[Landline to begin new seasonal service to Breck from DIA](#)

BizWest - Dec. 19, 2022

FORT COLLINS – The Landline shuttle service will begin offering daily trips between Breckenridge and Denver International Airport on Thursday.

Expanding upon the company's current Northern Colorado relationship with United Airlines, the regional transportation shuttle created a "virtual airport" off Main Street in Breckenridge, where United customers can check in for their flight, drop off their bags and take advantage of a seamless connection to their flight at DIA. Landline earlier this month expanded its partnership with United at Northern Colorado Regional Airport.

Click on the link above to view the rest of this article.

[Hyderabad Airport Metro works to be fast-tracked](#)

ETInfra.com - Dec. 16, 2022

HYDERABAD: The Hyderabad Airport Metro Ltd (HAML) has decided to fast-track construction of the Airport Metro Rail, the foundation stone of which was laid on December 9.

In order to start the Airport Metro Rail ground works at an early date and fast track the pre-construction activities, the HAML decided to take up a number of activities in a parallel processing mode.

The company has engaged two survey teams to gather ground data for alignment finalisation. The data will be crucial for deciding the location of metro pillars and stations, their heights, profile of the viaduct etc.

Starting the survey work and to give directives to the survey teams, HAML Managing Director N.V.S. Reddy and his team of senior engineers inspected the Airport Metro route from Raidurg Metro station to Narsingi Junction on Sunday.

Click on the link above to view the rest of this article.

[Russian Hackers' Latest Target Is Cab Dispatch Line at J.F.K., U.S. Says](#)

The New York Times - Dec. 20, 2022

Russian hackers have carried out cyberattacks on hospitals, oil and gas companies, a presidential election and a [massive fuel pipeline](#). But cyberwarfare reached a new battlefield on Tuesday when the authorities said that two Queens men working with Russians had been able to hack the electronic taxi dispatch system at Kennedy International Airport.

The goal? To allow taxi drivers in a holding lot waiting to pick up their next fare to jump the line — for a \$10 fee.

The Queens men discussed their plans in messages to their Russian counterparts, a federal indictment charged. The defendants credited that nation's hackers with great technical prowess.

"I know that the Pentagon is being hacked," one of the defendants, Daniel Abayev, wrote. "So, can't we hack the taxi industry?"

On Tuesday, Damian Williams, the U.S. attorney in Manhattan, and John Gay, the inspector general of the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, announced the indictments of Mr. Abayev and another man, Peter Leyman, each 48.

"The Port Authority has zero tolerance for bad actors violating the law at our facilities," Mr. Gay said in a statement.

Click on the link above to view the rest of this article.

[Watertown resident starts one-man taxi business, focusing service near airports](#)
Argus Leader - Dec. 19, 2022

After the town's only cab company shut down at the end of last year, Dale Hannasch of Watertown decided to start his own this summer.

For six years, the 70-year-old worked part time as a Watertown cabbie, driving people around in the evenings and working as a salesman by day.

"I had a lot of experience driving as a salesperson, and it's easy for me to relate with people in the cab, make them feel comfortable," Hannasch said. "I didn't like the night hours so much but being a driver fit my personality."

Hannasch said there were 32 Lyft drivers when it first came out in Watertown, and it originally hurt the cab company he worked at.

"Now, it's hard to find a Lyft or Uber driver here, especially during the daytime," Hannasch said.

Click on the link above to view the rest of this article.

[The JFK AirTrain Should Be Free For Everyone](#)
Vice.com - Dec. 20, 2022

With the holiday travel season more or less returning to pre-pandemic levels, millions of New Yorkers and tourists are once again engaging in a time-honored tradition: figuring out the least bad way to get to JFK.

New York City is a big place with a transit system that requires PhD levels of study to master, so there is no simple way to describe the JFK calculus that applies to the whole city. But if you want to get to JFK by public transit, you have to take the AirTrain either from the end of a subway line or the Long Island Rail Road. (Yes, I know there are local buses that go to the airport. Like most everyone else, I'm going to ignore them.)

The AirTrain is a separate driverless train that, like nearly all U.S. airport trains, is needlessly complicated and vestigial to the city's transit system thanks to [an arcane bureaucratic rule that no longer exists](#). But AirTrain does exist, and it is operated by the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey (PANYNJ) which also owns and operates the region's airports. The AirTrain takes about seven minutes and costs \$8 per ride. If you are traveling with anyone other than yourself, the

AirTrain fare alone makes taking an Uber or cab not only the most convenient option, but on par economically as well.

Click on the link above to view the rest of this article.

AIRPORT NEWS

[Winter storm threatens holiday travel boom](#)

The Washington Post - Dec. 20, 2022

A [fierce winter storm](#) that could hit large parts of the Lower 48 states in coming days has the potential to cause massive flight delays and cancellations and create treacherous road conditions during one of the busiest travel weeks of the holiday season.

More than 112 million people are expected to travel more than 50 or more miles away from home between Dec. 23 and Jan. 2, according to AAA, an increase of 3 percent over last year but still below pre-pandemic numbers.

The bulk of those on the move — estimated at nearly 102 million — will drive, according to AAA. More than 7 million will fly, while several million more will take the train or use other modes of transportation. According to AAA, 2022 is shaping up to be the third-busiest year for holiday travel since it began tracking the numbers in 2000.

But [many of those trips could be disrupted by a massive storm](#) that could bring snow and wind to the Rockies and northern Plains beginning Wednesday before moving east. For airlines, which have spent months preparing for one of the busiest travel periods of the year, the timing could not be worse. The most significant impacts are expected Thursday and Friday.

Click on the link above to view the rest of this article.

[Port Authority Of New York And New Jersey Approved Multi-Billion Dollar Airport Project](#)

Simple Flying - Dec. 16, 2022

The Port Authority of New York and New Jersey has approved its budget for 2023. Following a month-long public consultation process, the agency will work with a total budget of \$8.3 billion next year. This is made up of \$2.9 billion for multiple infrastructure projects, including redevelopment at its three largest airports. \$3.7 billion has been earmarked for general operating expenses, and the remaining \$1.7 billion will go on debt repayment.

The agency is responsible for five airports, together forming the largest network of airports in the world — [New York John F. Kennedy International Airport](#) (JFK), [Newark Liberty International Airport](#) (EWR), [LaGuardia Airport](#) (LGA), New York Stewart International Airport (SWF), and Teterboro Airport (TEB).

Click on the link above to view the rest of this article.

[CBX airport connector gets ready for cross-border holiday travel crunch](#)

The San Diego Union Tribune - Dec. 19, 2022

Expansion projects at the Cross Border Xpress sky bridge that connects San Diego to the Tijuana International Airport means travel may go a bit smoother this holiday season.

Over the past year, the binational pedestrian walkway, known as CBX for short, increased parking capacity by 60 percent, automated checkpoints by 93 percent and staffing by 25 percent, according to officials.

"We are ready for the season. We have everything we need for parking, crossing speed, comfort and the terminal is wider now," said Gonzalo Robles, chief revenue and business development officer with CBX.

Improvements began early this year on both sides of the border. In February, the U.S. Customs and Border Protection processing area within CBX was expanded from four to eight double-stacked booths, for a total of 16 inspection lines available for processing travelers arriving from the Tijuana airport.

Click on the link above to view the rest of this article.

Dozens hired during job fair for new KCI Airport Terminal

Fox4kc.com - Dec. 14, 2022

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — Dozens of new hires are waiting to start their new careers at [Kansas City International Airport](#). Kansas City's Aviation Department said it hired 46 people during a job fair Dec. 8.

They are now in the process of getting background checks as well as drug screenings and physicals. It is not known yet how many will make it through the entire onboarding process.

The airport is still hiring for a number of positions, including:

- Airport Police Officer
- Airport Security Dispatcher
- Building Maintenance Worker
- Bus Operator
- Bus Operator Trainee
- Maintenance Mechanic
- Maintenance Repairer
- Security Officer
- Traffic Control Officer

The city says starting pay begins at \$16.92, plus benefits.

There are other positions that remain open. The full list of jobs at KCI Airport can be found at flykci.com/careers.

Fitch Affirms Bradley Airport (CT) Customer Facility Charge Rev Bonds at 'BBB'; Outlook Stable

FitchRatings.com- Dec. 15, 2022

Fitch Ratings - Chicago: Fitch Ratings has affirmed the 'BBB' rating on Connecticut Airport Authority's Bradley International Airport (BDL) approximately \$151.1 million of senior customer facility charge (CFC) revenue bonds series 2019 A&B for the airport's consolidated ground transportation center. The Rating Outlook is Stable.

The rating reflects the facility's stable underlying traffic base pre-pandemic, supporting a modest-sized volume for rental car transactions in an environment of competing ground transportation options. Additional project strengths include strong operating agreements, diversity of rental car operators serving the local market, and moderate rate-making flexibility with a backstop of a deficiency true-up mechanism to the participating rental car companies to fully support debt payments.

Click on the link above to view the rest of this article.

Frustrated With Airport Parking? Relief Coming to Reid Airport

Aviation Pros - Dec. 19, 2022

Parking problems at Harry Reid International Airport are getting worse. But early next year, airport officials say they'll offer something to ease the situation.

In late January, Reid officials say they'll convert more than 2,000 employee parking spaces to long-term customer parking. The additional public parking spots will be on the ground floor, or the so-called Zero Level, of the parking garage adjacent to Terminal 1 and a surface lot just north of it. Employees will then be required to park at what is now the public economy lot off Rent A Car Road, between Kitty Hawk Way and Gus Giuffre Drive.

Airport officials stress that the transformation will occur next year; so don't go to the airport now during the busy holiday season thinking you'll be able to park there.

The parking transformation was alluded to by Clark County Aviation Department Director Rosemary Vassiliadis when she commented on Reid's remarkable airport passenger volume in November — a record 5.2 million, the first time the number of passengers eclipsed 5 million. The airport has consistently broken records in 2022, which is great for the local tourism economy but challenging for locals trying to leave town

Click on the link above to view the rest of this article.

[Parking costs at Portland International Airport increasing](#)

Katu.com - Dec. 16, 2022

PORTLAND, Ore. — On February 1, 2023, parking rates at the Portland International Airport will be increasing.

This is the first [parking rate adjustment in four years](#). The new rates will be:

Short-term Garage

Current hourly rate: \$3
Hourly rate after 2/1: \$4
Current daily rate: \$27
Daily rate after 2/1: \$30

Long-term Garages

Current hourly rate: \$3
Hourly rate after 2/1: \$4
Current daily rate: \$24
Daily rate after 2/1: \$24

Economy Parking Lots

Current hourly rate: \$3
Hourly rate after 2/1: \$4
Current daily rate: \$12
Daily rate after 2/1: \$15

Gold Key Valet Parking

Current hourly rate: \$10
Hourly rate after 2/1: \$10
Current daily rate: \$35
Daily rate after 2/1: \$45

Click on the link above to view the rest of this article.

[An airport security makeover is long overdue](#)

The Hill - Dec. 19, 2022

The Transportation Security Administration (TSA) anticipates that about [6,600 firearms will be detected at airport security checkpoints in 2022](#), an all-time single year record. This represents around 18 weapons per day out of on average 2 million people screened. The TSA response is to increase maximum penalties for such violations. The problem is that the preponderance of, if not

all such violations are unintentional with no malicious intent. This means that deterrence will have little if any impact.

An incident in November — in which a passenger had a box cutter on [Fronter Airlines](#) flight causing an abrupt landing — further highlights how screening can and does fail, which means that [some weapons, including firearms are making it past security](#).

What many travelers ask during this busy travel period is whether the current TSA airport security model is necessary, and does it really make air travel safer?

The launch of [TSA PreCheck](#) in November 2011 began a new era in airport security, providing passengers the opportunity to gain access to expedited screening lanes in exchange for submitting to a background check and paying an enrollment fee. The program is [enormously popular](#), with passengers permitted to keep their electronic devices in their carry-on bags, keep their shoes on and be screened through a walkthrough metal detector rather than a full body scanner.

Click on the link above to view the rest of this article.

[IF airport parking lots are transitioning to cashless payment](#) **Post Register** - Dec. 20, 2022

Along with many new improvements to the Idaho Falls Regional Airport and record travel numbers, airport officials are attempting to accommodate the larger influx of people and make parking at the airport easier by switching to cashless options for payment.

Airport officials have spent the majority of 2022 working on recent technology upgrades that have now made their way to the parking lots across the entire facility.

Earlier this year, the airport built an additional Transportation Security Administration screening area which brings extra security lines, helping people get to their gate faster as well as adding an additional economy parking lot to the airport.

Airport officials did a trial run with the technology earlier this year at the new economy parking lot and found tremendous success with cashless payment.

“We are always working to improve our passenger experience at IDA and as fewer people carry cash on them, it only seemed fitting we implement this technology at the airport,” Idaho Falls Regional Airport Director Rick Cloutier said in a city news release. “Cashless payment also improves efficacy and helps people reach their final destination sooner.” Payment options for all parking lots will switch to cashless transactions beginning Jan. 1.

[Things to Consider When Building a Parking Garage](#) **Aviation Pros** - Oct. 11, 2022

Whether the airport is large, or small, there is a lot to think about when planning for building a parking garage or improving an existing one. Gresham Smith [GS], an infrastructure design group, spoke to us about recent projects at Norfolk International Airport and Asheville Regional Airport, what kind of planning goes into building and upgrading these facilities, and what airports need to consider.

In December of 2021, GS completed construction of a parking facility at Norfolk International Airport in Virginia to provide spaces in addition to what was available in a pre-existing facility.

In December of 2017, GS had completed construction of a brand-new parking facility at Asheville Regional Airport in North Carolina. Prior to this, the airport did not have a parking facility, simply an open surface parking lot.

Chief Operating Officer at Asheville Regional Airport, Michael Reisman said the airport was experiencing substantial growth over several years and were over capacity in terms of parking requirements.

"The airport historically had less than 400,000 annual enplanements and had about a five or six year run where every year we were breaking the prior year's record in terms of enplanement growth," Reisman said. "We very quickly got to a point where the surface parking facilities that had served us well for decades were just inadequate in terms of servicing the parking needs and the capacity that we required."

Click on the link above to view the rest of this article.