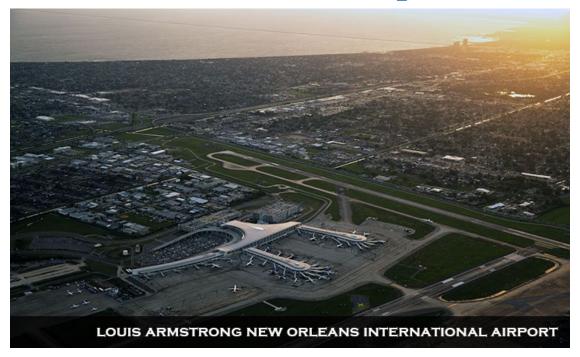
AGTA News from the Airport Curb - 3/23/23.



AGTA News from the Airport Curb



Will you be in New Orleans?

We're meeting April 30 - May 3, 2023 in New Orleans, Louisiana at the Crowne Plaza New Orleans French Quarter. The theme for this year's conference is *A Return to New Orleans: New Build, Re-Build, or Are You Planning for the Future?*

Afternoon Breakout Sessions Explained

Most of the time, the title of the breakout is self-explanatory – but not always. We have found that providing a short explanation of the expected discussion sessions helps delegates find the sessions of most interest to them. Click here for more information on breakout descriptions for our upcoming meeting in New Orleans. Join in the discussion, and let your voice be heard!

Preliminary Agenda

Updated List! Who will be added next?

What Airports have already registered for the Conference?

Calgary Airport Authority Charlotte Douglas Airport Dallas/Ft. Worth International Airport Harry Reid International Airport Hollywood Burbank Airport Houston Airport System-Hobby **New Orleans International Airport** Sacramento International Airport San Jose Mineta International Airport Santa Barbara Airport Sarasota Manatee Airport Authority Savannah Airport Commission Seattle-Tacoma International Airport Spokane International Airport Tampa International Airport **Tulsa International Airport**

Other Airport Representatives, Ground Operators, and Vendors - Make Plans to Join Us!

Meeting Registration

Two weeks left to save \$100!

If you register for the meeting before April 7, you can save \$100 on registration! Use the link above to go to our registration page.

Registration is available for both members and non-members.

Update: Our hotel room block is quickly filling up. Reserve your room as soon as possible to secure the \$189 conference rate before our block is filled up. This rate is only available until 5:00 p.m. CDT on April 7 or until our block is filled.

Hotel Reservation

Conference Countdown:







JOB OPPORTUNITY



Landside Agent at William P. Hobby Airport, City of Houston

To view more information on this position, click here.

GROUND TRANSPORTATION NEWS

California court ruling allows Uber, Lyft to classify drivers as independent contractors Fox Business - Mar. 13, 2023

Ride-sharing apps like Uber and Lyft can continue classifying their drivers as independent contractors, thanks to a Monday ruling from a <u>California appeals court</u> that reversed a lower-court decision barring them from the practice.

The ruling comes after California voters in November 2020 approved <u>Proposition 22</u>, which OK'd drivers for ride-sharping and delivery apps to be classified as independent contractors.

In 2021, a California judge ruled the proposition unconstitutional, arguing that it infringed on the legislature's power to set workplace standards.

The state and the "Protect App-Based Drivers & Services" (PADS) coalition appealed that decision. Monday's ruling comes down in their favor.

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

NYC Uber, Lyft drivers win pay raise in Taxi and Limousine Commission vote; Uber hails plan as 'more reasonable'

New York Daily News - Mar. 8, 2023

Uber and Lyft drivers are taking home more pay this month, thanks in part to a Taxi and Limousine Commission decision alter its minimum-pay formula for rideshare drivers as well as to expedite the raise.

"We are excited that we have come to a rule that has worked for everyone," TLC Commissioner David Do said to a packed hearing room at the commission's Manhattan headquarters.

The pay bump of about 2.25% approved Wednesday is meant to offset higher vehicle maintenance costs and other driver expenses.

That pay bump comes on top of a separate TLC decision in February to adjust driver pay to account for inflation.

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

Illinois Lawmakers Eye Tougher Safety Standards For Uber, Lyft

WTTW News - Mar. 7, 2023

Illinois lawmakers <u>are considering a bill</u> that would hold rideshare companies to a stricter standard of care for their passengers.

Uber and Lyft are currently exempt from the so-called "common carrier" standard that applies to other forms of transportation like taxis, railroads and airlines. It means that entities moving travelers from point A to point B are held to a high standard of keeping those passengers safe from harm.

"You are turning over your safety to the person that is behind the wheel," said the bill's lead sponsor, state Rep. Jennifer Gong-Gershowitz (D-Glenview). "That is really the rationale for the heightened standard of care that applies to common carriers, and similarly, doesn't support the continued exemption from that standard of care for Uber and Lyft."

Gong-Gershowitz is sponsoring a bill that would take away rideshare companies' exemption from the common carrier standard. She says when lawmakers first moved to regulate rideshare companies, they were scrappy upstarts and the idea was to help encourage competition. Given

their ubiquity now, she says the exemption just doesn't make sense – and that holding them to a higher standard will make everyone safer.

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

Philly airport splits taxi pickup zone with Uber and Lyft. Cab drivers picket to reclaim space.

The Philadelphia Inquirer - Mar. 15, 2023

Taxi drivers picketed on Monday outside City Hall, carrying signs that read, "No compromise on Zone #5 at airport." They hoped their message would reach Mayor Jim Kenney, who oversees the department that runs the airport.

After Philadelphia taxi drivers banded together earlier this year to oppose planned changes to taxi and rideshare pickup zones at Philadelphia International Airport, the airport presented a new plan in February that meant taxis could keep their prime pickup location but must share it with Uber and Lyft.

The taxi driver who led the charge agreed to the new pickup adjustments, which went into effect on Monday, but many of the drivers are still unhappy— and they want local leaders to help restore their designated space.

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

LaGuardia Airport AirTrain Abandoned for Better Bus Services

Bloomberg - *Mar.* 13, 2023

The \$2 billion AirTrain project, which would have connected Midtown Manhattan to <u>LaGuardia Airport</u>, is dropped following a report by an expert panel released Monday that called for improved bus service.

New York Governor Kathy Hochul, who paused the LaGuardia AirTrain project in 2021, embraced the report's recommendation calling for better bus service in place of the project. She had asked the The Port Authority of New York & New Jersey, the airport's operator, to study alternative mass transit options to LaGuardia at the time.

The expert panel recommends that the bistate agency create a new non-stop shuttle service between the airport and the borough of Queens in New York City and make substantial improvements to existing bus links operated by the Metropolitan Transportation Authority. It did not recommend ferries, which the study concluded would attract a very low level of ridership. The improved bus service is projected to benefit nearly 5 million total passengers annually, the 450-page report said.

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

Hochul Scraps 'Wrong Way' AirTrain for Thrilling New Tech — The Bus!

Streets Blog NYC - Mar. 13, 2023

Let's hear it for the bus.

Gov. Hochul and the Port Authority finally put the kibosh on the notorious Cuomo-era "wrong-way" LaGuardia AirTrain on Monday — promising to move ahead on two new, spruced-up bus connections to the travel hub.

The decision comes 17 months after Hochul formed an expert panel to explore alternatives to former Gov. Andrew Cuomo's \$2-billion <u>proposed monorail</u>, which would have first carried Manhattan-bound travelers *away* from their destination before requiring them to double-back.

The panel concluded that Cuomo's light rail proposal would fail to attract more riders than simply expanding an exciting new technology that is akin to a street-based train: the bus.

'Private jet on wheels': Luxury bus service to expand routes from Nashville

WKRN.com - Mar. 15. 2023

NASHVILLE, Tenn. – A luxury bus service has rolled into Nashville and is already looking to expand its routes.

After originating in Texas ten years ago, Vonlane launched in Music City in November with the company's first Southeast route to Atlanta.

The company calls it a "Private Jet on Wheels," and Founder and CEO of Vonlane, Alex Danza, said the idea came from wanting to give travelers another option to consider.

At that point, it really is a flip of the coin. Do I fly or do I drive myself? Both options are exhausting," Danza said. "Both options are stressful. And so I said why can't there be third option for people to travel in a very dignified, stress-free, easy way and have a first class experience?"

After a successful launch to Atlanta, Danza tells us Memphis is up next.

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

ACE Parking's Fleet Surpasses One Million Zero-Emission Miles

The EV Report - Mar. 22, 2023

What's Happening: Lightning eMotors, a top supplier of zero-emission commercial vehicles and <u>electric vehicle</u> (EV) technology, has announced that its customer, ACE Parking, has achieved over one million all-electric, zero-emission miles with its San Diego Airport fleet of ZEV4 and ZEV5 shuttle buses.

Why It Matters: This milestone demonstrates the viability and success of electric fleets, as well as their positive impact on the environment. It highlights the potential for broader adoption of <u>electric vehicles</u> in commercial settings, particularly in the transportation sector.

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

Are electric cars really better for the environment?

LocalSYR.com - Mar. 12, 2023

The U.S. transportation sector is in the midst of an aggressive push to replace fossil fuels and the internal combustion engine with renewable energy and zero emissions electric vehicles.

Government incentives have recently been updated to encourage not only the sale of battery electric vehicles (BEVs), but increased domestic production of battery packs, electric motors, and EV charging stations.

While the desire to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and fight climate change is admirable, analysis of a gasoline vehicle's total environmental impact must be compared to an electric vehicle's complete carbon footprint to understand which vehicle design is truly better for the planet. Zero tailpipe emissions are the most obvious advantages electric cars have over gasoline cars, but if the power plant charging an EV isn't using renewable energy sources the electric vehicle's low-carbon advantage falls dramatically.

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

Police now require 'L riders to show proof of airport business to exit ORD station late at night

Streets Blog Chicago - Mar. 7, 2023

Streetsblog recently reported on how the issue of unhoused people sheltering O'Hare Airport seems to have impacted Blue Line service. Here's a recap to bring you up to speed.

August 1, 2020: Amidst an increase in homeless folks using the 24-hour Blue Line as a last-resort place to sleep during COVID-19, the CTA announced that trains to O'Hare would be "exit-only" between midnight and and 4 a.m. "to allow for added overnight cleaning of trains." To take CTA from the airport into the city during this time of day, it was necessary to pay a fare to ride a shuttle bus from O'Hare to the Rosemont 'L' stop. This made it impossible to spend the night riding the train back and forth between the airport and Forest Park.

February 15, 2023: Probably not coincidentally, during the next 2.5 years, the number of unhoused individuals riding the train to O'Hare and then sleeping in the corridors and terminals appeared to greatly increase. This was reflected in a sharp uptick in the number of people stopping by Haymarket Center's O'Hare outreach program, which connects unhoused individuals at the airport with services. It became fairly common to see folks stretched out across heating vents, or even sprawled in the middle of hallways and vestibules. Maintenance employees complained to CBS Chicago that some homeless people had trashed restrooms and harassed them as they worked. The situation attracted international notoriety on February 15, when the right-wing Daily Mail published photos of homeless people sleeping at the airport, sometimes in squalid conditions, including a full encampment near the baggage claim.

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

Brightline offers shuttles to two major airports and Hard Rock Stadium South Florida Sun Sentinel - *Mar.* 17, 2023

Brightline rail service has started offering bus shuttle service to and from both Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport and Miami International Airport.

The high-speed rail line also announced shuttle service and extra trains to and from its Aventura station to serve Hard Rock Stadium during major sporting events.

The Fort Lauderdale airport shuttle runs to and from Brightline's Fort Lauderdale station, and the Miami airport shuttle runs to and from Brightline's Miami Central station.

The new shuttle service operates on a fixed-route schedule and does not require advance reservations. One-way rides will set you back \$10, and passengers can pay upon boarding the shuttle. You can also track the buses on their routes at https://live.goswift.ly/brightline-fl-us.

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

<u>Luxury transportation company stretches services to Orlando, Miami</u> Business Observer - *Mar.* 22, 2023

Naples-based luxury ground transportation services firm BC Executive Services is expanding to other parts of Florida, including Miami and Orlando.

Founded in 2017, the company offers a wide range of transportation options with its 12-car luxury vehicle fleet, according to a statement. Transportation services include private car service, point-to-point transportation, event transportation for weddings, destination tours and corporate events. BC also provides luxury airport service to major airports, including Southwest Florida International Airport, Miami International Airport and Fort Lauderdale International Airport.

"We are proud to offer transportation throughout South Florida and are committed to providing safe, reliable and stress-free transportation options in Fort Myers, Naples, Punta Gorda, Marco Island, Miami and Fort Lauderdale with a hub in Orlando," owner and CEO Brian Cruz says in the statement.

Landline is rolling from Fargo to Minneapolis. Is the new bus service worth it?

INFORUM - Mar. 22, 2023

FARGO — I don't need to tell any of you how to get from Fargo to Minneapolis.

Head east on Interstate 94. Drive for anywhere from three-and-a-half to four hours, depending on road conditions and lead-footedness. Exit where you need to and you are just about done.

That simplicity is why I was a bit surprised to see that <u>a Forum story about a new nonstop bus</u> service from Fargo's Hector International Airport to Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport ranked among the top 10 most popular stories with readers the week it was published.

Our readers were clearly quite interested to learn more about this new service, run by an up-and-coming company named Landline.

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

Port Authority to host second autonomous vehicle demonstration at JFK Airport as it looks to the future of public transit

QNS.com - Mar. 2, 2023

The <u>Port Authority of New York and New Jersey</u> will take a second look into the future of ground transportation at JFK Airport in June.

The bi-state agency and Ohmio, a leading New Zealand-based autonomous mobility company, announced on Feb. 28 that they will host the country's first three-vehicle platooning demonstration at a U.S. airport. The Port Authority also hosted a demonstration of two eight-passenger electric autonomous shuttles in a platoon at JFK in October to simulate how such technology could serve passengers in the future.

The Ohmio demonstration will focus on using eight-passenger driverless shuttles in a three-vehicle platoon on a closed road segment at the JFK Long Term Parking Lot. They will travel very closely together without any physical connection.

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

GO Group Adds New Cities and Airports to Service Areas

PR Newswire - *Mar.* 13, 2023

CHICAGO -- GOWithsUs.com (formerly GO Airport Shuttle), is pleased to welcome two new operators in Jacksonville, Fla. and Raleigh, N.C. to its consortium of airport ground transportation providers.

GO offers safe, reliable airport ground transportation The GO Group, LLC

GO now offers private airport shuttles and private car services to and from <u>Jacksonville International Airport</u> (JAX), hotels, businesses and resort areas. At the airport, passengers can find the GO ground transportation booth located left of baggage claim. Service areas include all of northeast Florida, including Duval, Nassau, St. Johns Flaglar and Clay counties plus all of Southeast, Ga.

In <u>Raleigh-Durham International Airport</u> (RDU), GO offers private cars for non-stop service to 38 destinations throughout the Research Triangle Region including the cities of Raleigh, Durham, and Chapel Hill. Passengers can find GO by following signage outside baggage claims in each terminal to the brown limo zones.

Elon Musk's The Boring Company seeks to double the size of its Vegas Loop

Tech Crunch - Mar .21, 2023

Elon Musk's Boring Company is doubling down on its Vegas bet, with a proposal that would expand its underground transport system to 65 miles of tunnels below the streets of Sin City.

The <u>proposed network map</u>, which was recently filed with the city of Las Vegas and not previously reported, depicts dozens of tunnels criss-crossing the city to reach more casinos, retail zones, the University of Nevada Las Vegas campus and, for the first time, even residential areas. The proposed transit system is comprised of 69 stations and 65 miles of tunnels, according to planning documents, plus an unknown number of Tesla vehicles.

If successful, a Loop station would be located within a few blocks of almost anywhere in central Las Vegas. Five stations would serve the University of Nevada; and Allegiant Stadium — home to the Raiders NFL team — would get extra links to the west of the city. Harry Reid International Airport would have several stations surrounding it, although none actually serving the passenger terminal.

The system also plans to have a new tunnel running parallel to the Strip with few stations on it, possibly allowing for a high-speed "express" route between the north and south of the city. A similar artery connects east and west Las Vegas.

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

Car rental company issued cease and desist by airport after questionable fees

WFTV.com - *Mar* .8, 2023

ORLANDO, Fla. — An ex-cop-turned-felon who Channel 9 has reported on before is now being accused by car rental customers of tacking on questionable fees and sending threatening letters when they try to dispute the bill.

One customer told Action 9 she was charged airport fees, but Orlando International Airport leaders say the car rental company isn't affiliated with them in any way, and now they've issued a cease and desist.

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

Port Bus Driver Makes Connections

Port of Seattle - Mar .8, 2023

Each time Erin Hartfelder drives the 3.4-mile loop from Seattle-Tacoma International Airport to the Rental Car Facility during his shift, it feels like a completely different route.

"When I worked as a bus driver at Pierce Transit, I'd see the same people over and over, but at the airport, I'm usually driving people I've never seen before so it's almost a different trip every single time."

Hartfelder has been a bus driver at the Port of Seattle for the past 11 years, and he takes his role as travelers' first touchpoint to the city of Seattle and Pacific Northwest very seriously. He sees each trip he makes as a chance to meet someone new and make a new connection. Interacting with the traveling public (rather than commuters that he would see working in traditional transit) makes the job unique.

"I like interacting and making riders happy, and giving them travel recommendations," he said. "If you're about to travel I have a lot of tips on what to do."

When to Consider Booking With Turo Over a Traditional Rental Car

Nerd Wallet - Mar. 1, 2023

Turo is a peer-to-peer car sharing platform that allows car owners to rent out their own cars to regular people. Consider it a sort of <u>Airbnb for cars</u>.

Given <u>high rental car prices</u> and often limited rental car availability, <u>alternative rental car services</u> like Turo can be a lifesaver. After all, skyrocketing rental car prices became one of the biggest pandemic-era travel stories as they hit record highs in July 2021.

The story of rental cars experiencing <u>massive price increases</u> since the pandemic continues. According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, January 2023 car rental prices were up 36% versus January 2020, the last comparable month before COVID lockdowns in the U.S.

Peer-to-peer car sharing platforms, meanwhile, have continued to grow in popularity. The global car sharing market surpassed \$2 billion in value in 2020 and is expected to grow 20% annually from 2021 to 2027, according to July 2021 data from market researcher Global Market Insights.

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

The Last Leg: How to Get From the Airport to Your Destination

Thrifty Traveler - Mar. 9, 2023

The hard part is over: You've taken the flight and your hotel or rental unit is already booked. But the last leg of your long journey is getting from the airport to your destination, and it pays to have a good plan for that.

There's nothing worse than landing after a long flight and then having to scramble to find a way to your destination. Luckily, there are some easy tools to help you figure out how to get there quickly, easily, and cheaply.

Whether you're looking for the cheapest public transportation, a shuttle, a rideshare, or a private car service, there is no shortage of ways to get to your hotel or Airbnb from the airport. But, some are better than others.

I'm not here to tell you which method of transportation is best – that varies from city to city, month to month, and even hour to hour at some airports. This guide will give you the tools to determine that for yourself and save you from some stress down the line.

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

AIRPORT NEWS

San Francisco International Airport to host AIRTAXI World Congress 2023

Vertical Magazine - Mar. 20, 2023

In a groundbreaking development, San Francisco International Airport (SFO) has been selected as the host of this year's highly anticipated AIRTAXI World Congress. As one of the most prominent events in the advanced air mobility (AAM) calendar, AIRTAXI World Congress will bring together the world's top minds to discuss air taxis and advanced air mobility.

"We are proud to be the host airport for this conference," said SFO Airport Director Ivar C. Satero. "We see SFO as the gateway to a region of innovation, serving a population of critical thinkers, entrepreneurs, and early adopters. This is the place where visions of the future become reality, and our entire airport team looks forward to hosting a productive session of industry leaders to help shape that future vision of air transportation."

The four-day event will be held at the luxury Grand Hyatt at SFO hotel from October 2-5, providing an ideal location to gather 400+ key decision-makers who are leading eVTOL OEMs, international airlines, airports, investors, leasing companies, and infrastructure companies from Japan,

Singapore, South Korea, India, Australia, New Zealand, UAE, UK, Germany, France, Qatar and the U.S.

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

Airport Of The Month: Las Vegas Harry Reid International Airport

Simple Flying - Mar. 16, 2023

Continuing our brand-new feature for 2023 - Airport Of The Month - Simple Flying is delighted to reveal our nominated airport for March. Each month, we will celebrate an airport that has gone above and beyond in providing exceptional passenger experience and is investing to make our time spent in transit even better in the future.

The airport has come storming back after the pandemic, with a record number of passengers served in 2022. Over the summer, more passengers passed through the airport than ever before, with July seeing 4.86 million flyers, up from the previous record of 4.68 million. For many months of 2022, Las Vegas was the most recovered airport in the world, according to OAG, picking up 20% or more additional seats flown compared with 2019.

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

Airport Parking Alternatives Are Coming. You'll Just Have to Wait a While.

Bend Source Weekly - Mar. 22, 2023

Officials at the Redmond airport raised prices on daily parking five years ago. Now, they want to do it again, raising the daily fee from \$15 to \$24 per day. It's the same price someone would pay to park daily at Portland International Airport, they pointed out – even though we all know that the experience varies greatly.

At PDX, one can <u>pay \$24 to park</u> there, or they can opt to hop on the light rail and get nearly anywhere in the metro area in a reasonable amount of time. They can also take a bus. They'll also park their vehicle in a covered area that keeps it safer from the elements. There are also private parking stalls close to the airport that cost far less than \$24.

Here at the Redmond airport, those coming from Bend or parts elsewhere have none of those options. Airport officials told the Redmond City Council, who may vote on the issue at the end of March, that increasing the fees would help them pay for the expansion of the airport facilities, which gets underway next year. Parking is a real cash cow, even for a facility that traffics in air travel.

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

Airport parking: Need a backup? Consider these 7 off-site options located near Houston airports

Click2Houston.com - Mar. 13, 2023

HOUSTON - Planning to park at the airport this spring break? You'll want to have a backup plan.

Terminal parking at Bush Intercontinental Airport is currently at capacity, according to Houston Airports on Monday.

Capacity at Hobby Airport's terminal parking is also nearly full as of this writing.

To check the status of parking at each airport, click here.

Travelers who are seeking a backup plan should consider off-site parking options near the airport. All parking sites have a shuttle to and from the airport.

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

<u>Laguardia Terminal B named world's best new airport terminal based on global passenger</u> survey conducted by airport rating firm Skytrax

The Port Authority of New York and New Jersey and LaGuardia Gateway Partners, the terminal manager and developer of LaGuardia's new Terminal B, announced that LaGuardia Airport's Terminal B was named the world's best new terminal based on feedback from customers around the world surveyed on factors including check-in, shopping, security, terminal comfort and ambiance, and choice of bars and restaurants. Additionally, Newark Liberty International Airport's new \$2.7 billion Terminal A, which opened in January 2023, was named the third-best new terminal in the world, giving the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey two places on the podium at the annual World Airport Awards show held in Amsterdam.

Simultaneously, it was announced that LaGuardia Terminal B is the first airline terminal in North America to achieve the highest global 5-star airport terminal rating from Skytrax, the international transport rating organization.

The award for best new terminal and the coveted 5-star rating recognizes that LaGuardia Airport has been successfully transformed from what was once among the nation's worst airports to what is now one of the world's best airports. Completed in January 2022, LaGuardia Terminal B is among just 22 airports and terminals worldwide to have earned 5 stars from Skytrax for global best practices. A third-place finish for Newark Liberty's Terminal A recognizes that the new terminal has made a global impression in just three months since it has opened.

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

Muñoz Marín Airport installs real time parking availability system News Is My Business - Mar. 21, 2023

Amid the increased demand for parking space at Puerto Rico's Luis Muñoz Marín International Airport, its operator, Aerostar Airport Holdings, has installed an electronic system that lets drivers know, in real time, the number of spots available on each of its six floors.

Aerostar President Jorge Hernández explained that the vehicle-counting mechanism installed in the multilevel parking lot is highly accurate and reliable. He explained that information screens allow visitors to see in real time the number of vacant parking spaces on each of the levels so they can decide where to go quicker.

"The system makes it easier to reduce the time drivers spend looking for parking spots," the executive said. "Thanks to the information on the electronic panels, the search for spaces will become more agile and will help maximize the traveler's time, allowing [passengers] to reach their destinations faster."

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

<u>Vehicles Are Flying Out of Denver Airport Parking Lots...With Thieves Behind the Wheels</u> Westword - *Mar. 14, 2023*

Kevin Griffitts parked his truck in the East Garage at Denver International Airport early March 4, then caught an 8:30 a.m. flight. When he returned on March 7, his beloved Ford F-150 Shelby was gone.

"It's something I dreamed about having since I was fourteen years old, and I'm now 52," Griffitts says. "Losing it was a little bit hard to face."

Griffitts, who works for a telecommunications company, spent three hours looking for "Beast Truck," as he'd nicknamed the vehicle. He checked every inch of the parking garage and even used the airport's courtesy shuttle that will drive people around airport lots to find their vehicles. "We checked everywhere on the second floor of the parking structure on the east and west side," Griffitts recalls.