

AGTA News from the Airport Curb for the week of 5/19/22.



AGTA News from the Airport Curb



OPPORTUNITIES ABOUND:

TransLoc Open Positions

[RFP to provide contracted taxicab services at the Salt Lake City International Airport](#)

GROUND TRANSPORTATION NEWS

[DIA fires top parking official in fallout of shuttle audit and probe of "toxic" work culture](#)

The Denver Post - May 19, 2022

Denver International Airport has fired the senior leader over its parking operation after a year of turmoil that saw a critical audit of the airport's shuttle bus system and charges by employees of discrimination, harassment and a hostile work environment.

Internal documents, emails and personnel records obtained by The Denver Post reveal that by early April, employee concerns about the workplace . . .

[Airport parking crisis? How to save money while securing a space](#)

The Points Guy - May 18, 2022

In a May 10 press release, San Francisco International Airport warned its customers that "SFO expects parking garages to be at or near capacity during the summer travel season." To make matters worse, one Park 'N Fly lot near SFO was just sold last week to a shopping mall developer for \$85

million, taking 1,840 spaces off the market and further hurting supply. Doug Yakel, public information officer at the airport, told The Points Guy “while parking rarely sells out, given the anticipated traffic, we recommend guests book their parking at least one week prior to the start of their trip.”

Other airports are facing a parking surge as well.

Los Angeles International Airport (LAX) shared via its Twitter account on May 16 that “Sunday was our busiest day at the TSA checkpoints since early 2020 ... This means you need to arrive early and plan your parking ahead of time at parking.flylax.com especially as the Memorial Day holiday nears!”

The Port of Seattle issued a parking alert for Seattle-Tacoma International Airport on May 15: “The SEA parking garage is near capacity and continues to be extra busy this weekend. Please allow extra time to find a parking spot or consider alternate transportation.” This increase in demand comes despite SEA raising airport parking rates by 7% in March.

Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport raised its parking rates 10%-25% in February for its garages, with Greg Roybal, public information officer for the airport, telling The Arizona Republic “the increase is due to high demand for parking.”

During at least the last two months running, Jacksonville International Airport (JAX) has reported on a nearly daily basis via its Twitter account that some or all of its airport parking facilities had reached capacity and were temporarily closing. It suggests travelers allow extra time before their flights to deal with the parking situation.

Baltimore/Washington International Thurgood Marshall Airport (BWI) reopened a 1,400-space express parking area last week to meet increased demand. The lot had been closed since March 2020.

Last week, the Dallas City Council approved increases in parking fees of up to 44% at the Southwest Airlines hub Dallas Love Field (DAL). According to local outlet WFAA, Mark Duebner, the city’s director of aviation, requested the increase because “As customer demand returns to pre-pandemic levels, parking rates need to be adjusted to reduce demand” as they’ve seen “parking availability dwindle.”

At Houston’s George Bush Intercontinental Airport (IAH), the situation is compounded by large-scale construction on a new international terminal that has taken multiple parking garage areas offline. The remaining on-site garages at IAH, especially at Terminal C, have already sold out multiple times in recent months.

Reserving a spot in advance (even on the day of your flight) not only secures you a coveted spot. You may potentially get it at a lower rate. For example, at IAH there are days the garages sell out. However, if you book online in advance you can still save 33% on the regular rates during weekdays and up to 50% off on the weekends.

While on-site parking may have the most acute space and demand constraints, even off-site parking lots can sell out. Be sure to use their reservation systems when available. Signing up for an airport or off-site airport parking app (like Park ‘N Fly) can also provide discounts and special deals on top of ensuring you have a spot and managing shuttle service on the go.

Increased parking rates are encouraging new entries and expansions in the airport-adjacent parking market. Around SFO, I’ve seen multiple new parking areas open in the past year. However, before booking with any off-site location, and particularly new offerings, carefully look at their shuttle service options and hours, and read user reviews of the parking lot service.

While accessing and riding public transit with a full set of luggage is never fun, it will be significantly cheaper than any other option (aside from having a friend drop you off).

For example, BART trains from Oakland to SFO cost about \$12, while a morning trip via Lyft, when available, is estimated at \$70 (but actual prices can be higher) and taxis can run more than \$100.

Going by train from [New York's Penn Station to Newark Liberty International](#) (EWR) via NJ Transit, connecting to the AirTrain, will cost you \$15.25 each way for an adult ticket, which may well be much more affordable than the \$38-per-day rate for the on-airport lot.

Some hotels near airports offer free or greatly discounted parking at their lots for guests. Particularly if you're going on a longer trip, parking your car for a week or two at an airport hotel will more than make up for the price of one room night.

Regardless of your strategy, you should plan ahead for parking your car (or using alternate transport) at the airport this summer so you aren't left scrambling looking for a spot or a ride as the minutes before boarding tick by.

[American adds a 3rd route from Philly operated by a bus](#)

The Points Guy - *May 18, 2022*

Instead of flying to nearby cities, American Airlines is adding yet another bus connection from its hub at the Philadelphia International Airport (PHL) via ground transportation provider [Landline](#).

While the carrier's [first tranche of bus routes](#) launch on June 3, the airline just filed a third route — to Lancaster, Pennsylvania — that'll begin on Aug. 16.

Service to Lancaster Airport (LNS) will join the already announced bus routes to Lehigh Valley International Airport (ABE), in Allentown, Pennsylvania, and Atlantic City International Airport (ACY) in New Jersey.

Travelers headed to or from these three cities can book connecting itineraries through American which will include a segment operated by a Landline bus.

Perhaps the most interesting aspect of the Lancaster addition is that the city is technically covered by the [Essential Air Service program](#) run by the Department of Transportation, which subsidizes airlines to serve airports that would otherwise remain unserved due to their small size.

If you're beginning your journey at an outstation, you'll arrive at the airport and check in with American — which presumably will open a counter at Lancaster. Your checked bags will be tagged and collected, and you'll clear security there (a new feature that Landline is debuting with its American partnership).

But, instead of walking down the jet bridge to board a flight, there'll be a Landline bus, wrapped in American's livery, waiting to whisk you off to Philadelphia.

During the drive, you can enjoy one of the 35 leather seats, complimentary Wi-Fi, streaming entertainment and power at each seat.

Upon arrival in Philadelphia, the bus will pull up airside (past security) and you'll disembark at the terminal. Your checked bags will be automatically transferred to your connecting flight, and you won't need to reclear security.

[Virtual checkpoint queuing is a passenger perk at Phoenix Sky Harbor](#)

International Airport Review - *May 18, 2022*

PHX recently unveiled a partnership with Copenhagen Optimization and CLEAR to offer free reservations for TSA Security Checkpoint lines. This is helping travellers manage their trips and eliminate uncertainty and stress over the security process.

The new pilot programme is called PHX Reserve, and it's giving passengers the ability to schedule a specific time to go through a TSA Security Checkpoint. It's also free.

PHX Reserve is an easy-to-use service that allows passengers to save time and therefore take advantage of other amenities at the airport, such as shop at a boutique, or dine at one of our award-winning restaurants. As we continue to recover from the pandemic, the technology also provides an opportunity to impact non-aeronautical revenues. Our customer surveys are showing that about 50 per cent of passengers who saved time using PHX Reserve spent that time dining or shopping.

At the heart of it, this is part of Phoenix Sky Harbor's broader digitalisation journey. PHX undertook a major digitalisation initiative in 2021 that included mining data from almost 60 different systems and applications to create a completely data-driven operating picture of the airport for the first time.

Of course, the TSA also played a key role – as did the airlines – in planning, developing, and rolling out the programme. Likewise, we worked together with many airport divisions like operations, public safety and security, facilities and services and public relations to launch this new service.

It was our operations team that was instrumental in working with TSA staff to develop the concept of operations, determine operating hours, as well as which checkpoints to use and where to add a dedicated lane to process PHX Reserve passengers.

We're still in the early stages of PHX Reserve, but the passenger feedback is very promising.

Passengers absolutely love the value this new service offers and the ease of using it at airport security checkpoints. About 90 per cent of passengers who have used the service are either very satisfied or satisfied with the service.

[Park 'N Fly Celebrates 55 Years in Off-Site Airport Parking](#)

Cision PR News Wire - May 17, 2022

Park 'N Fly, the nation's leading off-site airport parking provider, celebrates 55 years of providing top-notch service and continually elevating the airport-parking experience.

With the summer travel season approaching, Park 'N Fly provides stress-free, off-site airport parking with unparalleled amenities. Our new www.pnf.com online booking website allows customers to reserve a space online in advance—and avoid searching for a parking space upon arriving at the airport. Our lots also offer a variety of parking space options to accommodate your parking preference such as valet parking, self-park uncovered and covered parking, shuttle service to the terminal on departure and back to the lot upon arrival home, luggage assistance, contactless entry and exit, car washing/detailing, oil changes, pet boarding and more—with staff on-site 24 hours a day. (Available amenities vary by lot location.)

Park 'N Fly opened its first off-site airport parking location in 1967 and has grown to oversee 13 facilities over the years with locations in cities around the United States. The introduction of online booking in 2005 transformed how the company operates and provided customers with an easy, seamless interface for reserving spaces in advance. Expansion into new markets, a steady stream of industry accolades and our ever-evolving App with Frequent Parker rewards program that gives members even more ways to save followed. We introduced the "Park 'N Fly Guy" as our first-ever brand ambassador in 2021, and look forward to what the next 55 years have in store.

[The world's first flying taxi hub takes shape in the English Midlands](#)

ajot.com - May 16, 2022

Coventry is once again at the forefront of world-leading innovation in personal mobility as it hosts what's billed as the first-ever fully functional hub for flying taxis, the electric-powered vertical takeoff and landing craft that backers are talking up as the biggest new thing in aviation.

The site is fully functional, that is, apart from the air taxis themselves. With the scores of proposed eVTOL models yet to win regulatory signoff, unmanned drones are standing in for the typically five-person craft during three weeks of demonstration flights in Coventry.

Everything else, though, is just as it will be when the first flying cabs come to market in a few years' time, according to the hub's developer, Urban-Air Port Ltd., a London-based startup that's leading the push to develop so-called vertiports in competition with UK rival Skyports Ltd.

"We're here to show everyone what the future is going to look like," Urban-Air Port founder and executive chairman Ricky Sandhu said in an interview. "There's no point having new technology if people don't believe in it."

The hub, on a car parking lot at a busy junction across the road from Coventry's main railway station, makes no concessions to the futuristic glamor of Jetsons-style travel, while the city itself is emblematic of Britain's former industrial centers, seeking to reinvent itself yet increasingly held back by limited or overcrowded transport links.

Surrounding the hub are charging points for electric cars and scooters intended to allow passengers to switch seamlessly from one mode of travel to another.

The overall message is clear. Flying taxis aren't some exotic adventure, but a workaday solution to decarbonizing inter-city travel that will be within reach of many, costing much the same as an airport limousine. Hub construction will also be affordable, Sandhu says, starting at 5 million pounds (\$6.1 million).

When their flights are ready, passengers simply walk a few meters to the waiting craft, visible through ceiling-high glass walls at the center of the vertiport. Once they've boarded, the pad elevates until it's level with the top of the building, allowing the eVTOL to rise into the air and head off to its destination.

Urban-Air Port aims to build 200 hubs over the next five years and is offering five different designs: the Air One passenger base on show in Coventry; a floating Marine One version; Resilience One, which can be quickly assembled to provide disaster relief; City Box, for cargo carriage; and Docks Box, designed to attach to loading bays at warehouses and logistics centers.

[DAA Offers Incentives To Taxi Drivers](#)

98 FM - May 16, 2022

The DAA has introduced a number of measures to incentivise taxi drivers to serve Dublin airport late at night.

From this evening, it will trial a 'permit rebate scheme' for drivers who take a minimum number of fares in a week after 10pm.

A driver who picks up a minimum of one fare on three separate days in a week, between 10pm and 2am, will have the cost of their permit reimbursed.

The trial will last four months.

In addition, the DAA says in recent weeks it has issued 250 permits to new drivers and more will be issued when demand arises.

A spokesperson for the DAA says: "The shortage of taxis, particularly late at night, is a national issue. To better serve our passengers and to help encourage and incentivise more taxi drivers to work

unsociable shifts, daa is in the process of introducing a trial permit rebate system for drivers, which will see their annual permit fee being reimbursed if they take a minimum number of fares after 10pm."

[Gatwick Airport parking: Quick and easy way to get 10% off](#)

SurreyLive - May 16, 2022

One of the significant expenses that people sometimes forget about when planning a holiday is the cost of parking their car at the airport. For example, at Gatwick Airport it costs around £20 per day to leave your car waiting for you near the terminal, unless you have taken advantage of advance booking or an online deal.

Luckily, there's a way to knock 10% off the price of parking at Gatwick, and it only takes a few moments to do. The airport runs a free membership scheme called 'myGatwick', and all you need to do is sign up using your email address on its website.

Once you're a myGatwick member, you are entitled to 10% off parking at the airport - but there are plenty of other perks too. Members get free superfast Wi-Fi when in one of the terminals, special offers on airport lounges and on premium treatment when going through security, plus a free luggage tracker and discounts on food and drink at the airport.

[There's now a ride-hailing company serving Victoria International Airport](#)

Victoriabuzz.com - May 16, 2022

Just in time for the busy tourism season, another ground transportation option is ready to serve those travelling to and from Victoria International Airport (YYJ).

According to Victoria Airport Authority, fully licensed ride-hailing company Lucky to Go is the airport's first authorized provider of Ride App services.

To hail a ride, passengers can download the Lucky to Go app via its website, the Google Play or Apple App store, enter their destination, view the estimated fare and pay securely, according to the airport authority.

It adds that passengers will find designated ride-hailing pick-up and drop-off stalls along the curb in YYJ's short-term parking lot.

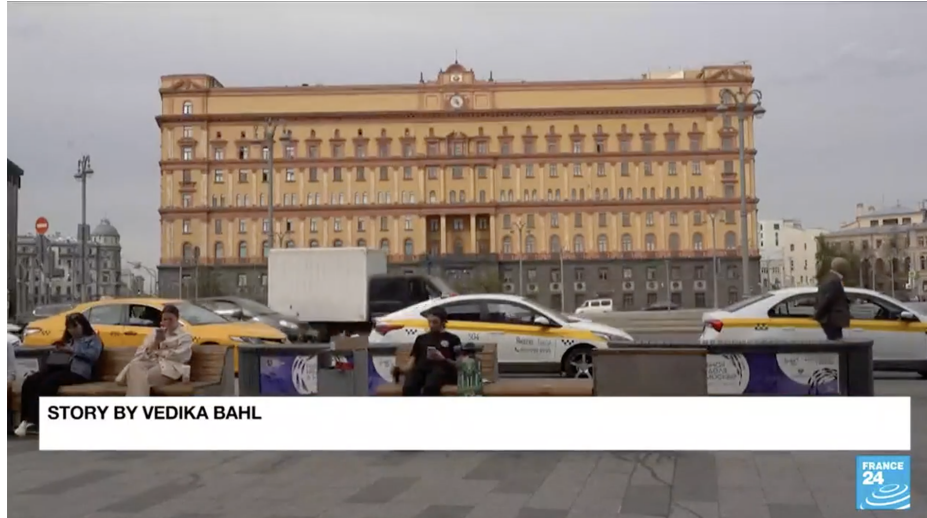
Lucky to Go offers four- and six-seat vehicle options, and passengers can also choose to split the cost by pool-sharing a ride with up to two other riders.

Along with Victoria, the company also operates in Kelowna, with plans to start serving Metro Vancouver in the future.

[Russia pushes law to force taxi apps to share data with spy agency](#)

The Eagle - May 14, 2022

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[Connecticut expands mobility assistance pilot for the blind](#)

CGN.com - May 13, 2022

In Connecticut, a pilot program taps the Aira (artificial intelligence remote assistance) service to help individuals with blindness or low vision get around. The Aira mobile app gives blind individuals voice access to trained agents who can see the users' camera video and talk to them about their surroundings and circumstances. Aira is intended to help users find items in grocery stores, follow social-distancing guidelines and take advantage of public transit thanks to agents who read signs, call out bus stops and offer verbal step-by-step travel directions.

Connecticut launched a no-cost 18-month pilot with Aira in October 2021 to help with bus and train travel, but now it is expanding to Bradley International Airport where it is expected to help the blind navigate security checkpoints and screening process, interact with ticket and gate personnel, find retail and dining options and make their way through the terminal.

To aid their narration, agents not only access the user's smartphone video, but they also tap into web-based data, including maps, location tracking, search engines, text-based messaging and even rideshare integration, according to the app's description.

Since its launch, Connecticut users have made nearly 900 calls and logged more than 10,000 minutes through Aira. While visual interpretation is available at some private sector establishments and local agencies across the country, Connecticut is the first state to provide this type of service to members of the public for free.

[City memo: Curbside improvements coming to Austin airport](#)

KXAN.com - May 13, 2022

Officials at Austin-Bergstrom International Airport want to make it easier for you to pick up and drop off visitors.

Right now, you can only pickup and drop off visitors at the curb.

According to a Thursday memo from the City of Austin Aviation Department to city council, the department has Ground Transportation Centers (GTC) on the first-floor short-term parking area. Those allow rideshare drivers and taxicabs to handle fares without bothering other drivers.

The city memo said as of May 2022, "the AUS GTC has successfully transferred more than 939,097 vehicles from the upper and lower roadway curbside of the Barbara Jordan Terminal, providing for better pedestrian and traffic flow."

The city is also conducting a study this month to provide recommendations to improve the curbside experience for passengers and drivers.

The airport also plans to create priority access for people who need assistance getting around.

The improvements come after travelers complained of chaos at the airport due to crowds in March.

[Progress on California's High-Speed Rail](#)

Streetblog Cal - *May 12, 2022*

Is California high-speed rail happening? Yes. But there has been so much misleading negation of the value of the project, in the media and elsewhere, that unless you live in the Central Valley you might not even realize it is the biggest ongoing construction project in the state, perhaps the nation.

Perhaps attention on the project is turning a corner. For example, KQED recently featured a detailed article updating extensive construction progress on the project and the benefits it is already bringing to Central Valley cities – although even that outlet felt the need to marble its post with a heavy dose of skepticism.

Also, Jon Switalski just hosted California High-Speed Rail Authority (CAHSRA) executive director Brian Kelly on the Rebuild SoCal Zone podcast. They talk about where the project is right now and how it got to this stage. For reference, that's 119 miles under construction in the Central Valley, and environmental clearance completed on about 300 miles of the total 400-plus miles, with more segments slated to clear this summer and in the next few years.

Of course funding is a large part of the discussion, as it should be for any project of this magnitude. Estimates of the project's cost have doubled from the first estimate of \$45 billion – made before any design or environmental or right of way work had been done, around the time voters approved a \$9 billion bond to get the project started.

[Rideshare app Wridz takes on Uber and Lyft in Cincinnati](#)

WCPO.com Cincinnati - *May 12, 2022*

Uber and Lyft have dominated the rideshare market for a decade now.

But a new competitor called Wridz has just launched in the Cincinnati area, and it claims it will offer a better experience for both drivers and passengers, at lower rates.

Dustin Peters is driving for Wridz, which has just started service this week in Southwest Ohio and Northern Kentucky, giving him his first passengers.

"I love it," he told us during a ride through downtown. "My first customers were a couple, I took them from Fort Thomas to Covington." He says his second fare was a ride from downtown to the airport.

Ryan Gettys, who owns the Cincinnati Wridz franchise, says this is the fourth city to bring in the Austin, Texas-based startup, which has been operating in Austin in beta form for a year.

Gettys claims it is better than other services because it's membership based, better connecting drivers with passengers.

"You'll be able to request your driver, so you will be able to develop relationships with your driver or your clientele," he explained.

For instance, passengers will be able to get the same driver to bring them to a weekly doctor visit, if they wish.

Wridz claims it will be about 10 percent cheaper than the established rideshare services, due to lower overhead, as there is no massive company to support.

"These drivers get to keep 100% of their fares and their tips, and they just pay us a membership fee of \$100 dollars a month," he said. "It's going to almost double their income."

Wridz is looking for both drivers and passengers in the area, which he says for now covers "Cincinnati, Dayton, Hamilton, and down to CVG.

Wridz hopes to become a nationwide service in the next few years, but you can now try it out in Cincinnati [at Wridz.com](http://Wridz.com), so you don't waste your money.

[Airport cell phone lot MIA? Handicapped parking volunteer enforcers?](#)

Citizen Times - May 12, 2022

Question: Hope this rises close to the top of your list of questions. Is there a cell phone lot at the Asheville Regional Airport? There used to be one on the right after passing the terminal, but that is now a gated lot. I haven't seen a sign for a cell phone lot in quite a while. With the increase in travel, this is a great option to having less congestion when picking someone up.

Answer: Airport spokeswoman Tina Kinsey said the disappearing cellphone lot comes down to the airport getting really busy again, and an ongoing expansion project.

"The airport is growing, and we had to decommission the former Cell Phone Lot to make room for construction expansion and other parking needs," Kinsey said via email. "At this time, there is no Cell Phone Lot."

As we [noted in early April](#), the airport has ambitious expansion plans, which will include issuing bonds in an amount "not-to-exceed" \$275 million. That will go toward improvements and expansion, which include a new terminal, according to an Airport Authority public hearing on March 17.

"We do have low-cost short term parking in all of our lots at \$1 per half hour – to help accommodate the short-term parking needs for our customers," Kinsey said. "The good news is that we are beginning construction on a new Cell Phone Lot soon, and it will be located across the street from the airport next to the Shuttle Lot."

They'll put out a notice about the opening later this year, Kinsey said. The new cell phone lot will have 54 spaces.

To make all this a little more confusing, the airport at one point designated one of two new lots across Airport Road as a cellphone lot, and even had some signage put up. It was briefly used, but but they realized they needed that lot for regular parking, and it's now a shuttle parking lot for travelers.

Question: Would it be possible for the police departments in the city of Asheville and Buncombe County to retain volunteers to enforce the handicapped parking regulations? It would most likely pay for itself in fines.

My answer: I can't see anything going wrong with this plan, other than the occasional citizen parking warrior getting run over by an irate parker in a Jazzy scooter.

Real answer: City of Asheville spokeswoman Kim Miller looked into this on the city side, and it turns out the city did have a program along these lines.

[City Council approves parking rate hike at Dallas Love Field Airport garages](#)
Dallas Business Journal - May 11, 2022

Dallas Love Field parking prices at Garage A and C will go up by \$1, while Garage B will cost \$4 more for covered parking and \$3 more for uncovered spaces on the roof.

[DAA defends 'dynamic pricing' for airport parking](#)
The Irish Times - April 25, 2022

Dublin Airport Authority has said increases of more than 100 per cent in the cost of some parking spaces at the airport in recent months came about due to "dynamic pricing" aimed at keeping space available for latecomers.

The airport manager said pricing of its 18,600 long-term and 3,750 short-term spaces throughout its car parks "fluctuates depending on several factors, notably the time of year and the demand at that time for parking".

A spokeswoman said the authority used dynamic pricing, as a form of "demand management" which would encourage people to book earlier, which she said would offer customers the best prices.

She said the authority did not like to have the car parks full at all times, but preferred to have "a percentage" of spaces free at any one time to facilitate those who turn up at the airport without booking well in advance.

The authority said the "dynamic pricing model means that sometimes a customer can pay less or more than they may have done previously which enables DAA to effectively manage demand for parking, ensuring that all those who need to park at Dublin Airport can do so".

The DAA will not say how much money is generated from its car parks but suggests it has some 3,750 short-term and 19,600 long-term car parking spaces in use.

Based on the current tariffs displayed on its website the DAA could potentially earn €141,697 every day from its short term car parks.

The authority could earn up to €100,800 per day in its Red Long Term Car Park, a further €86,400 per day in its Long Term Blue car park in addition to revenue from its Green car park (open only at weekend) and remaining surface parking spaces.

[World's first vertiport for drones and flying cars opens in Coventry](#)
Yahoo News - April 25, 2022

The world's first vertiport - a transport hub for future vehicles like drones and air taxis - has opened in the UK.

The Air-One hub has launched in Coventry and will allow manned and unmanned vehicles to take off and land.

Urban-Air Port, the UK-based developer behind the project, say it will act as a blueprint for more than 200 vertiports planned worldwide in the next five years.

Further sites are planned in the West Midlands and London, as well as in the US, South Korea, France and Germany.

The temporary site at Westminster Car Park in Coventry will also have charging stations for electric vehicles.

Urban-Air Port says its vertiports will be a hub for flying taxis, delivery drones, disaster emergency management and defence operations and logistics.

Police and delivery drones will be the first aircraft to use the site, which has financial backing from the government.

The Air-One project is backed by Supernal, part of the Hyundai motoring group.

The site in Coventry will revert to a car park at the end of the summer when Air-One is redeployed to a new location.

It took 11 weeks to erect the 17,000 square foot site in Coventry, which includes a passenger lounge, a café, a cargo logistics hub, an electric and hydrogen air vehicle hangar, security screening and a command centre.

AIRPORT NEWS

[San Antonio Airport System Details the Upcoming Terminal Development Program for the San Antonio International Airport](#)

City of San Antonio - May 18, 2022

During today's City Council meeting, Jesus Saenz, Director of Airports, presented the detailed \$2.5 billion Terminal Development Program (TDP), which includes the design and construction of a third terminal at San Antonio International Airport (SAT) to meet the needs of expected exponential passenger growth and the needs of the community.

Once built, the new terminal and associated enabling projects including a ground transportation center, parking garage and terminal road realignment will be able to handle passenger needs over the next 20 years. SAT is reaching capacity and already has two projects underway to provide 5 new gates until the new terminal is opened. The City is working aggressively to deliver the new facilities as early as mid- 2028.

The TDP is one key component of the Strategic Development Program, which City Council approved unanimously in November 2021. Through separate efforts, the Airport System has begun the next phase of the airfield expansion which will extend an existing runway up to 10,000-foot runway once complete.

The Airport System continues to invest in passenger enhancement programs such as:

- The implementation of “smart restrooms” and upgrading electronic video information displays and modernizing the paging system and expanding the security checkpoint in Terminal B.
- New concessionaires opening this summer including Whataburger, Beercode and Adina’s Market to provide more eating and retail options to passengers in what could be the busiest summer in SAT’s history.

In addition, City Manager Erik Walsh appointed two new members to the Airport’s leadership team. Tim O’Krongley has been appointed the Deputy Aviation Director of Planning, Design, Construction and the New Terminal Program. O’Krongley has more than 34 years of experience in the aviation industry and previously served as Deputy Aviation Director for the City of San Antonio. Walsh also appointed Michael Garnier to the Chief Finance and Administration Officer for the San Antonio Airport System.

[How to Really Decide How Early to Get to the Airport](#)
LifeHacker.com - May 13, 2022

The Transportation Security Administration actually doesn’t offer an official recommendation for when to show up at the airport before an international flight. According to their guidance, “you are encouraged to contact your airline as times may vary depending on the airport and date of travel. In general, please allow time for parking/shuttle transportation, airline check-in, obtaining a boarding pass and going through the security screening process, which includes screening of your carry-on bag.”

While never going so far as to endorse the “three hour rule,” the TSA *did* recently release a statement about the upcoming travel season, cautioning travelers to expect long wait times this summer.

The United States’ four largest international airlines ([American Airlines](#), [United Airlines](#), [Delta Airlines](#), and [JetBlue](#)) all recommend arriving at the airport three hours before your scheduled international departure. Curiously, given my investigation above, United Airlines cites the TSA as the source for its recommendation, maintaining the mystery over who generated the advice in the first place.

Skating through security will be a bigger time saver for you than anything else. The TSA advertises shorter wait times for those who’ve signed up for TSA PreCheck, and while the exact amount of time you’ll save will vary from trip to trip, you’ll unquestionably be waiting for less time than you would without it.

To [reduce the chances you’ll get bumped from your flight](#), you should be checking in 24 hours ahead of time anyway.

Given the factors outlined above, it may be reasonable to shave as much as an hour off of your arrival time. If you are headed to a smaller, familiar airport and you aren’t parking or checking a bag. Be considerate of the factors you *can’t* control—TSA wait times, primarily—and plan around that. Ultimately, it’s about weighing your schedule against your comfort level with risk and anxiety. Yes, it’s likely you’ll be fine if you get to the airport with less time to spare, but being in a rush comes with its own burdens.

[Auckland Airport to build \\$300m transportation center with upgraded baggage handling](#)
Passenger Terminal Today - May 13, 2022

Auckland Airport in New Zealand is to build a NZ\$300m (US\$188m) transportation center in front of its international terminal and automate its baggage handling process to reduce transfer times.

The Transport Hub, to be built in the footprint of the main international parking lot, has been designed to enable traffic to flow through its ground floor. Two traffic lanes will enter from Ray Emery Drive into an undercover pick-up and drop-off area with a short, covered walkway into the terminal. Built to double height, the ground floor of the four-story building will accommodate buses as well as cars; the upper floors will feature smart car parking, electric vehicle charging stations and office spaces, all designed to meet the Parksmart green parking building standard.

Along with the Transport Hub, the airport will invest NZ\$185m (US\$115m) in enabling works for its combined international and domestic terminal and other projects.

After three years of planning, Auckland Airport has progressed design work for an entirely new baggage handling process, introducing new technology and enhanced operations via an individual carrier system (ICS). The automated solution uses real-time data to track baggage as it journeys around back-of-house airport infrastructure. Bags are loaded into intelligent carrier trays tagged with radio frequency identification devices (RFID) that communicate their location as they travel through an elaborate conveyor network, speeding up the luggage journey between check-in and aircraft loading and reducing the risk of lost bags.

[Transportation troubles costing travelers more to get from MSY to downtown](#)

Fox8 Live - May 10, 2022

A taxi ride from the airport downtown will cost a flat rate of \$36, but it could be more if you choose to take a rideshare, like Uber or Lyft. Some travelers report spending close to \$90 for a rideshare or waiting over an hour for a taxi.

Others tell FOX 8 it takes almost an hour or more to rent a car because of its location near the old terminal.

A spokesperson for MSY said the typical minimal wait times are between five and seven minutes for a taxi and there are adequate rideshare service providers at the airport.

"However, there have been a few instances where taxi wait times were longer than normal," said Erin Burns, Director of Communications for the New Orleans Aviation Board. "This can be due to a variety of factors including an issue that has occurred in the past when a higher than normal demand very late in the night when there are fewer taxis in the holding lot led to longer lines. Also, when rideshare services surge their prices it creates an added demand on taxis, thus leading to longer wait times."

The surge is a way for rideshare drivers to make a little extra money when demand is high. But for taxi drivers, the fare stays the same no matter how busy the airport gets at a flat rate of \$36.

According to Burns, the airport does not have the authority to directly control the number of taxis providing rides at a given time. That's up to the individual drivers and taxi companies. Additionally, there is no limit to the number of decals the Airport issues to taxi drivers.

"So right now the rates for taxis are defined by city ordinance," said Cheryn Robles, acting chief of staff for the City of New Orleans' Department of Public Works.

The Ground Transportation Bureau is a division of the DPW and is "responsible for the permitting and enforcement of vehicles and drivers operating for-hire within the city."

She said the fixed rate works well for the consumers when taxis are available. But she acknowledged that changes need to be made or adjusted to the times.

"We are working with the taxi industry to make updates to city code so that if we do need to update the rates, we can do that. We're also trying to figure out how we can use an e-hail app which is a similar

user experience if you use a phone to call a rideshare like Uber or Lyft. We're still working the details on that," said Robles.

The app is something that could benefit the consumer—to shop options when it comes to transportation. But as far as making rates equitable between the taxi and the rideshare, that's out of the city's hands.

In the end, it comes down to time vs. money. How much is your time worth and are you willing to spend it?