

AGTA News from the Airport Curb for the week of 1/20/22.



AGTA News from the Airport Curb



AGTA Resumes In-Person Meetings - May 8 - 11 in San Diego

The AGTA Spring 2022 Conference is scheduled for **May 8 -11, 2022** in San Diego at the San Diego Mission Valley Hilton Hotel. You can expect to see sessions on how airports and ground operators are recovering from the recent difficult years and what new services, technologies, and innovations we might see in the near future. Airports and ground transportation providers are gearing back up with new safety, alternative fuels, and consumer-oriented ideas and operations. This San Diego conference will provide a chance to get in on the ground floor of airports today, and to learn firsthand about current successes, as well as what to avoid, given your colleagues' experiences.

Your Preliminary Agenda, Registration information and Hotel reservation link will be provided early next week. Save \$100 on your AGTA registration if you are registered by April 8. Plan to reserve your Mission Valley Hilton room as soon as possible as the rooms available for this meeting are limited.

Zoom Meeting Recording

In case you missed AGTA's Zoom meeting from Jan. 19, 2022 where we heard presentations from Uber and Lyft on their plans for airports as we emerge from this long

pandemic., you can view a recording of the session by clicking on the following link and entering the passcode provided below.

[View 1/19/22 Meeting](#)

Meeting Passcode: ^&x%49+V

GROUND TRANSPORTATION NEWS

TUI Adds Machine Learning to Optimize It's Share-Transfer Platform
Phocuswire- *Jan. 19, 2022*

Global tourism company TUI Group is partnering with Boston-based Mobi Systems to improve the transportation services it provides to customers around the world.

TUI Group says it sold more than 31 million transfers in 2019, moving customers between airports, hotels and points of interest.

Starting this month in Mallorca and then rolling out worldwide, TUI is using a new platform for managing shared transportation – such as large and small buses, shuttles and cars – that is integrated with Mobi Systems' machine-learning technology.

The system uses TUI's customer booking data, such as flights, hotels and number of customers, along with data about flight delays, traffic, weather and vehicle inventory, to calculate the most efficient transfer plan, updating it in real time and automatically communicating the current route and timing to bus companies, drivers and travelers through the TUI app.

In addition to reducing stress for travelers, Ulwahn says Mobi's machine-learning technology automatically recalculates routes as needed, eliminating timely manual processes and reducing operating costs and CO2 emissions through better vehicle optimization and routing.

The platform is being launched for airport transfers, but Ulwahn says it will eventually be used also for transportation for excursions, multi-day tours and cruise passengers.

[Tunnels and tracks: Two proposed airport-to-downtown projects advance](#)
San Antonio Report - *Jan. 19, 2022*

A plan by Elon Musk's Boring Company for a project that would connect the San Antonio airport to downtown via twin underground tunnels is among two proposals a local transportation agency is considering.

In a meeting Wednesday, the board of the Alamo Regional Mobility Authority (Alamo RMA) confirmed the staff's recommendation of proposals from the Boring Company and from Bexar Automated Transport to advance to the interview stage.

The proposal by Austin-based Boring to build a tunnel 30 feet below ground scored highest among them, with 91.6 points. The system would use Tesla cars to ferry passengers the 9 miles between the airport and downtown.

A proposal by Bexar Automated Transport, a company made up of several transportation entities, scored second with 80 points. Its plan calls for an autonomous bus using a combination of elevated and underground tracks — estimated to cost \$330 million.

Other proposals came from San Antonio SkyShuttle Express which pitched an autonomous tram running along the U.S. Hwy. 281 right-of-way at a cost of \$1.5 billion, and Oceaneering International,

which proposed a system of at-grade or elevated travel lanes running along McCullough Avenue, costing up to \$562 million.

The plan offered by TriTrack Motors called for spending \$24 million to build an elevated track for three-wheeled autonomous vehicles that could travel at up to 180 mph.

The most important aspect of the system is that it has to be expandable, she said. "We don't want this to be a one-off. We want it to be built on with 'fingers' extending out."

Green said there's some discussion of a transportation project in Austin similar to the airport-to-downtown proposal, and that it could connect to San Antonio.

[New bus service to 'flex' to passenger needs - Waikato RC](#)

Voxy.co.nz - Jan. 19, 2022

A new on-demand public transport system trialled over the weekend by Waikato Regional Council has had positive feedback from passengers.

The ride share service started operating on Friday and Saturday nights in the Hamilton CBD from 14 January, and in February will go to and from Hamilton Airport on weekdays.

"For people wanting to get to and from the CBD, we're really excited to be able to provide an affordable option for people wanting a corner-to-corner service rather than only stopping at bus stops.

The buses are smaller and have comfortable seats that are fitted with seatbelts and can carry 13 passengers, or 10 people and a wheelchair user. Bookings can be made up to a week in advance of travel, or just 15 minutes before you're ready to go, Cr Strange said. The buses are GPS tracked in real time, so you can track your ride in the Flex app.

Via is a global provider of ride services and transportation technology for transit agencies and companies. "We are proud to partner with Waikato Regional Council to launch an efficient, sustainable on-demand transportation system in Hamilton," said Ben Hague, Via's APAC Regional Manager.

Getting from Hamilton to the airport will cost only \$3 each way on Flex, which operates Monday to Friday from 10am-4pm between the Hamilton Transport Centre and Hamilton Airport.

Passengers are required to wear a face covering and scan the QR codes on board the buses. The app is free and available from the App Store and Google Play - search Flex BUSIT.

[Boise Airport building 2 new parking garages](#)

KTVB7 - Jan. 19, 2022

The Boise Airport announced it will begin construction at the end of January on two new parking garages Wednesday as part of the BOI Airport Expansion Project.

There will be an additional parking garage for the public and a new employee parking garage, with construction expected to be wrapped up in 18 to 24 months.

According to Boise Airport's announcement, this is the first time the facility has expanded their close-in parking since 2013. The additional 755 parking stalls were expected to handle demand for 10 years, but the Boise Airport (BOI) said it has seen "unprecedented growth," as Boise's population climbs.

The public parking garage will consist of five levels and a pedestrian bridge for easier access to the airport. According to BOI, the garage will be located east of the current parking garage with an expected capacity of 1,150 stalls.

After completing construction on the new garages, the Boise Airport plans to continue its upgrades with a new rental car lobby and garage, expanded aircraft parking apron and a new concourse. According to the airport's announcement, the new concourse will initially have three gates, with the ability to expand to up to 12 gates.

[1964 Plymouth Valiant Wagon Disguised as Idlewild Airport Taxi, Packs Mystery Under Hood](#) **Autoevolution - Jan. 19, 2022**

Airport transportation vehicles have gotten more than a little shabby in the last 50 years. We won't have to explain this to you if you've even taken one trip by bus to a New York City airport. But it didn't use to be this way. The shuttles meant to take us from the airport to another airport used to be based upon the latest American auto models.

If you don't have the first clue about Idlewild Airport, as is detailed on the side of this 1964 Plymouth Valiant station wagon, you may know it better as the venerable John F. Kennedy Airport in the NYC borough of Queens.

For those history buffs among us, you'll know that Idlewild Airport was renamed JFK Airport after John F. Kennedy's assassination in 1963, a full year before this 1964 Valiant left the factory, very sneaky indeed. Thankfully, everything else about the car has been well taken care of.

It's all tied together with a completely rebuilt 225 cubic inch Chrysler slant-six engine ubiquitous throughout the Chrysler lineup from the mid-60s until the early 1990s, so no excuse not to stock up on spare parts. "*Drives great, does 75 mph on the highway,*" the seller claims. The ad says the car had been staying in a garage since 1970 and has only been on the road for the past six years.

Whether you're a classic collector or a director looking for the perfect Idlewild taxi for your upcoming docudrama, we can think of no finer place than sending a check for \$14,995 to eBay user moparpro in Farmingdale on Long Island, New York, to get this Valiant in a garage near you.



[Airport Taxi Services](#)

Film Daily - Jan. 18, 2022

A smooth journey is required throughout, starting, and ending at your doorstep. People must worry about paying hefty parking costs at the airport or surge prices for cabs. The solution to these problems is to hire an **airport taxi**. It is the most practical and pleasant way to get to the airport. The following are the reasons why airport taxis are totally worth the money.

When you take an airport cab, you can rest and enjoy your journey. You don't need to trouble yourself and your family with taking public transportation and hauling your bags around. Airport taxi drivers will pick you up from your doorstep, assist you with your baggage. Then take you to their specified location in a smooth, safe, and quick manner. Drivers spend much of their time at the airport, so they are well acquainted with the terminals and airlines. This will make your travel less stressful.

The perk of airport taxis is that they will take you to your destination, with no stops along the way. This can avoid unnecessary halts and get you to your location safely and on schedule. The drivers are seasoned professionals who are well versed in the essential detours in case of traffic jams. Even if you're returning from the airport, ordering a cab saves time. You won't have to queue for an airport shuttle.

Some people argue that an airport taxi is an expensive option, and it is not for them. In the past, many companies operated using a taximeter, which meant that the price might occasionally surge. They also demand extra waiting money if you are stuck in traffic. But this has been changed. Travelers appreciate the new fixed charge system. They know how much they'll have to pay at the conclusion of the journey before ordering a cab.

Taxis provide passengers with privacy, allowing them to rest, work, or enjoy themselves while traveling to or from the airport. As the driver picks you up from your given place and leaves you off at your chosen destination without pausing. There is minimal danger of missing or losing bags and items

in taxis. The drivers are competent and well-trained individuals who place a high priority on safety and comfort.

Accessibility is very crucial. Airport taxis are available by phone 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, so you never have to worry. In terms of prices, pick-up and drop-off locations, and schedule, the service providers are adaptive and flexible. They also offer good customer service, which can be used if anything goes wrong.

[Starting Up a Green Car Rental Company in Minnesota](#)

Auto Rental News- *Jan. 18, 2022*

Brimming with excitement over electrification, entrepreneur Ebrima Jallow beams when given the opportunity to educate a rental customer on the benefits of environmentally friendly vehicles and letting them experience the driving difference. That's the bread and butter for Cargreen Rent a Car, which Jallow opened just last June in Minneapolis.

Jallow is onto something, as evidenced by the nearly 50 5-star reviews on Google and the number of return customers.

The business' mission is to "provide an environmentally friendly, low-emission, high-MPG vehicle rental experience for leisure or business travel and help reduce the impact of climate change," its website proudly states.

Cargreen currently has six vehicles in its fleet and offers hybrid, hybrid plug-ins, and fully electric vehicles for rent. Their fleet consists of a Nissan Sentra, Corolla Hybrids, Toyota Prius, RAV4 Hybrids, Mitsubishi Outlanders, and a Tesla Model 3.

He places emphasis on maintaining competitive pricing between the models available and uses a software to help determine the best rate.

Of course, Minnesota winters and extreme cold can affect interest in and uptime of some vehicles, so for now, Jallow says he steers them into a PHEV if they're going longer distances.

So, what's next for Cargreen? Jallow says he hopes to scale up, increase the fleet so customers have more options — including more Teslas, secure a DC fast charger, and open another location in Bloomington near the airport.

[TAXIS ARE BACK! Black cabs return to provide new local taxi rank service at London Luton Airport](#)

TaxiPoint - *Jan. 18, 2022*

London Luton Airport has announced the return of a new, and now greener, local hackney carriage service at the terminal.

The taxi rank has initially been located in the passenger drop-off zone, and during 2022 will move to a specially-constructed and dedicated area immediately outside the terminal.

Already 40 drivers attached to the Luton Hackney Carriage Association have obtained permits, and it is expected numbers will increase to around 100 over the next 12 months.

Nine of the new taxis are fully electric and the rest meet the latest carbon-efficient Euro 6 standards. This already represents an investment of more than £800,000 by the taxi trade, and the figure is expected to pass £1.5m in 2022.

All the vehicles are fully accessible to people with disabilities, including wheelchair users and people with guide dogs. Drivers have signed up to a service charter, including smart dress code, with all vehicles also accepting credit cards and providing USB charging points.

The local hackney carriages will operate alongside the executive vehicle service currently provided by Addison Lee.

[Pay parking at Grand Cayman Airport Resumes; Cards accepted](#)

LoopNews.com - Jan. 18, 2022

The Cayman Islands Airports Authority (CIAA), which operates the Owen Roberts International Airport (ORIA) on Grand Cayman and the Charles Kirkconnell International Airport (CKIA) on Cayman Brac, has announced that an upgrade to the 'pay parking' system at ORIA has been implemented to provide an improved airport experience to the traveling public.

Airport customers exiting the Short-Term or Long-Term parking lots at Owen Roberts International Airport will now have the added convenience of being able to pay their parking fees by credit or debit card at the exit machines. The exit machines accept Mastercard and Visa cards and are equipped with an intercom help button should customers require assistance from an Airport Ground Transportation Officer. Customers may also pay their parking fees by cash at any one of the pay stations located inside the main airport terminal.

A drop-off zone in the Short-Term parking lot has been allocated for those persons dropping off departing passengers. Drivers who are picking up arriving passengers must also park in the Short-term parking lot. Parking is free for up to five minutes after which time the standard parking rates apply, which come into effect from 1 February 2022.

[Miami Man Scammed After Ordering an Uber Ride](#)

NBC Miami -Jan. 18, 2022

Uber says it is seeing an uptick in scams targeting drivers and passengers, and the ride-sharing company says it's working hard to prevent fraud on its platform.

James Carvalho tried to get a quick ride to the airport from Miami using Uber. Instead, he ended up going in circles after being hacked.

James Carvalho tried to get a quick ride to the airport from Miami using Uber. Instead, he ended up going in circles after being hacked.

"Immediately I received a text message from Uber with a four-digit code. The driver then said I need code and message pin through the app," Carvalho said.

Carvalho says he received a text with an Uber PIN after giving the driver his phone number through the app.

He then got another PIN via email that the driver also asked for. That's when Carvalho was locked out of his account.

The scammer activated two-factor authentication and changed the account password.

After six hours, Carvalho got back into his account and discovered the scammer charged him \$6 for a ride he never took, plus a \$199 tip. Amex credited his account, but the most frustrating part of the whole experience was trying to talk with someone at Uber.

"What I've yet to receive from Uber is an explanation as to is whether the driver scammed me or someone scammed the driver and scammed me. I have no idea. I've heard nothing from them," he said. "I can only assume it's a much larger problem if that's the case."

"Let's face it, it was dumb on my part to send it over," Carvalho said. "But I'm in an Uber app, this is a major company. If I logged into the BofA app in a chat with someone, I would trust I'm speaking with a banker or customer service rep. No reason to think I wasn't speaking to a driver."

Uber provided these tips to keep from falling victim to a scam: Use two-factor authentication, don't share your password or verification code with anyone, since Uber never asks; and riders can report issues through the app or help.uber.com.

CASHLESS TREND CONTINUES: LPIA parking and ground transport latest to say no to cash transactions

EyewitnessNews.com - Jan. 17, 2022

The Nassau Airport Development Company (NAD) has announced that this month, it will begin transitioning all parking and ground transportation (PGT) operations at Lynden Pindling International Airport (LPIA) to a cashless environment.

Effective January 31, 2022, customer transactions in the domestic and international parking facilities will be processed using a valid debit or credit card.

The change will also apply to people processing payments for towed vehicles and to ground transportation operators — livery/tour companies and taxicab operators — paying to access parking facilities and the commercial lane at the airport.

According to Vernice Walkine, president & CEO at NAD, the move to a cashless model for PGT operations is primarily to reduce security risk to team members and to inevitably improve processing efficiency in these areas of operation.

Why business travel is expected to recover fully by 2024

Aircraft Interiors International - Jan. 13, 2022

Business travel recovery in 2021 proceeded at a slower, more cautionary pace than expected from a year ago. However, global business travel spending is expected to surge in 2022, with full recovery expected in 2024 – ending the year on pace with the 2019 pre-pandemic spend of \$1.4 trillion, and a year sooner than previously forecast.

Global business travel activity has begun its rebound from the sharp downturn brought about by the Covid-19 pandemic. After declining 53.8% in 2020 to US\$661 billion, global expenditures are expected to have rebounded 14% in 2021, to US\$754 billion. This was more slowly than forecast in GBTA's previous BTI Outlook report issued in February 2021.

However, persistent Covid-related threats and disruptions, supply chain strains, labour shortages, rising inflation, increased costs, and lagging recovery in Asian markets are just a few of the risks for continued on-target recovery. Additionally, yet to be determined are the potential impacts of emerging factors including broad adoption of remote working models, long-term cuts or elimination of business trips and travel volume, and the increased focus on sustainability practices and policies for business travel.

North America led the recovery, the USA in particular, rebounding 27% in 2021. Business travel markets in Latin America, Middle East and Africa (MEA) and Asia-Pacific (APAC) all picked up 15% to 20% growth in 2021.

Among 400 global business travellers polled, 86% report that they need travel to accomplish their business goals. A majority (81%) believe that their volume of domestic business travel will be greater or on par in 2022 than it was prior to the pandemic.

[New bus route connects Middletown Amtrak station and Harrisburg airport](#)

ABC27.com - Jan. 12, 2022

The new Amtrak station in Middletown, Dauphin County, is getting a new service. For the first time, Capital Area Transit is adding a bus route that runs between the Middletown station and Harrisburg International Airport.

“There’s a direct stop when you leave the airport to get to the train station, and then when you leave the train station, right back to the airport. So that is our first attempt to really create a multimodal system. It’s pretty exciting,” said Richard Farr, executive director of the Susquehanna Regional Transportation Authority.

The same route connects riders to downtown Harrisburg and the Penn State Harrisburg campus in Middletown.

[Will Turo IPO Plans Mark Milestone or Hurdle In Carsharing Industry's Advance?](#)

Pymnts.com - Jan. 11, 2022

The January 2022 filing noted that as of the quarter that ended Sept. 30, 2021, the platform sported 85,000 active hosts, listing more than 160,000 vehicles in its primary markets of the United States, the United Kingdom and Canada.

Drilling into the filing, the company said that it is “pioneering a new category of transportation,” adding that cars remain firmly entrenched as the “preferred means” of transportation across short, medium and longer term trips. Peer-to-peer sharing of the vehicles, according to the filing, offer a more convenient, economically efficient and “environmentally and socially responsible way” to offer consumers access to vehicles.

As for the competition that exists from ridesharing and rental industries: Turo contended that ridesharing platforms “serve limited use cases.” Ridesharing, maintained Turo, “does not scale” beyond commuting and intra urban mobility. The cost per mile is expensive, according to the filing, while car rentals — the kind that are mainstays at the airport — are marked by long wait times and a less-than-optimal consumer experience.

The company pointed to built-in messaging, payments, fraud detection, the proprietary Turo Risk Score, and host and guest protection plans that “are designed to deliver a safe transaction and experience for our community.”

Cumulatively, through Sept. 30, 2021, the company has collected 23 million days, 5.5 million transactions, 2.2 billion miles driven, and 10 years of claims data since inception to create algorithms and risk scores to help customize fees.

The financials show that in the nine months that ended in September, top lines surged to \$330.5 million in the latest period from \$107.8 million in 2020, with an operating profit in 2021 of \$46 million, versus an operating loss of \$45.6 million in 2020. Days booked in the corresponding periods were 7.5 million in the first nine months of 2021, compared to 2.8 million in 2020, with a 2021 nine month gross booking value of \$885.2 million versus \$240.7 million through the first nine months of 2020.

AIRPORT NEWS

[10 tech trends airports and airlines should watch out for in 2022](#)

Future Travel Experience - January 2022

The use of the metaverse could expand way beyond stimulating consumer demand, and into use cases like creating a collaboration platform for remote workers, cabin training, aircraft maintenance, design and airport operations.

In the U.S., JetBlue Airways debuted Paisly, a travel website to upsell products such as rental cars, hotels, and theme park tickets. Airports are also setting up e-commerce platforms with recent examples including Toronto Pearson and JFK International Air Terminal (JFKIAT), who have both launched new digital marketplaces to allow customers to purchase duty free products online before they fly.

Urban air mobility gained a real momentum last year with significant investments from some of the biggest aviation industry players. For instance, **United Airlines** placed a \$1 billion order for Archer's eVTOL aircraft; American Airlines and Virgin Atlantic announced **partnerships** with another pioneering startup in the space – Vertical Aerospace; Brazilian airline Azul signed a commercial deal with German electric aviation start-up Lilium worth up to \$1 billion; meanwhile **Japan Airlines** and **GOL** both partnered with Avolon to create eVTOL ride sharing businesses in Japan and Brazil, respectively. A number of airports and airport operators around the world are also accelerating this trend.

Despite the COVID-19 crisis, airlines and airports are strongly committed to investing in technology that will help them reduce their carbon footprint and ensure a more sustainable future. Our insights suggest that the majority of innovation projects that are getting the green light at present are sustainability focused. This year's **SITA IT Trends** report also highlights that sustainability has moved higher on airport and airline CIOs' agendas.

Electric aircraft are also worthy of a mention with a number of companies working on electric commercial planes, including Airbus, Boeing, JetBlue and Eviation, just to name a few. In fact, the world's first all-electric "commuter" plane, Alice, made by Israeli company Eviation, is preparing for its first test flight at an airport near Seattle. The prototype plane can accommodate nine passengers and two crew members, and Eviation claims that it could reduce maintenance and operating costs by up to 70% compared with commercial jets. However, there are still some regulatory hurdles to consider, which means electric planes could still be a few years away.

Biometrics implementation has been at full speed around the world, with recent trials on both domestic and international flights. In America, **San Francisco International Airport (SFO)** and **United Airlines** trialed a low-touch, biometric-enabled airport experience from check-in to boarding, powered by SITA, for domestic travellers on select flights. The trial enabled passengers to link their driver's license and flight details to their facial biometric at check-in.

Delta Air Lines is also setting a new standard for the industry as the first airline to build a dedicated bag drop space for TSA PreCheck customers travelling through Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport. Delta SkyMiles members who use the Fly Delta app and have a TSA PreCheck membership will be able to drop off their bags, pass through the security checkpoint, and board their plane at the gate using only their digital identity.

In an interesting development last year, **Apple** announced that an upcoming update to its Wallet app will enable customers to use their mobile device as a digital identification in select US airports. The tech giant said that it is working with the TSA to enable airport security checkpoints to be "the first place customers can use their digital ID card in the Wallet".

The contactless experience vision is also shaping the future of airport retail. One example is Hudson Nonstop's Amazon's Just Walk Out technology stores in Dallas Love Field Airport (DAL) and Chicago Midway International Airport. Travellers are able to seamlessly enter the Hudson Nonstop store with a swipe of their credit card or using "Tap to Pay", take the products they're looking for, and then walk out of the store. The store merchandising layout provides visibility to essential products needed for the travel journey.

Seattle-Tacoma International Airport (SEA) became one of the first airports in the US to trial a virtual queuing system as a solution for crowded general screening lines. Called SEA Spot Saver, the free

digital reservation-based system for the US Transportation Security Administration (TSA) aimed to reduce wait times and crowding to better maintain physical distancing.

More recently, Los Angeles International Airport (LAX) also rolled out virtual queuing trial in partnership with the TSA for customers travelling with United Airlines. Some airlines, like Delta, have also used the tool to notify passengers when their seat is boarding.

Autonomous delivery robots are becoming an increasingly common sight at airports, especially in the U.S. Last month, Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky International Airport (CVG), launched a fleet of fully autonomous delivery robots for food and retail. The Ottobots, operated by Ottonomy, were unveiled last week at CES 2022. The robots enable passengers to order contactless delivery directly to their location in Concourse B of the airport, delivered by an autonomous robot.

CVG has also trialed a new robot, called Gita, by AtYourGate in collaboration with Piaggio Fast Forward. The robot has been adopted by a number of other airports in the U.S., including JFK, Philadelphia, Minneapolis-Saint Paul, San Francisco, Salt Lake City and Seattle-Tacoma. The rolling droids use visual sensing technology to follow the AtYourGate delivery staff members to reach their customers at their gate.

[Why Pittsburgh's New Airport Will Be the Right Size for the Future](#) **Pittsburgh Magazine - Jan. 19, 2022**

Heavy construction is now underway on a \$1.4 billion, smaller terminal that promises to take the Steel City into the future by better matching air traffic, passenger volume and purpose.

The current terminal, with 75 gates, was built to handle 35 million passengers for what was then a major USAir hub connection. The facility lost that hub in 2004, and in 2019 saw only 9.8 million passengers. Large swaths of the terminal are not being used but still must be maintained. The security checkpoints, with their growing needs, are crammed into spaces too small.

The purpose of the future, 700,000-square-foot terminal, which broke ground on Oct. 14, is to serve travelers leaving Pittsburgh or flying here from elsewhere — not as a connection hub. The airy design will consolidate ticketing, security checkpoints and baggage claim and at the same time increase the area for concessions and retail — and provide more space for social distancing.

The future terminal, with 51 gates, is expected to open in early 2025. Designed with flexibility in mind, it will be able to handle 12 million passengers — enough to meet expected demand through 2033 — but could expand to accommodate a much higher number, Hoback says.

The terminal would be powered by the airport's microgrid, which is fueled by 10,000 solar panels and five natural-gas generators. Officials say no county tax dollars will be used to fund the airport — money will come from natural gas drilling on airport property, rental car fees, passenger facility charges and many other sources.

[Lafayette Regional Airport cuts ribbon on new terminal](#) **KATC.com- Jan. 19, 2022**

The new terminal at Lafayette Regional Airport will officially open to the public on Thursday, January 20.

With the opening of the new terminal, the airport says the process of decommissioning the old terminal will begin. The old terminal will be demolished for future expansion of the airport, they said.

The new LFT terminal is 120,000 square feet, nearly twice the size of the existing terminal. Features include 966 parking spots, two TSA security screening lines with the ability for a third, and five departure and arrival gates. A completely new system baggage handling system. After passengers

check their bags at the ticket counter, baggage undergoes security screening in a secure, non-public location. Rental cars are located adjacent to the terminal right outside the rental car agencies' counters.

[December brought more passengers to airport than ever before](#)

Business Observer FL - Jan. 19, 2022

Newsflash: Sarasota Bradenton International Airport had yet another record breaking month in passenger traffic last month. But this time was significantly different.

This time, the record was broken for the highest passenger month in the airport's history rather than year-over-year. In December, the airport saw 347,268 passengers pass through, which is an increase of 191.5% compared to the previous year.

Throughout the year, the airport also reported 3,163,543 passengers. Compared to 2020, that number is a 155.7% increase, and a 57% increase over 2019. The trending growth that was seen in 2021 is expected to continue through 2022, airport officials project. That's especially true since there are about two million airline seats available for purchase for the first four months of this year alone — a 42% increase over last year, officials say.

In addition, the recently added airline Avelo has begun its nonstop service flights to New Haven, Connecticut. The new service will operate Tuesdays, Thursdays and Sundays. Allegiant also is beginning a new nonstop service to Akron-Canton, Ohio, and Appleton, Wisconsin., which are set to begin in March.

In order to keep up with demand, the airport tripled its jet fuel tank capacity with the addition of three 100,000 gallon jet fuel storage tanks, added remote parking lots and expanded long-term parking and the screening checkpoint area. SRQ isn't stopping there. The plans for 2022 include breaking ground on a new ground transportation facility, expanded concessions, and a new ground level terminal which will provide at least five additional gates for aircraft arrivals and departures.

[Denver International Airport announces return of 75th Ave. bag drop service](#)

TheDenverChannel.com- Jan. 18, 2022

Denver International Airport is bringing back its free bag drop service on 75th Avenue near the Pikes Peak shuttle lot, airport officials announced Tuesday.

Passengers will be able to check their bags and receive their boarding pass before parking and going to their terminal. The service is free and available daily from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. for domestic flights on American, Alaska, Delta, Southwest, Spirit and United, according to officials.

Bags must be dropped off at least 90 minutes before flight time. Airline bag fees must be paid at the bag drop kiosk. Per airline regulations, passengers with lap infants must collect the child's boarding pass at the ticket counter.

Airport officials announced earlier this month that the Pikes Peak shuttle lot would remain open indefinitely after closing due to a driver shortage.

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