



## Director's Message

Last month was a busy time around the LGB campus and I'm proud to share several accomplishments in this month's edition of the Business Partner Brief. I recently provided an update regarding the COVID-19 impacts to various Airport operations to the Long Beach City Council; the related memo is available in its entirety [here](#). We're encouraged by signs that the COVID-19 pandemic is somewhat subsiding with increased vaccinations and a drop in positive cases in the region. And we're starting to turn a corner in our passenger traffic. With nine new destinations and our easygoing travel experience, we're certain travelers will choose to fly LGB when planning their summer adventures! - Cynthia Guidry

## LGB Sets Emission Reduction Targets, Begins Carbon Accreditation Process

I'm delighted to share that Long Beach Airport (LGB) will enter the [Airport Carbon Accreditation \(ACA\) program](#) and pledges to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions on a per passenger basis by 20% in 2025 and 40% in 2030. This is a momentous milestone in the history of our airport and is an important step in our eventual goal of becoming carbon neutral.

Administered by Airports Council International (ACI), the ACA program helps airports identify, manage and reduce their carbon emissions. In 2018, the City Council unanimously [approved an item](#), sponsored by Mayor Robert Garcia and Councilwoman Stacy Mungo Flanigan, that requested that the City develop a plan to lead the nation on sustainability for airports and to work with airlines and other partners to become an incubator of clean tech in aviation, with the goal of becoming a carbon-neutral facility. Together with our valued partners, we are well on our way!



## RFP for 27 Acres Announced

A Request for Proposals (RFP) for 27 acres of property at the Airport was released recently. The availability of such a vast space of aeronautical land is rare, with the last such large-scale development at LGB taking place in the 1980s and early 90s! The Wardlow Parcel is approximately 17 acres and is located on the west side of the airfield near the Goodman Company which was previously used for the manufacturing of the Boeing C-17 Globemaster III military aircraft. The Lakewood Parcel is approximately 10 acres and is located on the east side of the Airport at the corner of North Lakewood Boulevard and East Spring Street, immediately above the Los Cerritos Channel Stormwater Capture Facility. This parcel is available for development due to the shortening of Runway 8R-26L, in accordance with the Airfield Geometry Study. This unique opportunity is great news as it will bring more jobs to the City and boost our economy while solidifying our position as a hub for aerospace innovation!



## LGB Business Partner Spotlight: Aeroplex/Aerolease Group

This month we'd like to introduce Curt Castagna, President/CEO of Aeroplex/Aerolease Group. His diverse background in aviation spans over 40 years of expertise in aviation business operations and management, facility design, sustainable airport development and facility construction, leasing, negotiations and business development. Curt's an active licensed pilot and aircraft owner with a personal passion for aviation!



Q: Can you tell us about Aeroplex/Aerolease's operation at Long Beach Airport?

A: The Aeroplex Aviation facility was constructed in 1984 for the original Atlantic Aviation, owned then by the DuPont family. I took a line service technician ("ramper") position at Atlantic while attending college and eventually worked my way up to managing the entire FBO. In 1991, when Atlantic decided to leave LGB, the founders and developers, Aerolease, asked me to stay and convert the operation to Aeroplex. I subsequently stepped into a role managing other locations, since the Aeroplex Group Partners develops and operates some large aviation leaseholds in Southern California at prestigious locations in Van Nuys and Long Beach Airports.

We've had a long-standing and successful relationship with LGB for over 35 years. With over 14 acres of property, Aeroplex is home to more than 25 hangars totaling 200,000 sq. ft., two 3-story 42,000 sq. ft. office buildings and the largest operating ramp area on the airport campus. We have a diverse variety of tenants and aircraft based at our facilities that rival major general aviation airports.

In 2020, Aeroplex completed Long Beach Airport's first rooftop solar system! The sum of the LGB system will provide 424 metric tons of Carbon Dioxide Offset Equivalents. This project is one of our proudest to date and we are extremely passionate about bringing sustainable development to the aviation industry. Aeroplex has completed airport rooftop systems at four other airports and has two new airport solar projects underway. We're very proud of our leadership in airport development that integrates sustainable environmental programs within the project.

Q: How has COVID-19 affected your business?

A: While the commercial aviation industry screeched to a halt due to COVID-19, the demand for private aviation surged as a direct response. Across the nation, the need for airport and aviation development and consulting is at an all-time high. General aviation has, and will continue, to demonstrate its value to the national airspace system. Infrastructure for today's newest aircraft and sustainable development are in high demand. Aeroplex is well positioned to use our 40 years of experience to fill this need. Currently, we're working on exclusive development and consulting projects at Dallas Love Field, and new projects in Van Nuys, Bozeman and other feasibility studies at new airports, in addition to our normal operations at LGB, VNY and SMO.

Providing a safe and healthy environment for our tenants and customers has always been a top priority, but we have established industry recognized standards for infectious disease safety and protective guidelines at all our locations throughout the past year. We've adapted protocols by scheduling regular sanitation of our facilities and offering these services to our tenants and business partners. These efforts have allowed us to protect and provide confidence to clients, guests, staff and vendors.

Q: What do you like best about being part of the LGB community?

A: Long Beach Airport is a diverse center of aviation activity - from private aviation, training, helicopters, public agency, military and corporate, to the commercial airlines and the occasional blimp or airship. This diversity aligns well with the City's diversity in economic development and should be considered a vital component of this community's value. The Airport's diversity,

together with one of the nation's most conservative and coveted noise ordinances, permits the Airport to maximize its economic potential as a travel and job creation hub, while best mitigating the community's quality of life needs and expectations. We are proud to support this vision.

Q: Anything else you'd like to share with your fellow LGB business partners?

A: With a rich history in aviation, as an airport that served the nation during WWII and beyond as a center of manufacturing, LGB continues to evolve. The challenges presented with changes in airlines and service companies are an opportunity for the City to envision LGB in bringing new technologies and aerospace development. Aeroplex Group Partners is prepared to assist LGB and the City in meeting the needs of the future for airport development and meeting the newest FAA and airport design standards, while integrating environmental sustainability and best practices into projects that will optimize the Airport, and best assure a quality of life for the Long Beach community.

## Triennial Exercise Conducted at LGB

We held our first virtual triennial emergency response exercise at LGB last month. The drill, required by the FAA, tests the speed and effectiveness of emergency personnel and Airport staff in the event of an aircraft accident. Commercial airports, such as LGB, must hold the emergency preparedness drill every three years to maintain their Part 139 Airport Certification which allows commercial flights to operate out of the airport. Though some LGB staff and other agencies like Long Beach Fire and Police Departments were physically present for the exercise, most of the response occurred via online platforms. The drill was a great opportunity to demonstrate how we could better utilize technology to improve communications between agencies. Thank you to all our partners who supported this year's event and ensured we met all the necessary FAA requirements.



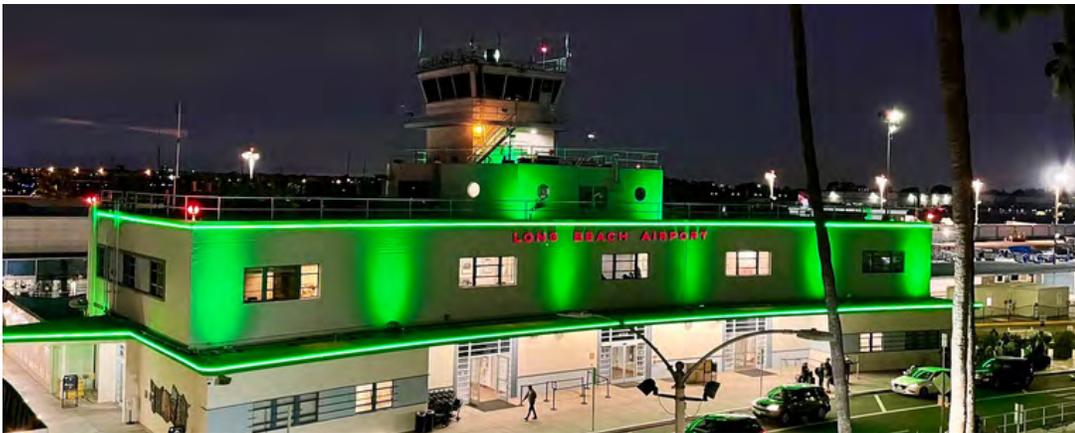
## New Amenity Introduced: Arts and Crafts Vending Machine

We recently installed a new vending machine in the South Concourse in support of the local arts community. Moonlight Vending is a concept initiated by local artist Katie Kelly and features arts and crafts created by local artists. The machine offers earrings, gemstones, scrunchies and mystery packs of items such as custom printed socks. So far, the machine has proven to be popular with travelers showing great interest in its variety of treasures!



## Seen at the LGB Scene

Last month our terminal lighting celebrated three events - World Autism Awareness Day with blue lights, Khmer New Year with blue and red lights and green lights for Earth Day!



## Construction Update

April was an exciting month as we made significant progress with the construction of our new Ticketing Lobby as part of our Phase II Terminal Improvement Program. The slab-on-grade, which forms the building area, was poured. And the structural element continues to move forward. We held a 'topping out' ceremony, which is a builder's tradition. Several people involved with this construction project signed the last major steel beam before it was placed atop the structure.





The Taxiway B Improvement Project continues to progress. Last month, over a two-week period, approximately 13,000 tons of new asphalt concrete pavement was placed on what will be the future Taxiway E mainline and shoulders, Taxilane E1 and the perimeter road between existing Taxiway B and future Taxiway E.



*Preparing future Taxiway E Mainline for asphalt concrete placement.*



*Future Taxiway E reconstruction is underway.*



*Approximately 13,000 tons of new asphalt concrete pavement was placed for future Taxiway E.*

## March Commercial Flight Activity Stats

Airline passenger traffic at LGB decreased 14.9% in March 2021 compared with the same period in 2020; LGB served 114,465 passengers in March 2021. Total air cargo, both inbound and outbound, decreased 24.7% in March 2021 compared to the same time the previous year; 1,034 tons passed through LGB in March 2021.

### Commercial Flight Activity Report March 2021

	March 2021	March 2020	% Change	March 2019	% Change	YTD 2021	YTD 2020	YTD 2019	% Change
<b>Passenger Traffic</b>									
Enplanements	58,757	66,887	-12.2%	145,356	-59.6%	104,221	349,240	402,996	-70.2%
Deplanements	55,708	67,565	-17.5%	144,756	-61.5%	102,803	351,381	402,155	-70.7%
<b>Total Passenger Traffic</b>	<b>114,465</b>	<b>134,452</b>	<b>-14.9%</b>	<b>290,112</b>	<b>-60.5%</b>	<b>207,024</b>	<b>700,621</b>	<b>805,151</b>	<b>-70.5%</b>
<b>Total Air Cargo (Tons)</b>	<b>1,034</b>	<b>1,373</b>	<b>-24.7%</b>	<b>1,804</b>	<b>-42.7%</b>	<b>2,961</b>	<b>4,571</b>	<b>5,168</b>	<b>-35.2%</b>

**Definitions:**

Passenger Traffic - Number of airline passengers both enplaned (departures) and deplaned (arrivals).

Air Cargo - Cargo carried by commercial aircraft, both inbound and outbound.

## Furloughs Suspended - Administrative Offices Open as Usual

With their recent approval of the Long Beach Recovery Act, City Council approved a plan to discontinue the furlough program early. Long Beach Airport administrative offices are now open normal business hours as employee furloughs were suspended April 17. Offices were temporarily closed alternating Fridays and were expected to continue through September 30, 2021, to help balance the City's budget during the economic downturn. During the furlough period, Airport operations, security and janitorial services continued uninterrupted.

## Register for Red Cross Blood Drive in June

Long Beach Airport, in partnership with the American Red Cross, will host a blood drive on Wednesday, June 9, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., in the Historic Terminal Event Space. Visit [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org) and enter Sponsor Code: LBAirport to schedule an appointment. Family and friends are welcome to donate blood too!