Director’s Highlights

It’s been ten years since service began at PIE with Allegiant and Sunwing Airlines, resulting in 322% passenger growth! When Allegiant began service in 2006 serving 12 routes, we were optimistic about their growth after several years of airline changes in the industry. Now, we enjoy breaking records monthly and look forward to shattering the all-time passenger record again this year following 2015’s record.

It’s not just the number of passengers that we appreciate, but the airfare our customers enjoy. In 2015, the Department of Transportation estimated PIE’s customers paid $92.50 on average for airfare, compared to the national average of $377. This value, combined with 56 non-stop routes, makes air travel affordable for many to enjoy vacations and visits to family and friends.

We have done our best to keep up with this growth, investing in over $104 million in capital improvements in the past decade. Projects ensuring the safety of our airfield and operations are always the highest priority, yet many projects for customer convenience are also being realized. Currently, we are in the midst of a terminal renovation of Gates 7-10, expanding the facility by 12,000 square feet. Outdated restrooms will be remodeled and TSA Pre√ lanes are being added.

We are also investing in our youth. Airport staff, along with Allegiant, Signature Flight Support, National Aviation Academy, and U.S. Customs and Border Protection Control, began a partnership with Big Brothers Big Sisters Tampa Bay and Clearwater High School in a Workplace Mentors Program. Airport “Bigs” are paired with students “Littles” in their Junior Year and will meet monthly for mentoring sessions and professional education for two years through their senior year.

This year, we also proudly completed our annual Federal Aviation Administration Annual Inspection for our 12th consecutive year with no discrepancies. Our Airport Operations, Airport Rescue Firefighting, and Facilities departments work year-round to realize this outstanding safety achievement.

Hope you have a wonderful holiday season!

Onward and upward... your Airport Director, Tom Jewsbury

Air Service/Airline News

On November 3rd, PIE celebrated its 10 year anniversary with Allegiant and Sunwing Airlines with a party! County Commissioner Karen Seel, along with Airport Director Tom Jewsbury, spoke of the achievements over the past 10 years, and presented commemorative “challenge coins” to Thayne Klinger, Allegiant Director of Airports, and Sunwing executives, Reg Mendes and Maureen Maheu. We thank the community leaders who came out in appreciation of our growing 10 year partnership with these airlines.

Sunwing service is back for the season with Toronto twice weekly service. Halifax will resume service in February. Allegiant starts service to Trenton, NJ and Portsmouth, NH in November. Cleveland, OH and Austin, TX begin in February.
**Airport Projects**

**PIE has a number of projects underway to accommodate the rapid growth we are experiencing. We will do our best to minimize the impacts as we look forward to making improvements for our customers.**

**Terminal Renovation Phase 3**

Our 12,000 foot expansion of Gates 7-10 is in progress with completion scheduled for July 2017 by Artec Construction and designed by Michael Baker International. Already completed is the addition of a TSA Pre✓ lane to Gates 2-6 passenger screening checkpoint; another TSA Pre✓ lane will be added to Gates 7-10 entry.

Several restrooms throughout the terminal will be renovated as well. The project will provide additional space for seating, concession space, and a new children’s play area created by Great Explorations Children’s Museum.

**Grants awarded for Airport Capital Projects**

Grants from the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) for $753,979 and $300,000 from the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) Aviation Funding were awarded for the design of a new Inline Checked Baggage Inspection System (CBIS) at PIE. The new automated baggage system will replace the current stand-alone system and provide for faster baggage processing, expediting the screening of checked passenger baggage. The total design cost is $1,070,302.

U.S. Congressman David Jolly was essential in helping to introduce language that would permit the TSA to fund new inline baggage inspection systems.

PIE is also receiving a grant from the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) for the second phase of major airfield improvements for the Taxiway Rehabilitation project. The discretionary grant from the FAA is $3,997,608, FAA entitlement funding is $3,650,690, and FDOT Aviation funding is $388,514. The total project cost (Design + Construction) is $9,939,673. The project is part of a pavement rehabilitation program that will enhance airfield safety by rehabilitating the existing airfield pavements, constructing new pavements to meet new FAA design requirements, and update airfield lighting and signing to more energy-efficient systems.

**PIE in running for National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Operation Relocation**

PIE is a finalist to serve as the new site for NOAA “Hurricane Hunters” to relocate from MacDill Airforce Base. The aircraft must relocate by July 1, 2017. The decision is expected in December.

**Welcome United States Coast Guard Clearwater Air Station Commander Captain Edward W. Sandlin**

Captain Sandlin was officially installed in July as Captain Richard Lorenzen retired his command. Captain Sandlin is a graduate of Navy Flight School in Pensacola and received his Masters Degree in National Security and Strategic Studies from the U.S. Naval War College.

An injured Hawk rescued at PIE by Facilities crew released at Feather Sound Country Club after surgery by Busch Gardens doctor and rehabilitation at Owls Nest Sanctuary for Wildlife. Airport employees made donations for the cost of his care and held a contest to name the hawk, selecting “Skylar”.

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Airport Operations

Noise Affairs Update For information concerning noise affairs, contact the Noise Affairs Office at (727) 453-7877 or email to airportnoise@fly2pie.com. Airport Noise Abatement Task Force Meetings are held quarterly to discuss noise affairs at the airport. Meetings are held at 3:00 PM in Airport Conference Room #234.

2017 Dates: January 18, April 19, July 19, October 4

Airport Parking Shuttle New Drop-Off Point Available Adding Convenience for our Customers
The Shuttle for the Economy & Remote Parking Lots is now operating a new drop-off and pick up location. Passengers may choose to be dropped off or picked up curbside at Ticketing A or in the Ground Transportation Lot.

Annual FAA Part 139 Certification Inspection
PIE successfully passed its annual FAA Part 139 Certification Inspection with zero discrepancies. This marks the 12th year consecutive successful inspection with zero discrepancies. The inspection by the FAA includes a certification checklist, including extensive inspection of the airfield; review of ARFF training and response; personnel training records; fueling facilities and trucks; and the Airport’s Emergency Plan.

Staff News
Congratulations to Tom Jewsbury, Airport Director, on receiving the 2016 Aviation Leadership Award at the 47th Annual Florida Airports Council (FAC) Conference. The FAC presents the Aviation Leadership Award to those individuals who demonstrate outstanding service and contribution to the Florida aviation/airport community, the FAC Board of Directors, the FAC Education Foundation, or one or more FAC committees.

Welcome Aboard! Kathleen Good joined the airport team in August as Airport Properties Manager. Kathleen has worked for Pinellas County the past 15 years as Pinellas County STAR Center Administrator and International Business Development Manager. Kathleen has a B.A. Business-Marketing from the University of Akron, a M.A. Global Marketing and Political Communication from Emerson College, and a Juris Doctorate from Boston University School of Law.

Angela Dunkel has filled a new position as Engineering Tech II, assisting Airport Engineer, Scott Yarley, in our robust capital improvement program.

The airport also welcomed aboard two new Operations Supervisors. Jordan Gottlieb graduated from Evergreen University with a Bachelor’s Degree in Aviation Management and has several years of experience in the Aviation Industry. Jordan worked with Signature Flight Support at PIE prior to being hired.

Ethan Patterson graduated from Indiana State University with a Bachelor’s Degree in Aviation Management and is an American Association of Airport Executives (AAAE) Airport Certified Employee (ACE). Ethan worked as an Operations Agent with the Rapid City Regional Airport in Rapid City, South Dakota prior to being hired at PIE.

Alex Roybal, Senior at East Lake High School, has joined PIE as part of Pinellas County Schools Executive Internship Program. Alex is shadowing several departments and managers during the fall semester to learn more about the business of airports.

In Memory... We are saddened by the passing of Bob Humberstone, former Airport Properties Director. Bob joined the airport management team in 2002 and retired in 2016. He will be missed.
Community Presentation & Education Tours  The airport provides presentations and tours to schools, scouts, and leadership/civic groups. For more info, see our website: [http://www.fly2pie.com/about-pie/airport-tours](http://www.fly2pie.com/about-pie/airport-tours) or contact: Michele Routh at mrouth@fly2pie.com or 727-453-7879

The Pinellas Chapters of Southeastern Guide Dog Puppies in Training came out for their annual tour of the airport. About 30 puppies and their puppy raiser families toured the airport, underwent TSA screening, and boarded an Allegiant aircraft as part of their training.

Concert Series – The airport launched its first concert in September with The New Music Conflagration, featuring Elizabeth Baker and Mikel Thomas. The next concert will be Thursday, December 22nd from 1-2:30 PM.

War Era Veterans Honor flights continue to draw supporters to PIE to thank our veterans.

Guests at the Celebration for 10th Anniversary of service with Allegiant and Sunwing Airlines are welcomed by County Commissioner Karen Seel. Business supporters of the airlines, along with employees of the airport and airlines celebrated.

We look forward to our customers’ comments and ideas. Please drop us a line at info@fly2pie.com. Tweet @iflypie or Facebook.