Director’s Highlights

Last year we had the biggest percentage growth of any airport in Florida. Moreover, this followed two years of double digit growth. Our capital improvement and operational planning are the key to managing our rapid growth, and as this trend continues in 2016, we are excited to begin our 3rd phase of terminal renovation this month. We will be expanding our hold rooms in Gates 7-10 and including enhancements to food & beverage and news & gifts concessions. We will strive to minimize inconvenience during our 15 months of construction. More details on the project are inside.

Additionally, we will be adding a Cell Phone Waiting Lot this summer. Just as our terminal has been increasingly crowded, our curbside traffic has also shown growing pains. We look forward to providing this added convenience for our meeters and greeters that will also alleviate curbside congestion.

On the airside, we are also busy with maintaining our excellent safety record with rehabilitated taxiways, and apron hardstands (aircraft parking spots). Our first priority to our customers is always maintaining the safety of our infrastructure and operations.

PIE has great partners in its airlines, businesses, and government agencies. We work together to create a safe, convenient, affordable, and friendly travel experience. With summer vacations right around the corner, we hope you will consider some of the great destinations from PIE!

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

Air Service/Airline News

April brings two Allegiant destinations into service: Dayton, OH and Flint, MI. And, coming in June, we welcome New Orleans to our line-up of non-stop flights. Spring also brings the end of our seasonal service from Sunwing to/from Canada. We look forward to seeing our snowbirds back next season!

TSA Pre✓® is now available for our travelers at PIE. TSA Pre✓® is an expedited screening program that enables low-risk travelers to enjoy a smart and efficient screening experience at more than 150 U.S. airports. For TSA Pre✓® travelers, there is no need to remove shoes, 3-1-1 liquids, laptops, light outerwear or belts. For more info, visit www.tsa.gov, www.allegiantair.com, www.suncountry.com, or sunwing.com. And, another convenient option for Allegiant travelers, new self-service check-in kiosks.

Allegiant is hosting its Annual Airport Conference right here at the Sirata Beach Resort in St. Pete Beach April 19-23. We are honored to be the host city for airport executives from around the U.S. meeting with Allegiant executives for new and expanded service opportunities. PIE is the third largest airport in passengers in Allegiant’s 114 city route system.
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
PIE begins our 3rd phase of terminal renovation with a $9.8 million project, funded by Passenger Facility Charges (PFC). The Artec Group will begin construction this month with scheduled completion in 15 months. The project includes:
- Expanding passenger hold rooms in Gates 7-10 by 12,000 additional square feet at a construction cost of $7.4 million. Enhancements will include new food & beverage, news & gifts concessions, and a children’s play area. An additional 350 seats will be added for a total of 750 seats at a cost of $400,000.
- Enlarging and renovating PIE’s four public restrooms, located in Gates 7-10, Baggage Claim, the 2nd Floor Restaurant, and the 2nd Floor Operations wing. The new restrooms will meet ADA standards. The cost is $800,000.
- Two passenger screening checkpoints (Gates 2-6 and Gates 7-10) will be expanded from two screening lanes to three at a cost of $750,000.
- A new 350-ton HVAC chiller at a cost of $165,000 and a mechanical control room on the mezzanine level for $250,000, both paid for primarily with PFC funds.

Projects Coming Soon
- A new $6 million in-line baggage inspection system to automate the screening of checked baggage in Ticketing A will be built next year, primarily funded by the Transportation Security Administration. The Designer is to be selected in summer 2016.
- Rehabilitation of taxiways estimated at $10.5 million, primarily funded by the Federal Aviation Administration and State of Florida Department of Transportation Aviation funds. Design work by Jacobs Engineering and project to be advertised for construction in April 2016 with work to begin September 2016 with a 12 month construction duration.
- Improvements to the airport’s parking areas and internal circulation roads are being reconfigured and realigned at a cost of $12 million in order to accommodate growth and the Florida Department of Transportation’s Gateway Express project. Design awarded to Cardno and to begin in April 2016. Project to be advertised for construction in early 2017.

Projects Underway
- The $5.25 million reconstruction of the air carrier terminal apron which began last August consists of the reconstruction of seven aircraft parking positions and includes the resurfacing of a portion of the service road used by airport ground support equipment. The project under construction by GLF Construction Corporation is expected to be completed in May 2016.
- A new Cell Phone Waiting Lot, located adjacent to the FAA Control Tower, is expected to be completed and in operation this summer.
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.

Upcoming 2016 meeting schedule: April 13, July 13, October 19

Staff News at PIE
Airport Internship - Kyle Zier joined the PIE team as an Intern in January. Kyle is a High School Senior in the Pinellas County Schools Executive Internship Program. He will be attending Embry Riddle Aeronautical University in the fall. (Pictured at right)

Promotions - Mark Sprague was promoted to Deputy Director of Operations and Facilities. Mark joined PIE in 2014 as Operations Manager, coming from Washington Dulles Airport. Mark’s promotion opened the door for Matt Weaver to be promoted to Operations Manager. Matt has received several promotions since joining PIE in 1994 serving as Operations Supervisor, Administrative Specialist, Traffic Assistant, and Airport Police.

Retirements - Airport Firefighter Don Neuman (pictured left) joined the department in 1986 and is retiring at the end of May. Happy retirement!

Business News at PIE
Congratulations Stellar Partners! Airport Revenue News revealed the winners of its Best Airport & Concession Awards in Dallas, Texas at its March conference. PIE’s own News & Gifts Concessionaire was awarded Best News & Gift Operator - Small Operator and Best Overall Retailer – Small Operator. (Pictured - Stellar Partners Manager at PIE, Halina Kankowski)

Digital Advertising at PIE!
Pie now has digital advertising in our baggage claim facility. Take advantage of this great opportunity to promote your business by contacting: John Moffitt at Clear Channel Airports – JohnMoffitt@clearchannel.com or 610-674-6058.

April is Aviation Appreciation Month in Florida
Governor Scott issued a proclamation noting Florida is 2nd in the nation in aerospace and aviation establishments generating $144 billion in annual economic activity. Florida has 20 commercial service airports that fly 149.3 million passengers a year.
Next Honor Flights set for April 26 & June 7

Honor Flight of West Central Florida has 2 upcoming Honor Flights scheduled this spring: April 26th and June 7th. Honor Flight and PIE host a Welcome Home Reception for the Veterans at approximately 8:30 pm for their return from Washington D.C. Please come out and join the celebration honoring our veterans!

Community Presentation & Education Tours

Airport Director Tom Jewsbury was the featured speaker at the St. Pete Downtown Partnership March Quarterly Luncheon. Tom invited Pinellas County Economic Development Director Mike Meidel to join in his presentation on PIE and highlight future development projects such as the Gateway Express Project and future redevelopment of the Airco Golf Course.

The airport is excited to host Leadership Pinellas Class of 2016, Pinellas Citizen University Class of 2016, and the Mid Pinellas Chamber of Commerce Economic Development Committee in the upcoming months for tours of PIE.

The airport provides presentations and tours to adult leadership to school, scout, and civic groups. Additionally, presentations are given in the community, such as a recent Rotary Club luncheon.

For more info, see our website: http://www.fly2pie.com/about-pie/airport-tours or contact: Michele Routh at mrouth@fly2pie.com or 727-453-7879

Pinellas Cares

The Pinellas County Department of Human Services teamed up with PIE to implement a spare change donation program to benefit Homeless Prevention and Homeless Services for low income seniors, veterans, families, and individuals.

As passengers enter Gates 2-6 to board a flight, they can drop their change before going through screening.

Public Art

New mixed media work by local Artist Catherine Woods has just been installed in the Airport Reception Office. Pictured here is “Bright Skies and Sunsets” An additional mixed media piece, “Bright Water Circle” was also commissioned for the office.