



**July 2022
Media Clippings**

Advisory Board Meeting

Compiled by Communication & Marketing Dept.

SLCDA Airport Advisory Board July 2022			
Date	Media Outlet	Subject	Market Value
5/29/2022	Best Life	10 best airports in U.S.	
6/1/2021	American DBE	ACDBE opportunities	
6/3/2022	Fox 13	SLC serves 2.2 million in March	
6/4/2022	ABC4	Utah has lowest employment rate	
6/4/2022	The Enterprise	New SLC-Frankfurt service	
6/5/2022	The Salt Lake Tribune	25 years of SLC airfare data	
6/10/2022	Phocus Wire	SkySquad to operate at SLC	
6/10/2022	Travel Daily News	Best U.S. airports	
6/11/2022	CNN	U.S. to end COVID test requirements	
6/13/2022	ABC4	SkySquad to operate at SLC	\$241.40
6/13/2022	KSL	SkySquad to operate at SLC	\$9,245.32
6/13/2022	Fox 13	SkySquad to operate at SLC	\$363.80
6/13/2022	KSL Radio	SkySquad to operate at SLC	
6/13/2022	Jumpstart	The New SLC	
6/14/2022	El Mannaz	SkySquad to operate at SLC	
6/14/2022	Submitfree Travel	SkySquad to operate at SLC	
6/16/2022	Airport Improvement	SLC appoints Melyssa Trnavskis	
6/16/2022	ANNA.AERO	Eurowings launches at SLC	
6/16/2022	Detroit Free Press	Best U.S. airports	
6/19/2022	KUTV	Windy weather cancels flights	\$7,352.16
6/19/2022	ABC4	Windy weather cancels flights	\$1,876.20
6/19/2022	Fox 13	Windy weather cancels flights	\$4,424.44
6/20/2022	KSL	Windy weather cancels flights	\$365.13
6/21/2022	The Salt Lake Tribune	SLC Airport bouncing back	
6/21/2022	KSL Radio	SLC to expand Park & Wait lot	
6/21/2022	Audacy.com	Best & worst airports for delays	
6/22/2022	The Deseret News	SLC 20th busiest airport in U.S.	
6/22/2022	KSL	59 reasons to arrive early at SLC	
6/22/2022	KSL	SLC to expand Park and Wait	
6/22/2022	KSL Radio	SLC ranked 20th busiest	
6/23/2022	Town Lift	SLC 20th busiest airport in U.S.	
6/23/2022	ACI-NA	Most improved airports	
6/27/2022	KSL	Allow extra time at airport	
6/27/2022	Airport World	Airports embrace great outdoors	
6/28/2022	KUTV	Airport expects busy travel	\$390.43
6/29/2022	KUTV	Delta warns for operational challenges	\$779.28
6/30/2022	The Deseret News	Holiday travel	
6/30/2022	KSL	Holiday travel	\$816.50
6/30/2022	Fox 13	Holiday travel	\$815.93
7/1/2022	KUTV	Holiday travel	\$883.13
7/1/2022	KSL	Holiday travel	\$402.38
7/1/2022	Fox 13	Holiday travel	\$703.75
7/1/2022	KSL Radio	Holiday travel	
7/1/2022	Salt Lake Magazine	The New SLC	

SLC Airport News



SLC's airport is bouncing back post-pandemic. See which major airports it now outranks.

Utah's bigger airport is coming in handy as travelers return to the skies.



(Rick Bowmer | AP) Travelers pass through Salt Lake City International Airport, Thursday, June 2, 2022, in Salt Lake City.

By Blake Apgar | June 21, 2022, 6:40 a.m.

Salt Lake City International Airport is among the 20 busiest commercial airports in the nation, surpassing hubs in the Big Apple and the City of Brotherly Love.

A [Federal Aviation Administration report](#), which provides preliminary data on passenger boardings for 2021, shows Salt Lake City as the country's 20th busiest airport with about 10.8 million boardings last year. It is the same ranking the hub held in 2020, when the COVID-19 pandemic crushed air travel nationwide.

Numbers for 2021 show Salt Lake City [passing three major airports in the rankings since 2019](#).

The Utah capital's airport was — at least over the past two years — busier than Baltimore/Washington International Thurgood Marshall Airport, New York's LaGuardia and Philadelphia International Airport.

Airports ranked by boardings

Salt Lake City International Airport retained its status as the nation's 20th-busiest commercial airport in 2021. Since 2019, it's edged out major hubs like Philadelphia International Airport and New York's LaGuardia.

Rank / Name	Boardings		% Change
	CY '20	CY '21	
1. Hartsfield - Jackson Atlanta International	20,559,866	36,676,010	78.39%
2. Dallas - Fort Worth International	18,593,421	30,005,266	61.38%
3. Denver International	16,243,216	28,645,527	76.35%
4. Chicago O'Hare International	14,606,034	26,350,976	80.41%
5. Los Angeles International	14,055,777	23,663,410	68.35%
6. Charlotte/Douglas International	12,952,869	20,900,875	61.36%
7. Orlando International	10,467,728	19,618,838	87.42%
8. Harry Reid International	10,584,059	19,160,342	81.03%
9. Phoenix Sky Harbor International	10,531,436	18,940,287	79.85%
10. Miami International	8,786,007	17,500,096	99.18%
11. Seattle - Tacoma International	9,462,411	17,430,195	84.20%
12. George Bush International/Houston	8,682,558	16,242,821	87.07%



(Christopher Cherrington | The Salt Lake Tribune)

Passenger boardings for those four airports all were lower in 2021 than the year before the pandemic, but Salt Lake City appears to be rebounding faster than the others.

Philadelphia’s 2021 passenger numbers were about 60% of the airport’s 2019 total, and LaGuardia’s figures in 2021 were only about half what they were the year before the pandemic.

Salt Lake City’s 2021 passenger boardings, however, had risen to about 85% of its 2019 total.

(Rick Bowmer | AP) Travelers are shown at Salt Lake City International Airport Monday, June 13, 2022, in Salt Lake City.

[Bill Wyatt](#), executive director of the city’s Department of Airports, attributes the ranking to travelers feeling safe coming to Utah, where they can stay outdoors by visiting national parks and hitting the ski resorts.

“But also,” he said, “just the incredible strength of the economy here in the region, so more people are traveling here.”

Wyatt said airport management doesn’t have much to do with the growth, but it helps that the [new \\$4.1 billion airport](#) is able to accommodate more traffic.

“That’s why we’re building a new airport,” he said.

The new airport opened in 2020 and is still under construction. A surge in passengers since the beginning of the pandemic has forced airport officials to make some adjustments, such as gaining budget approval to expand a park-and-wait lot for those picking up passengers.

(Rick Bowmer | AP) Delta Air Lines planes are shown at their gates Monday, June 13, 2022, at Salt Lake City International Airport, in Salt Lake City.

Wyatt said he suspects Salt Lake City will continue climbing the chart, due largely to Delta Air Lines’ support for the airport’s growth. The facility, a Delta hub, is only about 115,000 passengers behind 19th-ranked Boston Logan International Airport in last year’s tally..

The top-ranked airports were no surprise. Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport led the list, followed by Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport and Denver International Airport.

Final passenger numbers for 2021 are expected to be released in August.

(Trent Nelson | The Salt Lake Tribune) Salt Lake City International Airport plans to expand its park-and-wait lot, shown on Thursday, June 16, 2022.



bapgar@sltrib.com

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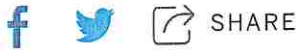


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UTAH U.S. & WORLD BUSINESS

Salt Lake International is the 20th busiest airport in America, FAA report finds

The airport still has yet to fully recover to pre-pandemic numbers
By Bridger Beal-Cvetko | bbealcvetko@deseretnews.com | Jun 22, 2022, 11:05am MDT



Salt Lake City International had nearly 11 million passengers board in 2021, making it the 20th busiest American airport according to a preliminary report by the Federal Aviation Administration.

After the COVID-19 pandemic cratered travel numbers in 2020, the new numbers show that airports across the country were close to normal last year, but many still have some catching up to do to return to pre-pandemic levels.

The FAA report only counted “enplanements,” meaning the numbers don’t capture every passenger traveling through the airport. According to internal statistics, the Salt Lake airport served nearly 22.4 million passengers in total in 2021, which is still 17% below the pre-pandemic number recorded in 2019.



How does Salt Lake International compare to the busiest airports in the world?

Headed for the airport without your mask? Here's what you need to know

All of the top 30 busiest airports saw significant improvements compared to 2020. Austin-Bergstrom International in Austin, Texas, had the largest increase with more than 112%. Salt Lake's 10.8 million boardings in 2021 were 81% more than in 2020, when it had just shy of 6 million.

Busiest airports in the U.S.

Here is a list of the 10 busiest American airports in 2021, along with the number of boardings, according to the FAA:

1. Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International, 36.7 million boardings.
2. Dallas-Fort Worth International, 30 million boardings.
3. Denver International, 28.6 million boardings.
4. Chicago O'Hare International, 26.4 million boardings.
5. Los Angeles International, 23.7 million boardings.
6. Charlotte/Douglas International, 20.9 million boardings.
7. Orlando International, 19.6 million boardings.
8. Las Vegas' Harry Reid International, 19.2 million boardings.
9. Phoenix Sky Harbor International, 18.9 million boardings.
10. Miami International, 17.5 million boardings.

How Utah's smaller airports fared

The FAA report tracked data from more than 500 airports around the country, including Utah's smaller airports. St. George Regional and Provo Municipal were the state's only other airports to board more than 100,000 passengers, with 153,200 and 118,740, respectively.

Ogden-Hinckley Airport had just under 30,000 boardings — a 236% increase from 2020 — Canyonlands Regional had just over 20,000 and Cedar City Regional had 12,807. Vernal Regional — Utah's smallest airport to be included in the report — had

All of Utah's airports reported increases of at least 50% in traffic when compared to 2020.

Nationally, the slowest airport included in the FAA's report is in Noatak, Alaska. The Noatak Airport — located in remote, northwestern Alaska — counted only 2,506 boardings last year.



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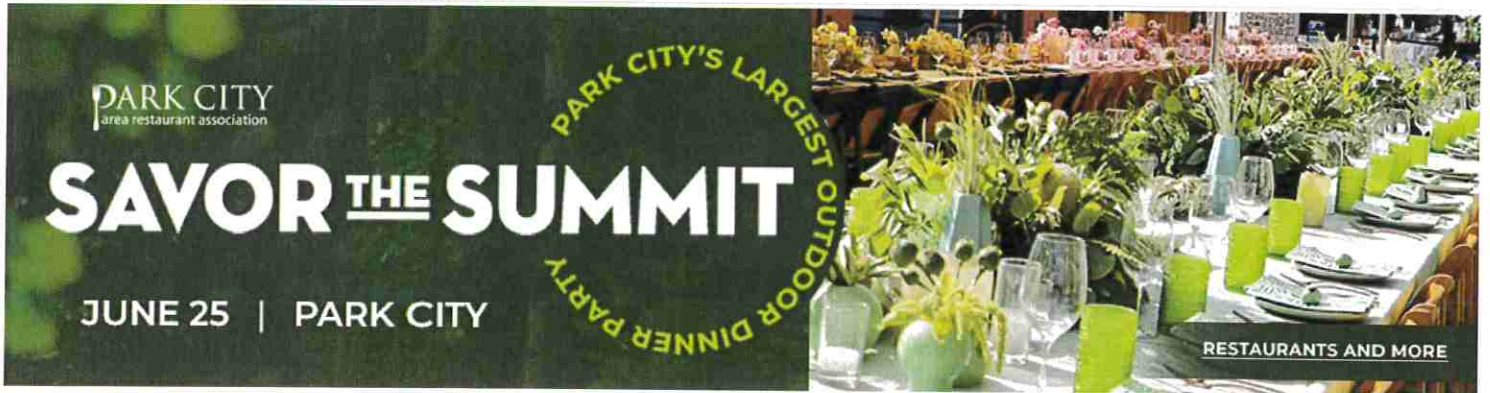
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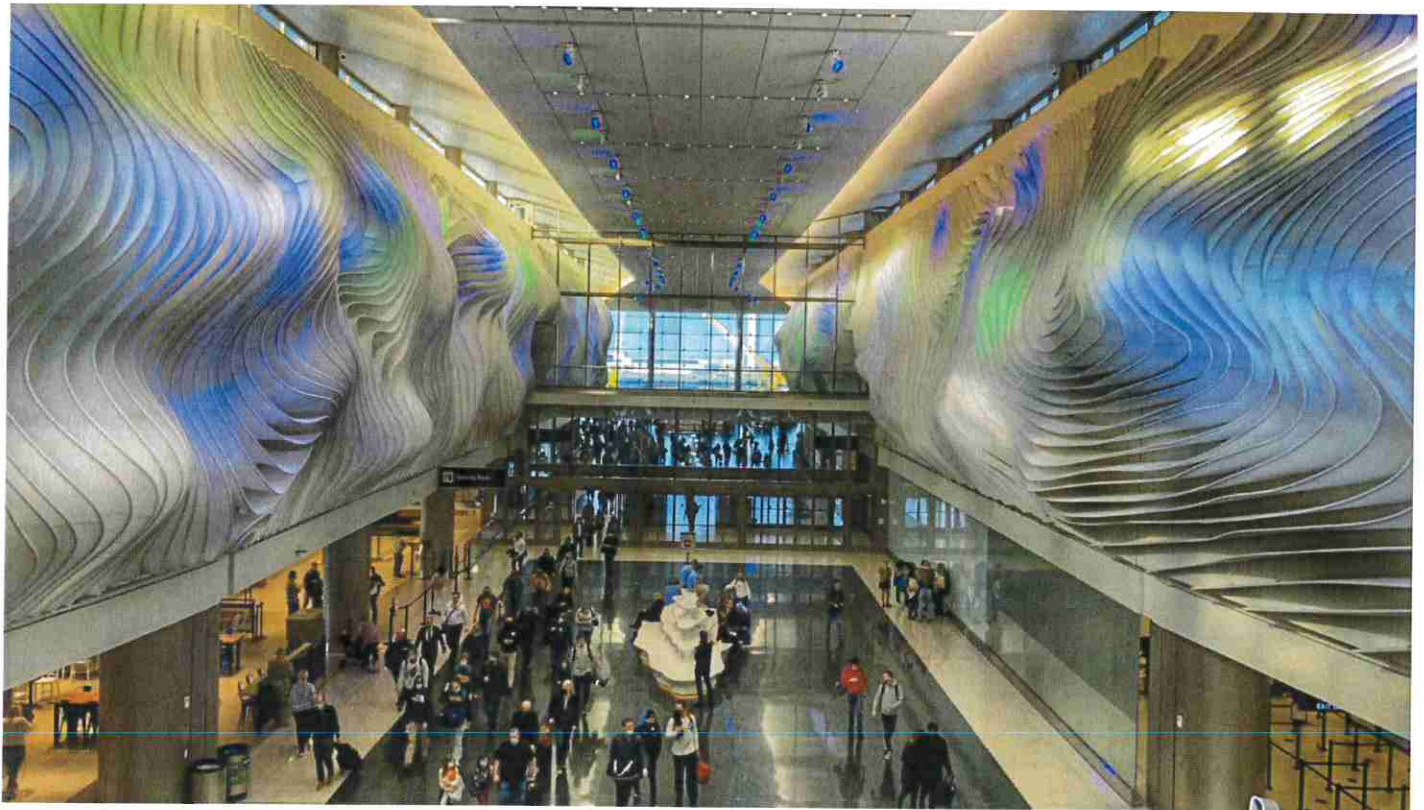


Business

FAA report: SLC is the 20th busiest airport in U.S.



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Salt Lake City International Airport (SLC). Photo: TownLift

SALT LAKE CITY — A new report from the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) ranks Salt Lake City International Airport (SLC) as the 20th busiest airport in the country.



International Thurgood Marshall Airport, LaGuardia in New York, and Philadelphia International Airport.

Compared to pandemic-induced 2020 data, passenger boardings at SLC were up over 80% in calendar year 2021 — with 10,795,906 total passenger boardings reported. It was roughly 115,000 passengers shy of Boston Logan International Airport in the report.

The top 5 airports?

1. Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International (ATL)
2. Dallas-Fort Worth International (DFW)
3. Denver International (DEN)
4. Chicago O'Hare International (ORD)
5. Los Angeles International (LAX)

The Salt Lake City Council recently **approved plans** to expand the airport's park-and-wait lot, which currently has 132 parking stalls. The airport is also planning to install new charging stations for electric vehicles.

SLC's new airport opened in 2020 and is still under construction.



MICHIGAN

Detroit Metro Airport ranks No. 2 in America in on-time performance, website says

[Pavithra Rajesh](#) Detroit Free Press

Published 3:08 p.m. ET June 16, 2022 | Updated 3:53 p.m. ET June 16, 2022

Arguably, air travel is never not stressful. But according to a new ranking, Michigan's flagship airport is one of the better airports at making the experience a little less miserable.

In a new listing released by AirHelp, Detroit Metropolitan Wayne County Airport ranked as the second-best U.S. airport with 100,000+ flights in 2021, based on "on time performance."

It is followed by San Francisco International Airport and Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport. No. 1 on the list is Minneapolis-Saint Paul International Airport.

AirHelp, an air passenger rights company, considered factors such as airline crew member shortages, long security lines and air traffic control delays in its rankings.

More: Here's how early you should arrive at the airport

Detroit Metropolitan Airport has 36.7 million annual passengers and services more than 140 destinations, with approximately 1,100 flights per day. It is Michigan's busiest airport.

On the flip side, AirHelp also released a list of the worst U.S. airports, based on the same criteria. Newark Liberty International Airport in New Jersey made the top of that list, followed by Denver International Airport and Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport at the No. 2 and 3 spots, respectively.

Take a look at the [complete listings](#), according to AirHelp:

Best U.S. airports

1. Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport
2. Detroit Metropolitan Wayne County Airport

3. San Francisco International Airport
4. Atlanta Hartsfield-Jackson International Airport
5. Salt Lake City International Airport
6. Charlotte Douglas International Airport
7. Seattle-Tacoma International Airport
8. Boston Logan International Airport
9. Philadelphia International Airport
10. Los Angeles International Airport

Worst U.S. airports

1. Newark Liberty International Airport
2. Denver International Airport
3. Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport
4. Las Vegas McCarran International Airport
5. Orlando International Airport
6. Miami International Airport
7. Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport
8. Houston George Bush Intercontinental Airport
9. New York City John F. Kennedy International Airport
10. Chicago O'Hare International Airport

Airports

AirHelp data reveals Minneapolis/St. Paul International Airport is best U.S. airport

Tatiana Rokou (/profile/u/tatiana.rokou) / 10 Jun 2022 ⌚ 08:58 👁 2001

Based on "on time performance" from airports with 100,000+ flights in 2021.

The summer travel season is off to a tumultuous start – thousands of flights are getting cancelled and delayed. Reasons vary from bad weather to air traffic control delays, airline crew member shortages, long security lines at airports or mechanical issues. As travelers set their sights on summer travel, **AirHelp** – an air passenger rights company – analyzed their data to compile the best and worst airports across the U.S.

Based on "on time performance" from airports with 100,000+ flights in 2021, see the best and worst U.S. airports.

Best U.S. Airports:

MSP – Minneapolis/St. Paul International Airport
DTW – Detroit Metropolitan Wayne County
SFO – San Francisco International Airport
ATL – Atlanta Hartsfield-Jackson International Airport
SLC – Salt Lake City Airport
CLT – Charlotte Airport
SEA – Seattle Tacoma Airport
BOS – Boston Edward L Logan International Airport
PHL – Philadelphia International Airport
LAX – Los Angeles International Airport

Worst U.S. airports:

EWR – Newark Liberty International Airport
DEN – Denver International Airport
FLL – Fort Lauderdale/Hollywood International Airport

Travel (<https://Bestlifeonline.Com/Travel/>)

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The 10 Best Airports in America, According to Data

MIKE TAYLOR OF J.D. POWER EXPLAINS WHAT MAKES THESE TOP 10 AIRPORTS SO GREAT.

By LEAH GROTH MAY 26, 2022



William Perugini/Shutterstock



Everyone has their favorite airport

(<https://bestlifeonline.com/jetblue-route-cuts-news/>), but what really separates the good from the great? Every year, the J.D. Power 2021 North America Airport Satisfaction Study (<https://www.jdpower.com/business/press-releases/2021-north-america-airport-satisfaction-study>) measures overall traveler satisfaction, rating airports on a 1,000 point scale on six factors in order of importance: Terminal facilities, airport arrival/departure, baggage claim, security check, check-in/baggage check, and food, beverage, and retail.

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"A good airport does all the blocking and tackling well: They are easy to get to and through (<https://bestlifeonline.com/travel/>), security is efficient, they are clean, and the terminals are comfortable," says Michael Taylor, travel intelligence lead at J.D. Power. A great airport? It does all of these things and more. Oftentimes, the higher rated airports boast great food, beverage, and retail programs, offering a mix of things, including brands people know (Chick-fil-A, Burger King, Starbucks, etc.) with restaurants that "reflect the local community and things that you can only get in that city," Taylor says.

Which airports are currently on the top 10 list and how did they achieve top scores? Taylor explains all right here. And for more, check out **10 U.S.**

Islands to Add to Your Bucket List—No Passport Required

(<https://bestlifeonline.com/us-islands-travel/>).

6 | Salt Lake City (SLC)



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The sound design of Salt Lake City helped the Utah airport achieve a 826 score. Taylor explains that airports are faced with the challenge of acoustics, and it all comes down to the flooring. "When you have a public space, a hard surface floor is easy to clean, but reflects noise and makes the terminal loud," he says. "Carpeting wears out and attracts dirt." Because of the great sound design, SLC has great baffling so you can hear the ambient noise, which is comforting to travelers, but also allows for clear announcements of the PA system.

World's Most Improved Airports 2022

King Khalid International Airport, Riyadh, is named as the World's Most Improved Airport 2022, with LaGuardia Airport, New York, ranked 2nd and Dammam International Airport in 3rd place

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The World's Most Improved Airports 2022

The World's Most Improved Airport award reflects an airport's Quality improvement across the whole Airport Awards programme. This analyses an airport's change within the global rating, and the airport performance improvements in many of the award categories to identify the Most Improved airports over the last 12 months.

- 1 Riyadh
- 2 New York LGA
- 3 Dammam
- 4 Seattle-Tacoma
- 5 Casablanca
- 6 Salt Lake City
- 7 Addis Ababa

^



It's going to get easier to pick up someone at Salt Lake City's airport

City Council approves funding to expand the sometimes-jammed park-and-wait lot. See when it will come on line.



(Trent Nelson | The Salt Lake Tribune) Cars in the park-and-wait lot at the Salt Lake City International Airport on Thursday, June 16, 2022. The city plans to expand the lot.

By Blake Apgar | June 17, 2022, 6:56 a.m.

If you're the person who gets drafted to pick up friends and loved ones from the airport, you will soon have more space to await their return.

Salt Lake City Council members approved a budget this week that includes \$41.8 million to pay for a host of improvements for the Department of Airports.

Among the budgeted upgrades is about \$1.4 million to expand [Salt Lake City International Airport](#)'s 132-stall park-and-wait lot. Officials plan to remove landscaping and add about 90 spaces for drivers waiting to scoop up travelers from the arrivals curb.

“We regularly don’t have a place for anyone in the park-and-wait lot,” said [Bill Wyatt](#), Department of Airports executive director.

Design on the new lot is expected to begin next month, with construction slated to start in May. Wyatt expects the project to wrap up in October 2023.

He said the amount going to capital improvements in this budget is consistent with what the Department of Airports spends annually.

A quarter of the money will pay for airfield projects like reconstruction of a taxiway and an access gate.

The airport also will install new charging stations for electric vehicles, and shell out nearly \$5.5 million for maintenance facilities and construction of vendor space in concourse B. The new space will give [shops and restaurants](#) room to serve weary travelers who completed the [long trek across the airport](#) to their gates.

Another \$8.2 million is pegged for development and construction of new hangars at the [South Valley Regional Airport](#) in West Jordan.

About 90% of the department’s capital improvement budget will come from airport coffers, which are managed separately from the city’s general fund. The remainder of the capital budget is funded by grants.

Council members approved the \$1.5 billion citywide budget Tuesday night. The \$425.5 million general fund includes a [property tax increase](#) and a [25% boost to the police budget](#).

The final action in the budgeting process is a truth-in-taxation hearing, scheduled for Aug. 16.



bapgar@sltrib.com

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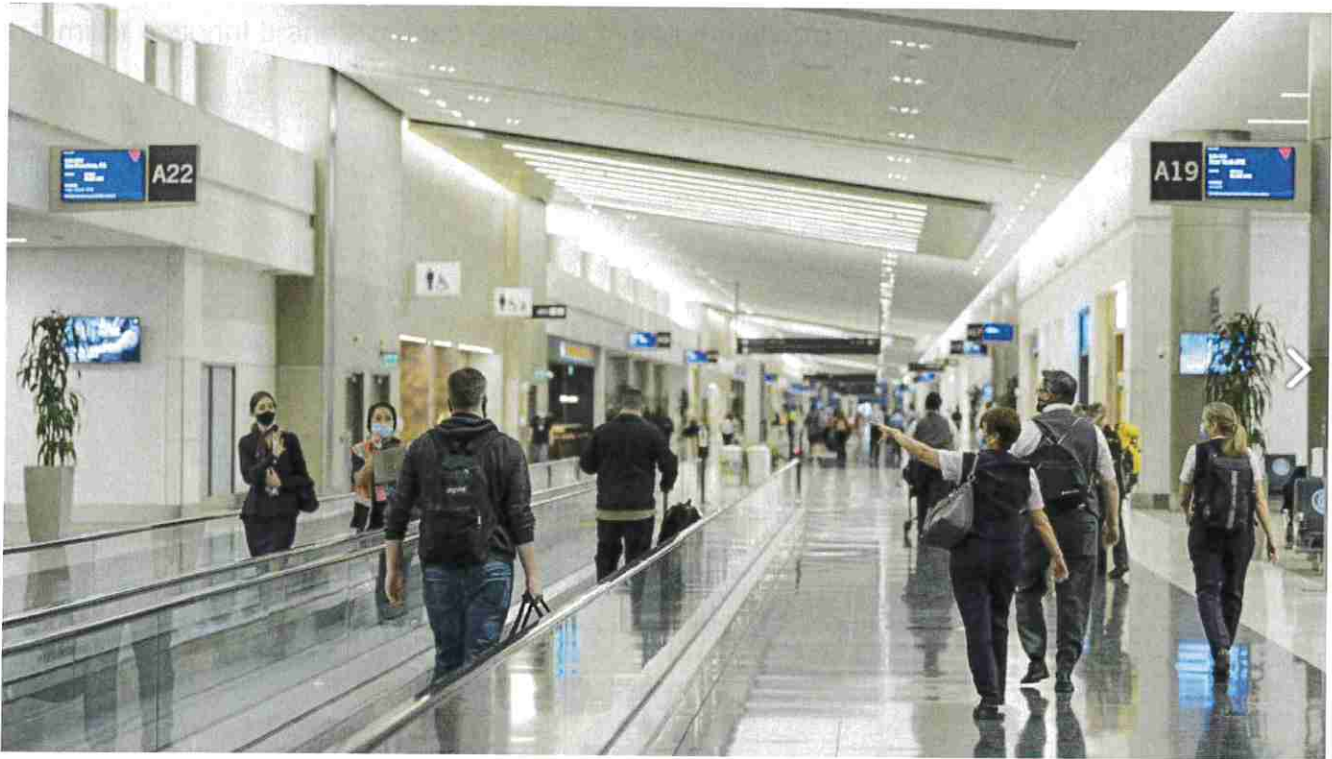
Why the long walk at Salt Lake City's new airport? Will relief be coming anytime soon?

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59 reasons to arrive early for your next flight out of the SLC airport

By Salt Lake City International Airport | Posted - June 22, 2022 at 3:00 p.m.



(Salt Lake City International Airport)



Estimated read time: 5-6 minutes

This story is sponsored by [Salt Lake City International Airport](#).

The Salt Lake airport boasts of having the only brick-and-mortar location of Frye, the maker of fine boots, shoes and sandals for men and women. You can also find a nice selection of accessories like scarves, leather totes, purses and belts to compliment your outfit. Check it out on the corner of Departures Hall and Concourse A!

If you're in the market for some fine, uniquely Utahn goods, options abound in this category as well. Browse the selection of skincare products, books, journals, handbags and loungewear at Hip & Humble in Concourse A.

Hop on over to Concourse B to visit the new UTAH! Store, which is chock-full of local products ranging from Cox's Honey to Taffy Town candy and other local brands. Pop into the Visit Salt Lake store in Concourse A for more products made by local artisans. From handmade jewelry to graphic art and fine pottery, you're sure to find a few treasures you'll want to take home.


 59 reasons to arrive early for your next flight out of the SLC airport

Photo: Salt Lake City International Airport

Tasty local flavors

No one wants to travel hangry, which is why hitting up one of the many food joints is a good idea before you board. Along with some established chains, the airport also shows off Utah's local tastes and flavors. Fill up your coffee cup at Beans & Brews, indulge in an award-winning French pastry from Gourmandise or bite into a delectable truffle grilled cheese at White Horse Spirits & Kitchen. (Is your mouth watering yet?)

If you like to boost your spirits with some spirits before you fly, two of Utah's popular breweries — Uinta and Wasatch — operate in Concourse B as well. The Terminal Plaza also features Rooster Brewing Co., another local favorite. While you're there, why not treat yourself to a pre-flight meal of chowder and fresh fish at Market Street Grill?

A more convenient travel experience

Salt Lake City International Airport is striving to make life easy for travelers. Case in point: All eateries that serve coffee are required to open as soon as the security checkpoint opens, which is promptly at 4 a.m. That way, all the non-morning people can get their caffeine fix as soon

restaurants directly to your gate. How's that for convenience?


 59 reasons to arrive early for your next flight out of the SLC airport

Photo: Salt Lake City International Airport

More options are coming soon

While there are currently 58 operational restaurants and retail locations in the airport, No. 59 will be hitting Concourse B this summer. This will be a wellness-based retailer that offers massages, private yoga rooms, shower rooms and more — which might be just what stressed-out travelers need.

But that's not all. The airport recently announced plans to add 19 more businesses to Concourse A by November 2023. [KSL.com reports](#) that these restaurants and stores include local flavors such as Blue Iguana, Red Rock Brewery, Vessel Kitchen, SLC Public Market and a Utah Jazz Pro Shop, among others. Andreasen says that these spaces will be mostly affordable, fast-food restaurants.

"We've heard from many people who miss the option of more national hamburger chains in the former airport," he explains. "So, we've reserved a space for a Burger King in Phase 2.

Until then, you still have a couple of fast-casual options. Satisfy your burger cravings by heading to the Shake Shack on Concourse A or Smashburger on Concourse B.

Getting there is half the fun

Next time you're waiting around at Salt Lake City International Airport, take advantage of having all these great shops and eateries in the same spot. Grab a bite to eat, scope out the perfect souvenir or just go exploring. You might find that traveling is more enjoyable than you thought.

For a complete list of restaurants and retailers at the Salt Lake airport, visit slcairport.com.


 59 reasons to arrive early for your next flight out of the SLC airport

Photo: Salt Lake City International Airport

13th – 15th June 2022

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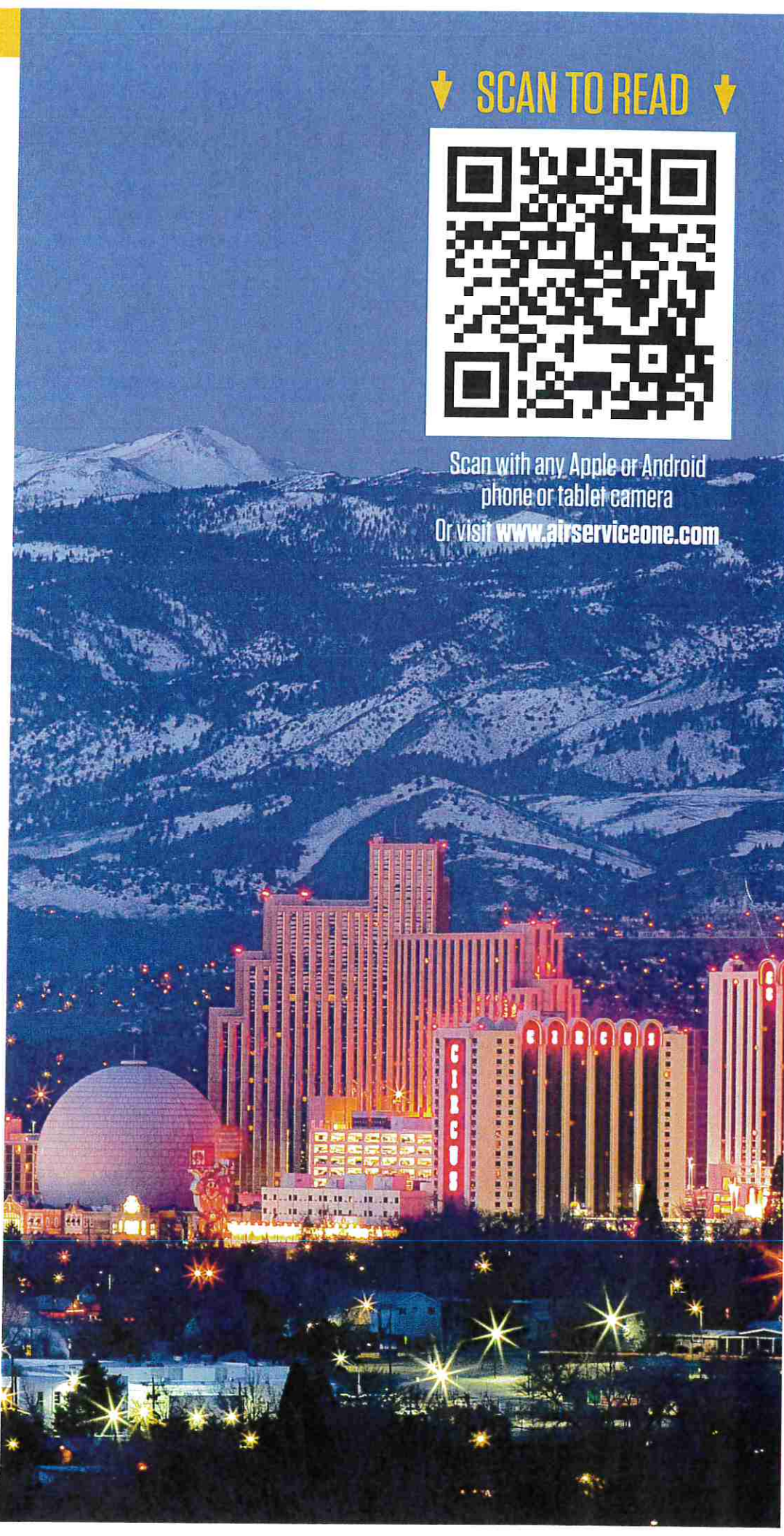
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Salt Lake City, Crossroads of the West and World

Salt Lake City International Airport (SLC) is securing its position as a global aviation hub by building a brand-new airport that will serve the growing region for decades to come.

Long known as the “Crossroads of the West,” Salt Lake and Utah are fast becoming known as the “Crossroads of the World.” When Phase 1 of “The New SLC” Airport Redevelopment Program opened in Fall 2020, a new era of air transportation began, with expanded domestic and international flights and an elevated passenger experience. Phase 1 encompassed a Central Terminal and the west end of two linear concourses connected by a tunnel.

And there is more to come. In 2023, Phase 2 will open with 22 additional gates on Concourse A-East, along with 19 shops and restaurants. By Fall 2024, a new Central



Tunnel – dubbed the River Tunnel – and more gates on Concourse B-East will open, providing passengers streamlined access between A and B concourses and one, immersive and inspiring art experience from curb to gate.

With more gates, SLC is able to offer more flights to more destinations. Thus far in 2022, SLC has welcomed three new carriers to the market: Air Canada to Toronto; Eurowings Discover to Frankfurt, Germany; and Spirit Airlines to Las Vegas, Los Angeles and Orlando. The airport also recently celebrated the return of KLM and Delta’s transatlantic flights to Amsterdam, Paris and London.

The next generation of air transportation is taking off at SLC. To learn more, go to www.slcairport.com/thenewslc.



With more gates, SLC is able to offer more flights to more destinations.

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EQUITY ESSENTIAL TO INTERSTATE BRIDGE REPLACEMENT PROGRAM

PAGE 16

HILL INTERNATIONAL PARTNERS WITH DBES IN NEW YORK REGION

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PANYNJ Recommits to Inclusion

PAGE 28

(from left) IBR program team members
André Baugh, Administrator Greg Johnson
and Lisa Keohokalole Schauer

*WSP USA Builds DBE
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- Airport Car Rental Supplier Diversity
- IndyGo Helps DBEs Grow
- New DBE Fraud Cases

Airports and Car Rental Companies Partner to Increase ACDBE Opportunities



airports hosting simultaneous outreach meetings across the country connecting car rental company representatives with ACDBE firms seeking business opportunities. The first event was successful, and the Airport Business Development Group officially made the program an annual event going forward. The

and planning projects, they are required to administer the ACDBE and DBE Programs, creating opportunities for diverse firms to participate in airport concessions and development projects.

Airports receiving AIP funding must create and pursue two ACDBE goals. The first goal is for all airport concessions except car rental companies, and the second goal is for car rental companies operating on airport property. Each goal period covers three years, and airports must report their accomplishments to the FAA annually. This goal for non-car rental concessions primarily covers businesses such as food and beverage concessions, retail concessions and specialty concession operations; and often involves ACDBEs having some ownership interest in the concession business. The Airport Rental Car Supplier Diversity Outreach Day is an initiative to help airports achieve their ACDBE goals for car rental companies.

For more than a decade, federal administrators, airport DBE Program administrators and Airport Concession Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (ACDBEs) have worked with major car rental companies to find common ground on strategies to increase business opportunities at U.S. airport locations. Efforts over the years include additional guidance issued by the Federal Aviation Administration, a whitepaper published by the Airport Minority Advisory Council (AMAC) and panel discussions at AMAC's Business Diversity Conference. While these and other initiatives made an impact, work remains to be done.

This challenge of creating new strategies and creative ways to increase ACDBE opportunities in the car rental industry led a group of airport DBE liaison officers to uniting to create an outreach program to bring car rental companies together with ACDBEs on a local level – to discuss opportunities and make connections.

The group of airport DBE liaison officers, called the Airport Business Development Group, formed a partnership to host the first Airport Rental Car Supplier Diversity Outreach Day in 2019. The initial program included 30

group has planned the event each year since 2019 and helps participating airports prepare to host individual outreach meetings at their respective location.

The annual event seeks to address a challenge recognized by the Federal Aviation Administration regarding the federal ACDBE Program for car rental companies. While ACDBE regulations do not require car rental companies to change their corporate structure to provide for direct ownership arrangements with ACDBEs to meet ACDBE goals, they do require airports to “rigorously review the quality, quantity and intensity of the good faith efforts made by the car rental companies to meet their ACDBE goal on a regular basis to ensure compliance.” Oftentimes, these good faith efforts are met by extending opportunities to ACDBEs for goods and services used by car rental companies for daily operations.

Based on this challenge, airports and car rental companies across the country often work together to identify opportunities for ACDBEs. Since most major U.S. airports receive federal funding through the FAA Airport Improvement Program (AIP) in the form of grants used for airport development

2022 Airport Rental Car Supplier Diversity Outreach Day

This year's Airport Rental Car Supplier Diversity Outreach Day took place April 26 at airports nationwide, boasting the highest attendance of participating airports thus far.

“This year we had 74 airports to host an outreach program,” Airport Senior Planner and DBE Program Coordinator at Salt Lake City International Airport Raymond Christy said. Christy has worked on the committee to plan the event each year since its inception. The participating airports, through their local program, partnered with car rental companies operating at their airport to discuss upcoming and potential various business opportunities with ACDBE firms and small businesses that can become certified as ACDBEs. Some of the companies participating locally with airports included Hertz, Avis, Enterprise, National, Alamo, Fox, Thrifty and Dollar.

The hybrid event included airports hosting a combination of in-person and virtual meetings across six time zones. The program gave business owners information on learning how to grow their businesses, and providing quality products and services to rental car companies. Small business representatives learned about opportunities for a variety of good and services used by car rental companies such as fuel, tires, car detailing, window repair, staffing, collision repair, cleaning and advertising. Business owners also learned about the ACDBE certification process and other beneficial supplier diversity certifications.

The planning committee added an additional component to this year's event by partnering with AMAC to host a nationwide meeting to highlight industry-wide strategies to increase opportunities for ACDBEs and to hear from industry thought leaders and car rental company representatives discussing their initiatives to advance policy and legislative actions to increase opportunities.

Prior Year Success Stories

Previous Airport Rental Car Supplier Diversity Outreach Days have produced wins for DBEs, ACDBEs, and non-certified business owners. A few examples of ACDBE success include:

- **Austin-Bergstrom International Airport - Two body shops received contracts with rental car companies.**
- **Birmingham-Shuttlesworth International Airport - One ACDBE received a contract to sell chemicals to a car rental agency, while another rental car company engaged with a DBE that could supply them with tires.**
- **Columbia Metropolitan Airport - A certified business gained business opportunities with three rental car agencies; and another business gained a contract with a rental car company to supply their goods to 40 locations.**
- **Tampa International Airport - A business owner met with one of the attending rental car agencies after the event for contract negotiations.**

Although the video from the national meeting is not available online, ACDBEs and potential ACDBEs should reach out to their local airport DBE Program officer to inquire about upcoming opportunities with car rental companies in their airport.



Salt Lake City International Airport Senior Planner and DBE Program Coordinator Raymond Christy

Airport Rental Car Supplier Diversity Outreach Day panelists discuss strategies to increase opportunities for ACDBEs in the industry. (Top row from left) USDOT Director of the Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization (OSDBU) Shelby M. Scales, Unison Consulting Director of Retail Operations Yolanda Woodruff, Enterprise Holdings Corporate Supplier Diversity Manager Dwayne Norris. (Second row from left) Salt Lake City International Airport Senior Planner and DBE Program Coordinator Raymond Christy, FAA Director of the National External Operations and Policy Programs Gene Roth, Avis Budget Group Senior Director - Global Strategic Sourcing and Procurement Michael Robortaccio. (Bottom row from left) AMAC President & CEO Eboni Wimrush, Former Deputy Assistant General Counsel for Regulation and Enforcement Robert C. Ashby.

NEWS

SLC Airport: Expect delays/cancelations due to bad weather conditions

Flight Delays (AP Photo/David Zalubowski, File)

by: [Danielle MacKimm](#)

Posted: Jun 19, 2022 / 05:14 PM MDT

Updated: Jun 19, 2022 / 05:14 PM MDT

SALT LAKE CITY (ABC4) – The stormy weather filling the sky today has created dangerous conditions for travelers.

Representatives of the [Salt Lake City International Airport \(SLCIA\)](#) has reported that there are some flight delays and cancellations due to the high winds.

SLCIA notes that some departures have been delayed about 30 minutes, while five outbound flights and six inbound flights have been canceled.

Passengers have been advised to check with their airline regarding delays and cancellations.

To check on your flights current status, [click here](#).

Travel experts: Give yourself extra time to avoid airport delays

Jun 27, 2022, 5:17 PM | Updated: 8:00 pm



BY [JED BOAL](#)

KSLTV.com

SALT LAKE CITY — If you're flying for your long-awaited vacation this summer, or any trip, brace yourself for potential delays and cancellations.

The nation's airports were packed this past weekend. Travel experts tell us to give ourselves extra time and pack our patience.

In America's airports Sunday, hundreds of cancellations and delays intensified the chaos and anxiety for passengers. Airport managers and travel agents expect the travel turmoil is not going to let up anytime soon.

"This summer, it's wild. It's a wild time to travel," said Doug Wren, who runs an international travel business in Salt Lake City.



Wren was in California for a few days and flew home Sunday. He said the travel tension was palpable.

"A high level of tension. You can feel it going through security and everything else," the travel agent said.

So, he recommends giving yourself extra time, especially if you're not a regular traveler or haven't traveled in a while.

"It's all about time," Wren said. "Do you leave enough time to get to the airport? To check in? To get through security? Was there enough time — if you're connecting — in between your flight to be able to connect?"

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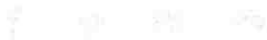
July 4 travel: When and where roads will be busy; national parks expect heavy traffic

By Carter Williams, KSL.com | Posted - June 30, 2022 at 4:28 p.m.



Motorists drive on I-15 in Salt Lake City on Nov. 23, 2021. Fourth of July traffic is expected to create some headaches for drivers on I-15, especially on Friday and Monday, according to the Utah Department of Transportation. (Kristin Murphy, Deseret News)

15



Estimated read time: 6-7 minutes

It's estimated that nearly 48 million Americans will travel for the major summer holiday, a figure that wouldn't only be an increase of about 3.7% from last year's holiday travel but would account for about 98% of travel in 2019 before the COVID-19 pandemic, according to AAA.

About 42 million people, nearly nine out of 10 people who will travel, will drive, while about 3.55 million will fly and another 2.42 million people will use bus or train, or will embark on a cruise. Rolando Flores, the senior vice president of membership and travel for AAA Utah, said last week that the growing demand witnessed by travel experts earlier this year "isn't tapering off," even as inflation increases the cost of travel.

"Even though things are more expensive, people want to travel and they are finding ways to still take that much-needed break," he said in a statement.

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So if you plan to travel in Utah during the long Fourth of July weekend, here's what to expect.

Utah roads most likely to be impacted

Utah transportation traffic engineers believe Friday and Monday, the actual day of the holiday, will be the busiest days of travel this weekend, especially on Interstate 15 in and around the Wasatch Front.

are projected between 2 p.m. and 5 p.m. Friday on southbound I-15 near Nephi as a result of traffic congestion.

As usual, the Utah Department of Transportation halted construction for the long weekend, opening as many lanes of travel as possible. However, some of the ongoing projects will still result in traffic disruptions.

- **Interstate 70 (near the I-15 interchange):** The freeway is reduced to one lane in each direction between the Cove Fort exit and I-15 because crews are replacing the driving surface and barrier walls on the I-70 bridge.
- **Interstate 80 and Interstate 215 (eastern Salt Lake County):** Lanes are shifted on I-80 between 1300 East and 2300 East, and on I-215 between 3300 South and 4500 South, as a part of an ongoing project there. Crews are still reconstructing the sections of both freeways by removing the existing pavement and replacing it with new concrete.
- **Interstate 84 (near Morgan):** The freeway is reduced to one lane in each direction between Morgan and Henefer because crews are still in the process of completing pavement and bridge maintenance in the area.
- **U.S. 40 (north of Heber City):** The highway's eastbound direction is down to one lane north of Heber City near Jordanelle Reservoir. Heavy truck traffic is expected Friday afternoon, as well. Crews are completing maintenance work on the concrete pavement in the area and replacing the driving surfaces of the bridges over the Provo River.

Utah gas price update

Traffic may not be the only pain for those hitting the road in Utah. The average price of gas in the Beehive State, [which surpassed \\$5 per gallon for the first time in history on June 9](#), is now up to \$5.24, [as of AAA data](#) reviewed Thursday afternoon. Gas in Utah is about 39 cents above the national average.

It's still generally cheaper to fill up in central and eastern Utah and more expensive in southwest Utah; however, average prices are all over the board altogether. As of Thursday afternoon, the five cheapest counties for gas in Utah are:

- **Juab:** \$5.14
- **San Juan:** \$5.15

- **Iron:** \$5.18

The five most expensive counties in Utah:

- **Piute:** \$5.43
- **Wayne:** \$5.40
- **Kane:** \$5.39
- **Rich:** \$5.38
- **Garfield:** \$5.37

Of course, these numbers can easily change throughout the holiday weekend.

Crowded parks

Utah's state and national parks figure to be some of the top draws among those driving this weekend.

Although Yellowstone National Park will finally [reopen its northern loop on Saturday](#) for the first time after [massive flooding damage closed it for weeks](#), Utah's parks figure to be as crowded as ever this weekend, especially if tourists already decided to alter their travel plans elsewhere for the holiday.

For instance, Zion National Park officials are warning visitors to expect long lines at park entrances, visitor centers, restrooms and trailheads, as well as at shuttle stops in Springdale and within the park. "Heavy traffic" is expected in Springdale and throughout the park and officials say intermittent closures are to be expected at the park's south and east vehicle entrances.

Jeff Bradybaugh, the park's superintendent, said the park is partnering with the town of Springdale to manage the heavier traffic that is forecast this weekend. Utah state Routes 14, 20 and 59 all figure to be particularly busy, along with U.S. 89 in the region.

visitors arrive at the same time than on other busy summer days."

Water-based state and national parks are all expected to be busy this weekend, which may result in longer boat inspection lines.

Weather outlook

High temperatures are expected to remain in the 90s across the Wasatch Front and around 100 degrees by St. George over the weekend.

More scattered showers are forecast across Utah on Friday but a low-pressure system is expected to arrive this weekend, pushing away the wave of monsoonal moisture that's helped Utah this week, according to KSL meteorologist Matt Johnson. This is also expected to dry up the state this weekend.

Full seven-day forecasts for areas across Utah can be found online at the [KSL Weather Center](#).

Airport and other transportation

Thursday and Friday are the biggest flying days at Salt Lake City International Airport, based on airline ticket sales. Nancy Volmer, the airport's spokeswoman, said upwards of 26,000 passengers are expected at the airport's front doors each day, though that projection doesn't take into account arriving passengers or those making connecting flights.

Travel at the airport cools down a little after that. Experts [previously warned passengers of possible flight delays and cancelations](#) nationwide for the holiday weekend and throughout the summer, which is why they ask travelers to be patient.

Meanwhile, [Utah Transit Authority](#) is reminding public transit riders that it will run a regular weekend schedule Saturday and Sunday and then a Saturday schedule again for the holiday on Monday. That means TRAX light rail trains will run every 30 minutes instead of every 15 minutes.

People who plan to attend the [Stadium of Fire event](#) in Provo can use their ticket as a form of transit payment, [according to the agency](#).



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Salt Lake City International Airport bracing for busy holiday travel weekend



By: April Baker

Posted at 7:33 AM, Jun 30, 2022 and last updated 7:33 AM, Jun 30, 2022

SALT LAKE CITY – With the Fourth of July holiday weekend just days away, the Salt Lake City International Airport is expecting big crowds and long lines as travelers head out of town.

Thursday and Friday should be the busiest days, with over 27,000 people visitors predicted to use the airport, a far cry from the small crowds seen just two years ago at the start of the pandemic.



With so many people trying to leave town at the same time, airport officials are asking passengers to arrive two hours ahead of domestic flight departures and three hours for international flights. But most of all, travelers are reminded to be patient.

"The airlines are a little short staffed, and so it's one of those situations where people need to be patient when they're traveling through the airport because their flight could be delayed, some flights may be canceled," said airport spokesperson Nancy Volmer.

Now the 20th busiest airport in the country, Salt Lake City International Airport has undergone many changes over the past two years, so visitors unfamiliar with the layout should be prepared.

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"I think with the new airport, too, it's really important for people to **look at our website**, at the map, just to get a sense for the new airport configuration," Volmer said.

Holiday weekend brings busy roads and bustling airports in Utah

Jul 1, 2022, 3:27 PM | Updated: 3:44 pm



BY [KARAH BRACKIN](#)

KSLTV.com

SALT LAKE CITY — Many people have either begun or are getting close to kicking off the Fourth of July holiday weekend by hitting the road or hopping on a plane.

The Salt Lake City airport's spokesperson, Nancy Volmer, said Thursday and Friday are some of the busiest traveling days during the holiday weekend.

The airport expects upwards of 26,000 passengers at the airport's front doors. That projection doesn't take into account arriving passengers or those making connecting flights.

The flying traffic volume comes as major airlines cancelled flights over Memorial Day weekend.

Some airlines and travel experts have even given travelers a heads up that there could be problems over the holiday weekend.

A combo of sky-high demand, schedule trimming, crew shortages, and weather have all played into airline upsets in the past.

Travelers going through the Salt Lake City airport said so far, they have not experienced any delays.

"We had a great travel coming out here. We didn't have any delays. We know some people who had delays, but we had great travel. Everything seems okay for us to get back home," said Yvonne Roberts.

Some said despite no hiccups yet, there have been recent travel upsets

“I’ve been delayed probably 50 percent of the time due to it, half of it being flight attendants, half of it being pilots, some of it being weather. The airport is busy. Everybody’s flying,” said Greg Meredith.

On the ground, despite record setting gas prices, people are not seeming to let that stop them from traveling this holiday weekend.

Utah transportation traffic engineers said they expect Friday to be one of the busiest days to take to the roads this weekend, especially on Interstate 15 in and around the Wasatch Front.

In addition, travelers may see more patrols out on the roads helping to make travel flow safer.

Airline staffing remains low as airline travel ramps up. That’s the main factor impacting staffing and delays, according to Salt Lake International Airport spokesperson, Nancy Volmer.

“So, we’re seeing more people traveling,” Volmer said. “It’s taking the airline industry a little bit longer to get all of their employees back up to the levels they were prior to the pandemic.”



Bad weather also compounds any problems.

“If you’re traveling this summer, make sure you allow plenty of time. We always recommend two hours prior for domestic flights, three hours for international flights,” Volmer said.

Fly nonstop and don’t check bags when possible, Wren said. If you’re heading to a wedding, cruise, business meeting, or anything you just can’t miss, the travel agent said “You’re not coming in that day. You should be arriving the day before, allowing time for that.”

Even if you take those precautions, you may still run into a delay or cancellations. Wren recommends knowing what other flights are available in case yours gets canceled.

“Know what your options are,” he said. “How many flights are there that day if you miss this flight? How many on other airlines?”

Plan ahead and anticipate problems. On Sunday, 27,000 passengers came through the front door at Salt Lake City International Airport, which is comparable to Memorial Day weekend travel and pre-pandemic levels.

Smooth flying in and out of Salt Lake City during holiday weekend



By: Jeff Tavss

Posted at 7:43 PM, Jul 03, 2022 and last updated 9:42 PM, Jul 03, 2022

SALT LAKE CITY — Despite fears of cancellations, delays and the general mayhem that has plagued airlines recently, things flowed pretty smoothly in and out of Salt Lake City International Airport on Sunday.

As of 7:30 p.m., there had been only nine canceled flights out of the airport over the previous 24 hours, a relatively low number compared to the week leading up to the holiday weekend.

Nearly 90% of flights were also arriving on time to Salt Lake City, according to [Flightview.com](https://www.flightview.com).

Airport officials had warned travelers that Thursday and Friday would be the busiest days to travel ahead of the Fourth of July.

TRAVEL U.S. & WORLD

Traveling over the July 4 weekend? Good luck

Here's a look at the best and worst times to travel

By Ashley Nash | Jun 30, 2022, 4:46pm MDT

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Holiday travelers check into Southwest Airlines at Salt Lake City International Airport in Salt Lake City on Sunday, Nov. 29, 2020. Air travel during the Independence Day weekend is expected to be high in 2022. | Jeffrey D. Allred, Deseret News | [Purchase Photo](#)

Increased airfare and a record-breaking national average of \$5 per gallon of gas won't be stopping Americans from hitting the road this holiday weekend.

AAA's 2022 Independence Day Travel Forecast predicts that 47.9 million Americans will travel more than 50 miles from home over the Fourth of July holiday weekend. This is an increase of 3.7% from last year, as Americans are hitting the road at a higher rate since the beginning of the pandemic.

The numbers: Despite gas prices breaking records this summer, travelers will also be hitting the road — and air — in droves.

- Forty-two million Americans are predicted to travel during the holiday weekend via car.
- A little over 3.5 million people are predicted to travel by plane.
- And nearly 2.5 million people are predicted to use other methods of travel, such as a bus, train or cruise ship, according to AAA.

Prices: The holiday weekend is looking to be an expensive one.

- AAA reports that the lowest average cost of a plane ticket has increased about 14% in the last year to \$201 per ticket. Airfare during the Fourth of July holiday is up 45% from 2019, according to ABC News.

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- Hotel rooms, up 24% from last year, will reach an average of \$244 a night for AAA approved hotels.
- Even though car rental prices have decreased 34% from last year, going for about \$110 per day, the rates are still sky high compared to pre-pandemic rates of \$40 per day on average.

Best and worst times to travel:

- ABC reports that Friday, July 1, will be the busiest day for air travel, but numbers are expected to drop on July 4.
- Thursday afternoon, June 30, and Friday, July 1, are supposed to be the most crowded days for driving as holiday travelers hit the road. If you have to drive on Friday, ABC recommends leaving before 10 a.m. or after 9 p.m., or Thursday before 7 a.m. and after 8 p.m.
- July 3 and 4 are expected to have the lightest road traffic.

Expect delays: According to the Deseret News, the flight industry is strained. If you'll be traveling by air over the weekend, it may be fair to expect cancellations or delays.

- The country is currently seeing a national pilot shortage, the Deseret News reported. Travel is back at pre-pandemic levels, but airlines are still struggling to maintain enough pilots to support those numbers, due to pandemic staff losses.

Top destinations: Here are the top travel destinations for Americans over the Independence Day weekend, according to AAA.

Domestic:

1. Orlando, Florida.
2. Seattle, Washington.

AIRPORTS

SLC International Appoints Director of Airport Design and Construction Management

July 20, 2022

Related To: [Salt Lake City International Airport](#)

The Salt Lake City Department of Airports (SLCDA) has appointed Melyssa Trnavskis as the Director of Airport Design and Construction Management. She replaces Director of Engineering Kevin Robins who recently retired.



The Salt Lake City Department of Airports (SLCDA) has appointed Melyssa Trnavskis as the Director of Airport Design

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Trnavskis joins the SLCDA and Construction Management. from T-O Engineers where she served as an Aviation Project Manager. Prior to that, Trnavskis worked for the Calgary Airport Authority as Director of Engineering as well as Project Manager for Airfield Development. She has also worked in various engineering and planning roles for CH2M Hill and Isbill Associates.

In the position with SLCDA, Trnavskis will be responsible for the successful implementation of the capital improvement program for Salt Lake City International Airport, South Valley Regional Airport and Tooele Valley Airport.

Trnavskis is a graduate of the University of Central Florida where she earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in Civil Engineering. She also holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Aviation Business Administration from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University and a Master of Science Degree in Civil Engineering from the University of California.



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The Salt Lake City Department of Airports Appoints Melyssa Trnavskis as Director, Airport Design & Construction Management

SALT LAKE CITY, UT - The Salt Lake City Department of Airports has named Melyssa Trnavskis as Director, Airport Design & Construction Management. In this role, she will be responsible for a professional staff and team of consultants engaged in the design and construction of facilities and infrastructure associated with the Airport's capital project program for the system of airports: Salt Lake City Airport (SLC); South Valley Regional (U42); and Tooele Valley Airport (TVY). She will begin his position on June 20, 2022.

With more than 25 years of progressive airport planning and engineering experience, Ms. Trnavskis most recently was the Aviation Project Manager for T-O Engineers in Utah. In that position, she was responsible for project management and design/construction oversight for FAA-funded airfield projects. Previously, she was Director of Engineering for the Calgary Airport Authority where she led a team of nine in designing various airfield capital and pavement maintenance projects.

"I'm thrilled to be joining the SLCDCA at such an exciting time in its history," said Ms. Trnavskis. "SLC is in the middle of a significant terminal expansion program that will secure its role as a world class hub. Through its master planning efforts, SLCDCA has identified other needs at SLC and its two general aviation airports. I look forward to working with my team and other leaders in ensuring the strategic vision and goals of each master plan are carried out."

Ms. Trnavskis earned her bachelor's degree in Aviation Business Administration from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University and a bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering from University of Central Florida. She went on to receive a master's degree in Civil Engineering from the University of California. She is also a registered Professional Engineer.

New Podcast Series: Airport Chatter with Jonathan Norman

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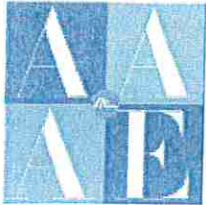
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Baggage Projects



Aviation News Today

Top Stories for Monday, July 25, 2022

Salt Lake City International's Al Stuart, A.A.E., to Retire



Al Stuart is presented with an award of appreciation from the crew of Air Force One.

After 42 years working at the Salt Lake City Department of Airports, Al Stuart, A.A.E., assistant director, operations, will retire on Friday.

Stuart is a well-known subject matter expert on FAR 139, low visibility operations, runway safety, construction safety, airport drivers training and snow removal programs.

Stuart served on the AAAE Board of Directors and in 2018, he was honored with the AAAE

Distinguished Service Award, one

of AAAE's highest levels of recognition. Among his many volunteer positions are having served as chair of multiple AAAE conferences and on the board of the AAAE Northwest Chapter. Additionally, he served on the Utah Airport Operators Association (UAOA) for 40 years.

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'SkySquad' aims to make airport travel easier for Utah flyers

By Karah Brackin, KSL-TV | Posted - June 13, 2022 at 10:35 p.m.



27



12PM: 'SkySquad' aims to make airport travel easier for flyers

KSL TV

Estimated read time: 2-3 minutes

Picture this: A mom, kids and lots of bags rushing to get through the Salt Lake City International Airport.

That's the experience behind Julie Melnick's vision to create something that would help other travelers get through the airport with ease.

The idea is the traveler just needs to get to the airport.

From there, SkySquad will step in to help by alerting passengers before they're set to travel, by offering hands-on help with baggage, navigating check-in, security and the airport, starting at \$49.

Mykaleen Lavin, a mom of two young children, said SkySquad would greatly help when flying.

"I've had times where I've been rushing to the gate, screaming out my destination because I didn't know where to go. It'd be so great to have something like this to help me and take me to where I need to go, but also with all the car seats and luggage and backpacks," Lavin said.

SkySquad can also offer support during layovers and arrivals.

All staff members are identified and background-checked so they can accompany passengers through security all the way to the gate.

So far, SkySquad is in seven airports.

The Salt Lake City International Airport is the farthest-west location where SkySquad is offering its services.

"We think it's a great area for families. There are a lot of resorts here in Utah. People come in for skiing. People come in for summer vacation. We think it's a great place to be and set up. The airport is so busy with so many connections and actually some long walks, so we're here to support customers," Melnick said.

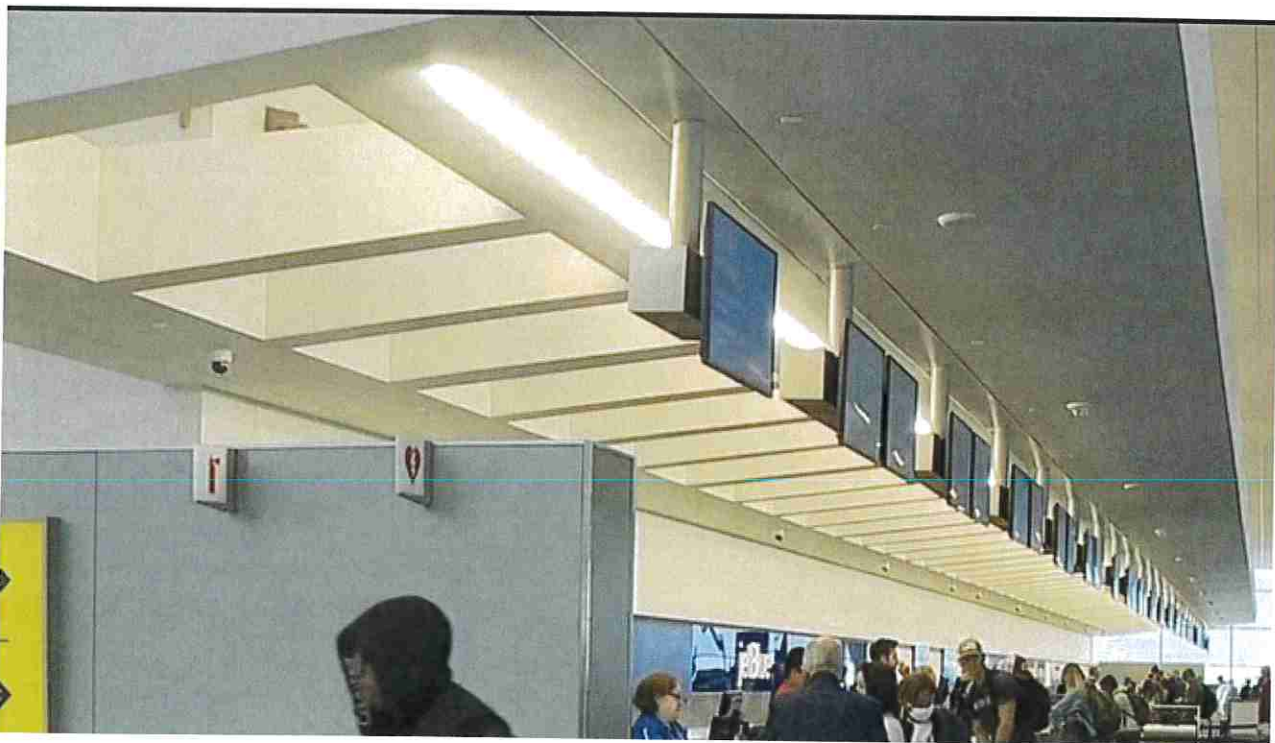
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New service takes flight to ease travel at Salt Lake City International Airport



Posted at 12:51 PM, Jun 13, 2022 and last updated 6:11 PM, Jun 13, 2022

SALT LAKE CITY — A new service took flight Monday at Salt Lake City International Airport aiming to make air travel less stressful.

SkySquad is for those looking for an extra hand during the often strenuous hustle to fly the friendly skies. Whether it's those traveling with children, extra baggage or just passengers who need an extra set of arms or two, the service has arrived right on time.

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Salt Lake City has become the seventh location for SkySquad, which is now offered to parents, seniors, and anyone else when they depart, arrive, or during layovers.

Starting at \$49 each hour, the service assigns a pre-vetted airport assistant to help people with their respective needs; from carrying bags to guiding

While previous locations have been located on the East Coast, SkySquad said now was the time to bring the service out west to Salt Lake City.

"We think it's a great area for families, a lot resorts here in Utah, people come here for skiing, for summer vacation, and we think it's a great place for us to be, to be set up," said SkySquad founder Julie Melnick. "The airport itself is so busy, with so many connections, and actually some long walks, so we are here to support customers, carry their bags for them."

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An airport spokesperson said the long walk to Concourse B is not why SkySquad was brought to Utah, adding it was welcomed as an extra amenity.

SkySquad currently has four assistants to help travelers in Salt Lake City, with a goal of reaching at least 20 people.

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'SkySquad' aims to make airport travel easier for Utah flyers

June 14, 2022 by [mohamedloucif1996](#)

Estimated read time: 2-3 minutes

SALT LAKE CITY — Utah travelers will have access to a resource that aims to make airline travel a little less stressful, starting Monday.

Picture this: A mom, kids and lots of bags rushing to get through the Salt Lake City International Airport.



New service takes flight to ease travel at SLC Int'l Airport

June 14, 2022 by [Editoriel staff](#)

SALT LAKE CITY — A new service took flight Monday at Salt Lake City International Airport aiming to make air travel less stressful.

SkySquad is for those looking for an extra hand during the often strenuous hustle to fly the friendly skies. Whether it's those traveling with [children](#), extra baggage or just passengers who need an extra set of arms or two, the service has arrived right on time.

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Starting at \$49 each hour, the service assigns a pre-vetted airport assistant to help people with their respective needs; from carrying bags to guiding passengers through the facility.

While previous locations have been located on the east coast, SkySquad said now was the time to bring the service out west to Salt Lake City.

“We think it’s a great area for families, a lot resorts here in Utah, people come here for skiing, for summer vacation, and we think it’s a great place for us to be, to be set up,” said SkySquad founder Julie Melnick . “The airport itself is so busy, with so many connections, and actually some long walks, so we are here to support customers, carry their bags for them.”

An airport spokesperson said the long walk to Concourse B is not why SkySquad was brought to Utah, adding it was welcomed as an extra amenity.

SkySquad currently has four assistants to help travelers in Salt Lake City, with a goal of reaching at least 20 people.

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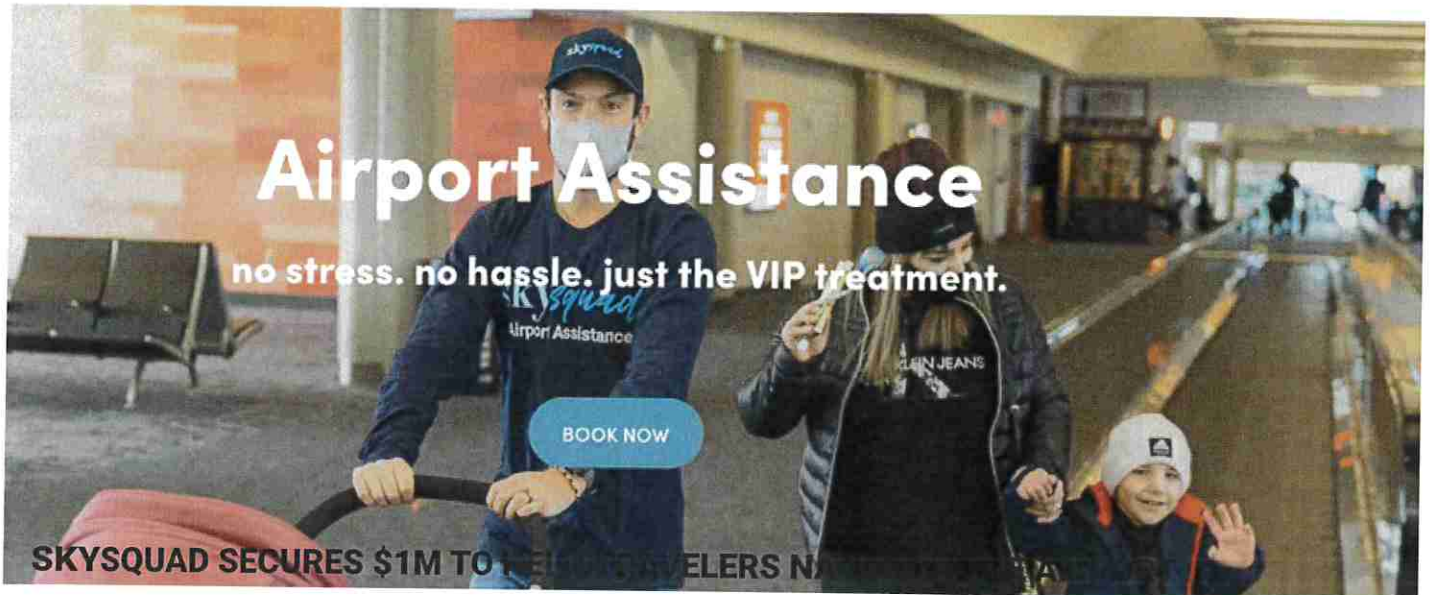
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SKYSQUAD SECURES \$1M TO HELP TRAVELERS N

[NEWS \(/NEWS\)](#) / [STARTUPS \(/STARTUPS\)](#)

BY JILL MENZE (/JILL-MENZE) | JUNE 10, 2022

Travel startup **SkySquad** (<https://skysquad.com/>) has raised \$1 million in seed funding for its airport-assistance platform.

Elevate Capital led the round, with participation from TEDCO, Citrine Angels, 1219 Capital and other angel investors.

Headquartered in Virginia, SkySquad assists families, seniors, non-English speakers or anyone looking for help in navigating the airport.

With the service, travelers can book an assistant to carry luggage and guide them through the airport all the way from exiting a car door to entering a plane door, or the other way around. All SkySquad assistants have been background checked by the TSA and can accompany travelers through security.

The company, founded in 2019, grew out of an idea founder and CEO Julie Melnick had in 2012 called Nanny in the Clouds after struggling to travel cross-country with her children.

"There is a huge need for our SkySquad travel assistants in the travel industry and strong customer demand," Melnick says.

"We've provided travel assistance to more than 16,000 customers since December 2019. And, just during the past 12 months, we've experienced extremely rapid growth of 70X."

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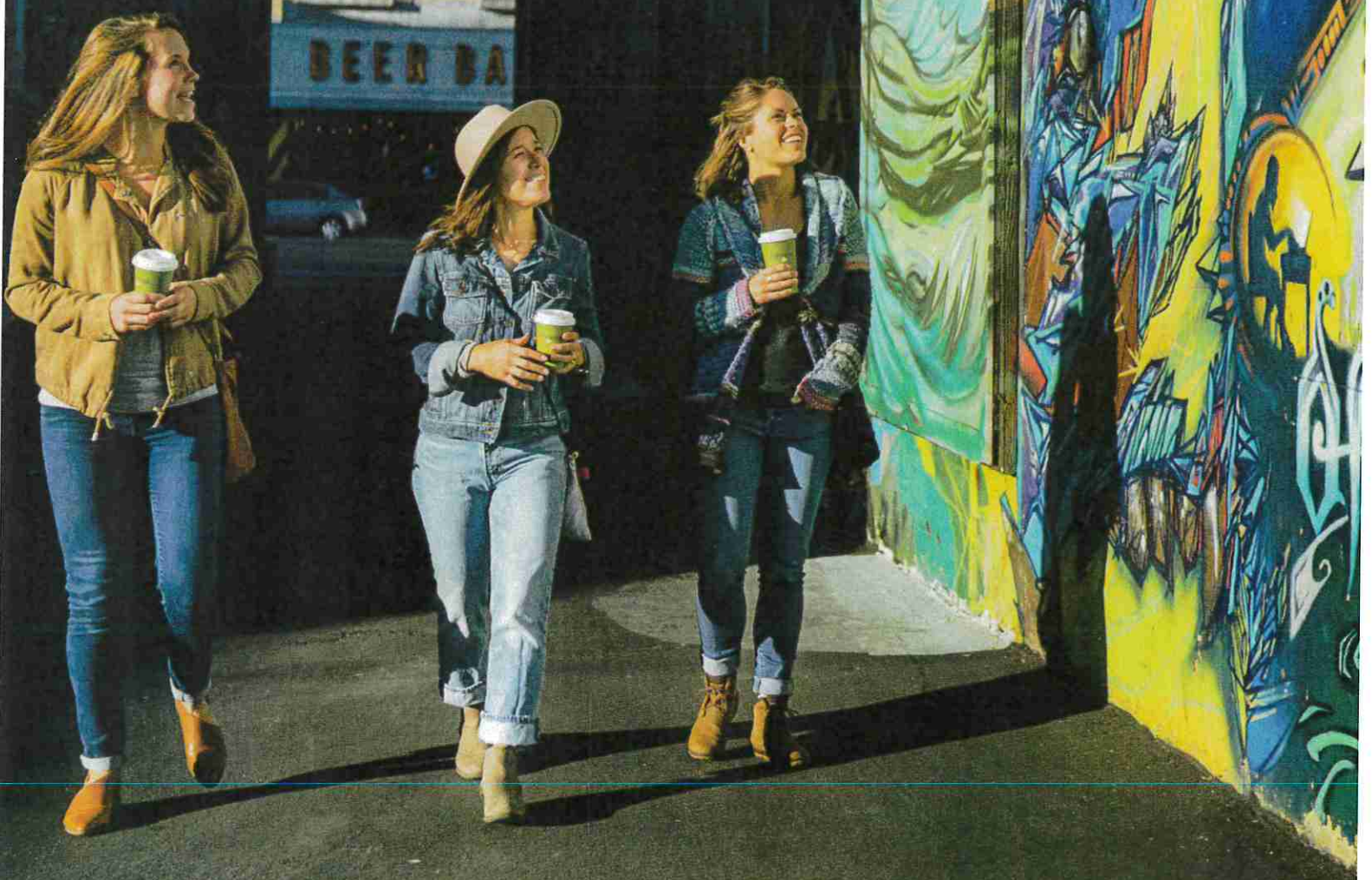
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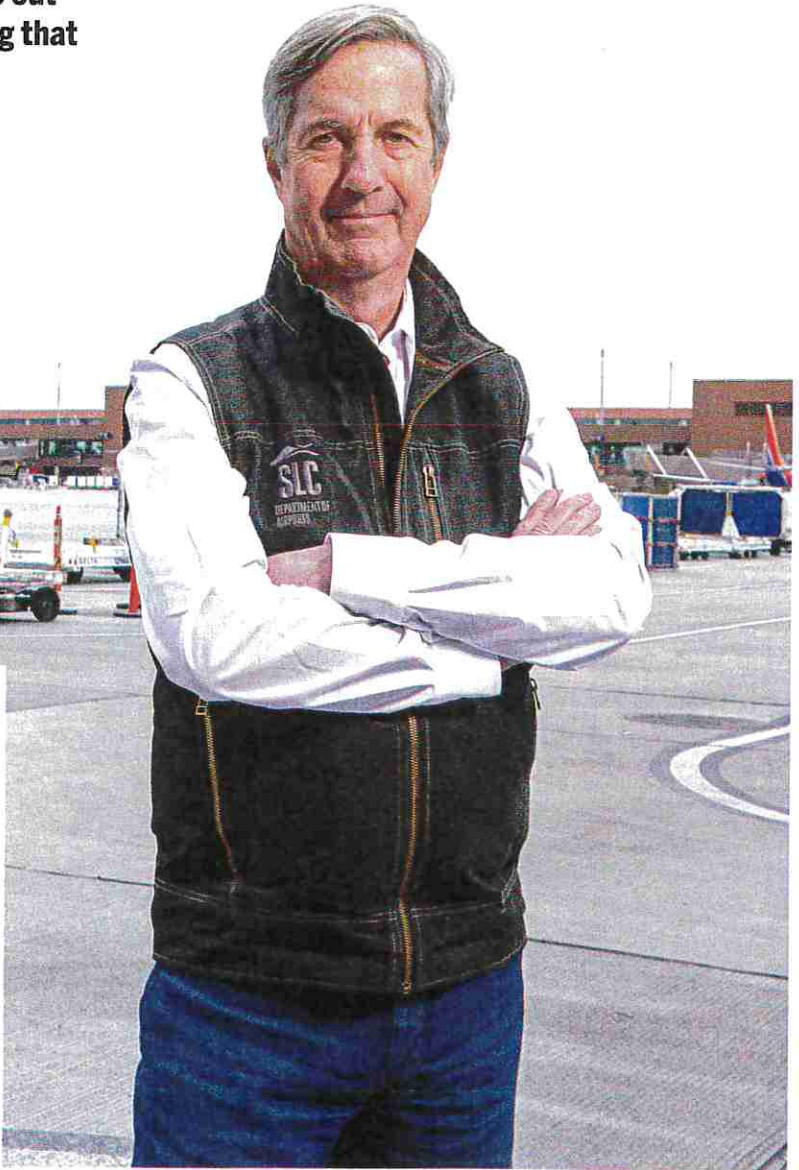
SLC International's Executive Director came out of retirement for the chance to do something that almost never happens: Build a new airport

BY JEREMY PUGH

THE FIRST TIME I EMERGED from a jetway into the new Salt Lake International Airport, I experienced something I can only describe as backward Deja vu. (Vuja day?) Where was I? It took a disoriented second to realize the airport I had known since I took my first-ever flight way back in high school was gone and that I had indeed arrived in SLC.

The shiny new airport that greeted my arrival that day, and all of us since, was decades in the making and is still in the making. The original SLC airport was built in the '60s and like many (most, actually) airports around the country was well beyond its capacity and lifespan. Thanks to what airport executive director Bill Wyatt called "an extraordinary occasion of public works prescience," Salt Lake is one of the few cities in the country to launch a new airport.

"I am in awe of the vision that was required to make this happen," he says. "There was a sustained will to take all of these small incremental steps to keep moving forward." Wyatt is looking at the airport's 1996 master plan on his desk as he says this. On the cover is a rendering of the new airport that is essentially the same design as what was built. "I look at this rendering from 1996 and think about all the changes that have happened in aviation since then," he says. "I am amazed."



For example, Wyatt points to a moment well before the official groundbreaking in 2014. Ten years earlier, in 2004, planners had realized that they needed to get rolling on a backbone step—the digging of the mid-concourse tunnel that would connect the terminals of the future.

"The staff at that time went to the FAA for \$8 million and built this tunnel and buried it before serious work even began in 2011," Wyatt says. "We're literally building on the bones of the old airport, and if that tunnel hadn't been in place we couldn't have gone forward."

If it sounds like Wyatt has a savant level of appreciation for the nitty gritty details of the airport project, it's because, as of 2017, he was in the hot seat to see it through. He'd retired after 16 years as the Executive Director of the Portland Airport Authority and saw firsthand how difficult managing modern aviation in an aging facility could be. He came out of retirement just for the chance to oversee the construction of a brand new airport and moved to Salt Lake in 2017.

"The job was very compelling," he says. "This project had been in the works for 20 years and was finally happening. It is almost unheard of in the airport business. This was something that rarely happens in the United States."

Although wheels were well in motion when Wyatt joined the project, it wasn't as if he got to just kick back and watch it happen. For one thing, he quickly realized that the original design's scale and size were far too small. Among the first words he said on the job were "we have to make it bigger."

After all, the Wasatch Front's population had grown and was still growing, the planes were bigger and the traffic through the airport was increasing dramatically

every year. So, yeah. They were, as the famous line from *Jaws* goes, "going to need a bigger boat."

"This is what a modern airport has to be," he says. "We need to fly bigger planes at a faster rate. It cuts down on everything from schedule disruptions to emissions if planes can get in and get out efficiently."

Then, of course, came COVID and a near standstill for the airline industry. And while the challenge of pushing to keep building safely wasn't nothing, Wyatt says the slowdown was actually a benefit.

Our opening day was Sept. 20 of 2020," he says. "Remember, at that point, there was no optimism about vaccines and the COVID rate was very high. It was a dark period. On a regular day at the airport, we'd see about 30,000 people at the front door, plus 15,000 airline and airport workers. We were actually very fortunate to open at a lower capacity, which gave more breathing room to work through the many logistical problems we knew we'd encounter."

Now as work continues on the second terminal, Wyatt says he is glad that he came out of retirement to be part of history. "This airport is going to have a decades-long impact on the Wasatch Front and we're building it to last." ■

THE LONG WALK

The chief complaint about the new airport is the long slog to Terminal B, which will be shortened once the project is complete. But Wyatt shrugs off the complaints knowing that it takes time for people to become accustomed to a new airport. And, he asks, "have you ever flown out of JFK?"

"Now *that's* a long walk," he chuckles. "Salt Lake is nothing like that."

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Embracing the great outdoors



Matt Needham and William Jenkinson () • 27th June 2022

HOK's Matt Needham and William Jenkinson discuss trends in designing outdoor spaces for US airport terminals.

Travel is once again ramping up. According to the World Travel and Tourism Council, travel and tourism GDP is projected to rise by 31.7% in 2022.

Similarly, the US Travel Association notes that 82% of American travellers are "excited to travel in the next 12 months" – the highest level since the start of the pandemic.

As passengers return to the skies in record numbers, airports can refresh their terminals and take the stress out of the travel experience for people weary from COVID-19's impact on the world. Bringing the outdoors into terminals is one way to reimagine and create healthier traveller experiences.

HOK has designed nature-inspired spaces in airport terminals that incorporate lush gardens, open air terraces and floor-to-ceiling windows with iconic views of natural landscapes. Below are just a few ways to include outdoor spaces at airports.

Showcase the local culture and natural landscape

No matter the climate, there's always an opportunity to showcase the local culture and natural landscapes. Take Salt Lake City for example. Although it features cold and snowy winters and hot and dry summers, Utah's capital can still incorporate the outdoors into its airport year-round.

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For Phase 1 of Salt Lake City International Airport's Terminal Redevelopment Program, the HOK-led design team quizzed airport leaders and main airline carrier Delta Air Lines about their favourite aspects of the city. They described its warm people, explosive growth, and awe-inspiring scenery.

They also shared their love of the brilliant hues of the sun and sky, the snow and skiing, the birds singing, the changing colours of the mountains from the darker greens and grays in the north to the fiery reds and oranges in the south.

In response to the stakeholders' aspirations for their airport, the team designed 50-foot-high, floor-to-ceiling windows that draw in daylight and offer sweeping views of the Wasatch Mountains.

A 'family room' offers a fireplace, world map and large windows showcasing mountain views. Earth-toned, interior and exterior finishes further connect travellers to the unique western locale.

Similarly in New York City, local urban pocket parks inspired the team designing LaGuardia Airport's new Terminal B. Indoor green space is sprinkled throughout the terminal, providing passengers with immersive, park-like spaces featuring lush landscaping, pockets of trees and sculptural benches.

Incoming and outgoing passengers also share soaring and airy sequences punctuated by 60-foot-high windows that fill the terminal with daylight. These green spaces and access to natural daylight indoors support the health of travellers and help them relax during their journey.



Rethink underutilised spaces

It's important for airport operators and planners to evaluate their terminal space and functions. Are there dead zones that could improve the passengers' experience? Are there opportunities to transform spaces for better functionality?

At Tampa International Airport, the design-build team redeveloped the main terminal and airport concessions. During the project, the team discovered four underutilised outdoor terraces below the terminal's transfer level, accessible only to maintenance workers.

By reconfiguring nearby APM shuttles, the team added 55,000 square feet of new interior space to the terminal and connected it with the terraces for travellers to enjoy.

With these four outdoor spaces now accessible to the public, Tampa gained nearly 24,000 square feet of terrace space with lush plantings for traveller relaxation, dining or special airport events.

Aside from providing places of respite for weary passengers, the outdoor spaces are revenue generators for the airport. Two of the terraces are leased by Hard Rock Café and PF Chang's.



(<https://airport-world.com/>)



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The potential to create new outdoor spaces may also be overlooked in non-traditional places, including arrival and departure areas.

In Atlanta, HOK led the HJ+P joint venture team to modernise the Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport (ATL), the busiest airport in the United States. And as part of the modernisation programme, the project team outfitted the domestic passenger terminal with two soaring structural steel canopies with translucent ETFE (ethylene tetrafluoroethylene) fabric panels.

Visible from air and land, the twin structures cover eight lanes of traffic at kerbside drop-off and pick-up areas.

The canopies provide a welcoming 'frontdoor' that protects travellers, the roadway and the building facade from Atlanta's ever-changing weather. The inflated ETFE pillows create a thermal barrier that has reduced the solar heat gain by at least 50%. Programmable LED lighting illuminates the canopies at night and act as a symbol of Atlanta and a civic storytelling device.

Following the canopies' completion, ATL installed kerbside ticketing and bag drop in the area – expanding the terminal's processing capacity. Bridges floating below the canopies and above the roadway also offer travellers a unique experience on their journey into the terminal.

Ease traveller anxiety

Air travel can be a stressful experience, with anxiety around parking, making it through security, navigating unfamiliar territory or rushing to catch a flight. Stress-relieving spaces can support the health and wellness of passengers and mentally transport them to a calmer place, all while staying in the terminal.

In Southern California, HOK modernised the historic Long Beach Airport terminal, taking advantage of the temperate climate. The design team created an open-air plaza and secure outdoor spaces, including airside gardens resembling resort spaces with fire pits.

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Palm tree-lined courtyards, native plantings and shaded wooden boardwalks fill the new concourse, helping travellers connect with nature and easing their anxiety.

Apart from adding relaxing outdoor spaces, the modernisation pays homage to the airport's original Art Deco terminal with new structures appropriately scaled behind it. The historic landmark remains the visual link between the landside and airside with lush landscaping leading up to the structure.

Embrace the great outdoors

As the world returns to a new form of normal, people are eager to leave their homes and take to the skies for their next adventure.

To provide a smoother travel experience, airports can embrace the great outdoors by incorporating relaxing terraces, courtyards, landscaping and more into the terminal space to welcome back travellers and support them on their journeys.

Creating these natural oases can strengthen travellers' emotional attachments to a terminal, trigger more pleasant interactions with fellow passengers and reinforce a strong sense of place.

Like Frank Lloyd Wright once told his students: "Study nature, love nature, stay close to nature. It will never fail you." Even in an airport.

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Why a nonstop flight from Salt Lake City to Europe has been stopping



By: Nate Carlisle

Posted at 5:18 PM, Jul 13, 2022 and last updated 6:23 PM, Jul 13, 2022

SALT LAKE CITY — The route for Dale Blair and his wife was supposed to be Salt Lake City to Frankfurt, Germany.

The Kaysville couple had a connecting flight to Copenhagen before flying onto Bergen, Norway. That's where they caught their European river cruise. But something happened on that first leg from Salt Lake City.

The plane stopped – in Halifax, Nova Scotia. It wasn't for the usual reasons – a mechanical problem or a sick passenger.

Blair says he and his fellow passengers were told the aircraft needed to refuel.

“We've all made it to Bergen,” Blair said Tuesday of he and other Salt Lake City passengers who are on the cruise. “None of us with any luggage.”

The Eurowings Discover flight between Salt Lake City and Frankfurt received much fanfare. Politicians and Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saint apostle Dieter F. Uchtdorf, himself a former pilot for Eurowings Discover's parent company, Lufthansa, attended the inaugural landing at Salt Lake City International Airport in May. The route gave Salt Lake City just its fourth European destination.

Then on June 18, the Airbus A330-300 diverted to Halifax for the first time, according to the aircraft tracking website Flight Radar 24. It stopped there again all three times the route was flown last week.

Eurowings Discover flew the Salt Lake City-to-Frankfurt leg again Monday without a stop.

However on Wednesday afternoon, tracking websites showed today's flight to Frankfurt was being diverted again, this time to Toronto.

"The fuel stop in Halifax becomes necessary under certain weather conditions (strong heat and wind at a time)," wrote a spokesperson for Eurowings Discover when FOX 13 News sent an email inquiring about the detours.

"Our pilots evaluate the weather conditions before each and every flight to decide whether a fuel stop in Halifax is needed or not," the spokesperson also wrote. "The fuel stop due to weather is still an exception."

The spokesperson added that the airline has tried to delay the afternoon departure from Salt Lake City but acknowledged that means a later arrival in Frankfurt.

Bill McGee, a licensed air dispatcher who advocates for fliers at the American Economic Liberties Project, said Eurowings Discover shouldn't be surprised to

learn Salt Lake City gets hot in July, and that the airline is capable of factoring that into its weight and fuel equations.

“Most of [the airlines] don't want to bump passengers or not [make] more money carrying cargo,” McGee said. He said if enough air travelers complain to the U.S. Department of Transportation, it could take action.

“They have the power,” McGee said, “to step in and say, ‘Well, you're advertising a flight, but you're not operating it the way you're advertising it.’”

Blair says his luggage arrived on the boat 3 1/2 days after he and his wife did.

“I'll never fly Lufthansa or Eurowings,” he said

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Delta warns Utah travelers to prepare for 'operational challenges' on 4th of July weekend

by Jeremy Harris, KUTV
Wednesday, June 29th 2022



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FILE - A Delta plane is shown at a gate at Salt Lake City International Airport on July 1, 2021, in Salt Lake City. Airline travelers are not only facing sticker shock this Memorial Day weekend, the kick off to the summer travel season, but they're also battling a pileup of flight cancellations. Delta Air Lines suffered the most, with more than 230 flights, or 8% of its operations, eliminated on Saturday, May 28, 2022. (AP Photo/Rick Bowmer, File)

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Salt Lake City's
reactions to their fl

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Delta announced Tuesday that travelers can rebook their trips between Friday, July 1 and Monday, July 4 at no cost as long as the departure airport and destination are the same.

In a post on the airline's website, Delta said it **expects travel disruptions due to passenger volumes** that haven't been seen since before the pandemic.

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- **Delta responds after Utah lieutenant governor calls out airline for canceled flight**
- **'Fix our schedules': Delta pilots picket at SLC Airport**

"Some operational challenges are expected this holiday weekend. This unique waiver is being issued to give Delta customers greater flexibility to plan around busy travel times, weather forecasts and other variables without worrying about a potential cost to do so," the post says.

The Air Line Pilots Association (ALPS) described the situation as a 'perfect storm' which comes as flight crew schedules are stressed due to increased passenger demand.

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Delta airplane suffers minor fire after tire blowout at Salt Lake City Airport

by Kayla Winn, KUTV
Friday, July 22nd 2022



FILE - In this Oct. 9, 2012 file photo, Delta Air Lines 747-400 airplane sits parked at Seattle-Tacoma International Airport in Seattle. Delta Airlines on Monday, Aug. 3, 2015 said that it would no longer accept lion, leopard, elephant, rhinoceros and buffalo hunting trophies. (AP Photo/Ted S. Warren, File)

SALT LAKE CITY (KUTV) — A minor fire broke out after a tire blew out on a Delta aircraft Friday evening in Salt Lake City.

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on Delta flight 891 deplaned safely following a potential issue with a tire. We are grateful for the Delta team's professionalism and we apologize to our customers for any inconvenience."

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The aircraft involved in the incident was a Boeing 737-900. Officials with Delta said there were 179 passengers, two pilots and four flight attendants on board.

There were no injuries reported.

Nancy Volmer with SLC International airport said the plane was able to safely arrive at its gate and passengers were boarding off.

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LOCAL NEWS

FedEx plane slides off runway at SLC airport

A Fedex cargo airplane prepares to depart at Hong Kong International Airport on November 21, 2021. (Photo by Bertha WANG / AFP) (Photo by BERTHA WANG/AFP via...

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by: [Kiah Armstrong](#)

Posted: Jul 13, 2022 / 07:43 PM MDT

Updated: Jul 13, 2022 / 08:58 PM MDT

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SALT LAKE CITY (ABC4) – A small FedEx plane slid off a runway at Salt Lake International Airport Wednesday afternoon.

A spokesperson at the airport confirmed to ABC4 that the plane slid off the runway around 7:30 p.m.

The plane remained intact during the incident

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The pilot was the only person on board and was not injured.

The runways have been temporarily closed as part of standard procedure.

The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) is investigating the cause.

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AROUND THE WEB



Miscellaneous

BUSINESS AVIATION

Signature Aviation Finalizes TAC Air Buy

by Curt Epstein

July 6, 2022, 3:41 PM

As part of its purchase of TAC Air and its addition of 13 FBOs, Signature Aviation now has a facility at Utah's Salt Lake City International Airport. (Photo: Signature Aviation)

Signature Aviation, the world's largest FBO operator, has completed its purchase of the TAC Air FBO chain. First announced in May, the transaction brings Signature Flight Support to 227 wholly-owned and affiliate locations in its network.

TAC Air had 16 FBOs but at three of those sites—Connecticut's Bradley International Airport, Eppley Airport in Omaha, Nebraska, and Raleigh-Durham International Airport—Signature was already the only other service provider, which required it to divest one facility at each. Signature in turn sold them to Atlantic Aviation.

At Denver's Centennial Airport, Dallas Love Field, and Scottsdale Airport in Arizona, the acquisition further enhances Signature's on-field presence with additional facilities. But the purchase also represents Signature's initial arrival at 11 other locations, including Salt Lake City, Utah; Lexington, Kentucky; Buffalo, New York; Amarillo, Texas; Shreveport, Louisiana; and Knoxville, Tennessee. Signature intends to retain the staff at those locations and expects to fully integrate the facilities into its network by the end of the year.

"TAC Air is an example of home-grown success, and we're delighted to share in the storied heritage of TAC Air while retaining its over 600 employees within the Signature team," said Signature Aviation CEO Tony Lefebvre. "We aim to build on the exceptional staff and impressive network of TAC Air, generating greater value and care for private aviation travelers in the most desired locations."

FBOS

<https://www.ainonline.com/aviation-news/business-aviation/2022-07-06/signature-aviation-finalizes-tac-air-buy>

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FILE - This May 7, 2020, file photo shows a man wearing a mask while walking under a Now Hiring sign at a CVS Pharmacy during the coronavirus outbreak...

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by: [Danielle MacKimm](#)

Posted: Jun 4, 2022 / 06:37 PM MDT

Updated: Jun 4, 2022 / 06:37 PM MDT

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SALT LAKE CITY (ABC4) – As a means to help residents and local business owners understand where Utah’s economy stands, the Salt Lake Chamber’s (SLChamber) Roadmap to Prosperity Coalition teamed up with Kem C. Gardner Policy Institute to update the Economic Dashboard with last month’s data.

“Utah’s high labor force participation and economic diversity continue to provide stability to our economy,” said Derek Miller, president and CEO of the Salt Lake Chamber and Downtown Alliance. “Despite inflation and challenges associated with booming growth, Utah’s consumer confidence remains higher than national sentiment.”

Experts: Summer brings danger of lead poisoning in kids >

According to representatives of the SLChamber, essential highlights from the May 2022 Roadmap to Prosperity Dashboard include:

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- Utah’s unemployment rate is lowest in the nation. Utah tied with Nebraska as the U.S. state with the lowest unemployment rate of 1.9%.

- Utah home prices continue to rise. Utah’s home prices rose with a median home sale price of \$525,000 in March 2022.
- Airport passengers rise significantly. The Salt Lake City airport accommodated nearly 2.2 million passengers in March, surpassing the number of February passengers by roughly 400,000. This statistic reveals an uptick in travel as summer approaches.

10 year old girl dies drowning in Ogden county club swimming pool >

“Global uncertainty continues to have an impact on Utah’s economy,” said Natalie Gochnour, director of the Kem C. Gardner Policy Institute. “Despite these concerns, the rebound in travel bodes well for our tourism industry. As air travel returns, with SLC Airport having served nearly one million more passengers in March 2022 than March of last year, it’s clear that increases in derivative industries, such as retail, lodging and restaurants are soon to follow.”

To view the Roadmap to Prosperity Dashboard, [click here](#).

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AROUND THE WEB



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US will end Covid-19 testing requirement for air travelers entering the country

By [Kaitlan Collins](#), CNN

Updated 5:34 PM ET, Sat June 11, 2022



A traveler walks through the George Bush Intercontinental Airport on December 03, 2021 in Houston, Texas.

(CNN) — The Biden administration is expected to announce Friday that the [US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#) will lift its requirement for travelers to test negative for Covid-19 before entering the US, according to a senior administration official and a US Centers For Disease Control and Prevention official.

The move, which CNN was first to report, will go into effect for US-bound air travelers at midnight on Sunday, the officials said.

The CDC is lifting the restriction that [the travel industry had lobbied against for months](#) after determining it was no longer necessary "based on the science and data," the senior administration official said. The CDC has the ability to reassess the order at any time and potentially reinstate it, especially if a new variant develops and poses concern. The measure has been [in place since January 2021](#).

That official said the Biden administration plans to work with airlines to ensure a smooth transition with the change, but it will likely be a welcome move for most in the industry.

In a statement to CNN, the CDC said, "The Covid-19 pandemic has now shifted to a new phase, due to the widespread uptake of highly effective Covid-19 vaccines, the availability of effective therapeutics, and the accrual of high rates of vaccine- and infection-induced immunity at the population level in the United States. Each of these measures has contributed to lower risk of severe disease and death across the United States."

according to Airlines for America chief Nick Calio, whose group met recently with White House officials.

The travel industry, and some scientific experts, said the policy had been out of date for months.

Lawmakers, including Democrats, had also advocated for lifting the requirement in recent weeks.

Nevada Sen. Catherine Cortez Masto said, "I'm glad CDC suspended the burdensome coronavirus testing requirement for international travelers, and I'll continue to do all I can to support the strong recovery of our hospitality industry."

White House officials met last month with travel industry officials, who pressed the Biden administration to end its requirements that vaccinated international travelers take a coronavirus test before flying to the United States.

Airlines for America said its members -- including American Airlines, United Airlines, Southwest Airlines and Delta Air Lines -- had believed lifting the requirements would lead more foreigners to visit the US.

The trade association told CNN that in mid-May, domestic travel came within 7 percentage points of pre-pandemic levels, but international travel lagged at 14% below normal.

US Travel Association President and CEO Roger Dow praised the decision.

"Prior to the pandemic, travel was one of our nation's largest industry exports. The lifting of this requirement will enable the industry to lead the way toward a broader US economic and jobs recovery," Dow said in a statement.

The industry has criticized the policy as out of date for months, and some medical experts have also questioned its utility.

Testing international arrivals doesn't make much sense to Dr. William Schaffner, an infectious diseases specialist at Vanderbilt University Medical Center in Nashville, Tennessee.

"I've been bemused about that for a long time because we've got plenty of Covid here! It's not as though we're trying to keep Covid out," Schaffner told CNN in March. "It's here already."

This story has been updated with additional reporting.

CNN's Elizabeth Cohen and Marnie Hunter contributed to this report.



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