



HELPING OUR
COMMUNITY SOAR
1948-2023



CELEBRATING 75 YEARS

From its origins serving World War II airmen and women, Boca Raton Airport has embarked on a remarkable journey of growth and evolution. Embracing technological advances, navigating global disruptions, and adapting to the region's changing needs, the Airport stands as a testament to aviation progress and a vital force in driving economic prosperity and shaping the past, present, and future of South Florida.

This anniversary celebrates the shared vision of pioneers, dedicated staff, valued tenants, and community partners who have shaped its success. As Boca Raton Airport charts its course for the future, this milestone honors its enduring legacy within the national airspace system and its vital role in the community it serves.

"As we celebrate the 75th anniversary of the Boca Raton Airport, we acknowledge its pivotal role as an economic engine and a vital connector for our city and beyond."

SCOTT SINGER
Mayor of Boca Raton



"It was a wonderful night looking at the past, present and future of the Airport. It is quite something to consider the humble beginnings of a grass airstrip military base to what it is now. A lot has changed in the first 75 years, imagine what is to come!"

MARCI WOODWARD
Palm Beach County Commissioner



75 YEARS

OF HISTORY
TEAMWORK
IMPACT
COMMUNITY
GROWTH
INNOVATION

\$693M

TOTAL ANNUAL
ECONOMIC IMPACT

4,800+

EMPLOYMENT
BASE

2

FIXED-BASE
OPERATORS

8,000+

INTERNATIONAL
FLIGHTS

197

BASED
AIRCRAFT

212

ACRES
OF LAND

1

FLIGHT
SCHOOL

6,276

FEET OF
RUNWAY

125

T-HANGARS
ON PROPERTY

50

BUSINESSES
ON SITE

9M+

GALLONS OF
FUEL SOLD IN 2023

2

MAINTENANCE
& REPAIR SHOPS

ALL DATA CURRENT AS OF 2023



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FOREWORD & INTRODUCTION



As the Executive Director of the Boca Raton Airport Authority, I am delighted to present this commemorative coffee table book marking our 75th anniversary. The pages that follow chronicle the journey we've embarked upon with our community, industry partners, and the dedicated individuals who work tirelessly on the ground to make this Airport exceptional.

Over the last 75 years, Boca Raton Airport (BCT) has transformed from a military airfield to a productive hub of general aviation, playing an integral role in the story of South Florida. Today, it's a collective network operating at the intersection of travel, industry, and community. Within its 212 acres, the Airport is a scene of diverse activities: business leaders jetting off to international conferences, a novice pilot practicing touch-and-go landings, families enjoying a night at the movies, and friends engaging in a round of miniature golf. This dynamic energy is the true heart of the Airport.

Looking ahead, Boca Raton Airport is poised to continue its trajectory as a hub where excellence in service, innovation in the industry, and community cooperation are realized. Here, collaboration transcends mere rhetoric, serving as the foundational principle of our organizational ethos. This spirit of cooperation nourishes a diverse ecosystem comprising tenants, industry groups, local enterprises, and community allies, steering us together towards a more promising future.

The celebration of our 75th anniversary over the course of the last year has centered on themes of past, present, and future. This book encapsulates the essence of those themes. It is intended as a salute to those who have shaped us in the past, and a nod to those who will do so in the years to come. Most of all, it is an expression of our gratitude today – for the guidance of our Board Members, the commitment of our team, the service of our tenants, the passion of our aviators, and the continued friendship of our community.

We hope you join us as we embark on the next chapter of the Boca Raton Airport story, embracing the boundless possibilities that the future holds in store.

Clara Bennett

Clara Bennett
Executive Director
Boca Raton Airport Authority

01

THE STORY OF BOCA RATON AIRPORT

The story of Boca Raton Airport charts a course from its early days as a grass airstrip to the vibrant aviation facility it is today. This chapter delves into key historical milestones and strategic advancements central to that story, offering a look into the dynamic and ongoing co-evolution of the Airport and the surrounding region.

HISTORY

PROLOGUE

A group gathers around a Taylor J-2 Cub on the new airfield. The J-2 Cub, which later evolved into the iconic Piper J-3 Cub, played a major role in popularizing recreational flight in the 1930s.



1936

ESTABLISHING THE AIRFIELD

In 1936, thirty-three years after Orville and Wilbur Wright first flew their mechanically powered glider across Kitty Hawk, North Carolina, a grass strip is laid out in the small farming town of Boca Raton, on land that now forms part of the Florida Atlantic University campus. In line with the nation's ever-growing interest in aviation, this hopeful airfield links the town of only a few hundred people to the nascent national air network, marking aviation's first footprint in Boca Raton.

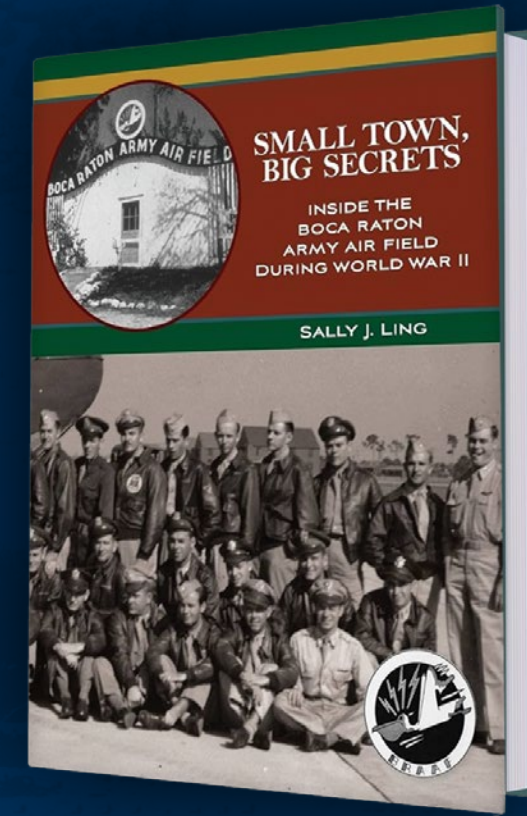


1942

ANSWERING THE CALL OF WAR

As the United States enters World War II, the grass airfield transforms into the Boca Raton Army Airfield (BRAAF). The Army Air Force base covers 5,800 acres at its peak and hosts over 16,000 military personnel.

Although the BRAAF functions as a base for air and sea patrol among other wartime activities, its primary mission is much more distinctive. Playing a critical role in the war, the Airfield serves as the sole training base for Army Air Force flight crews to learn the use of airborne radar — a then brand-new technology.



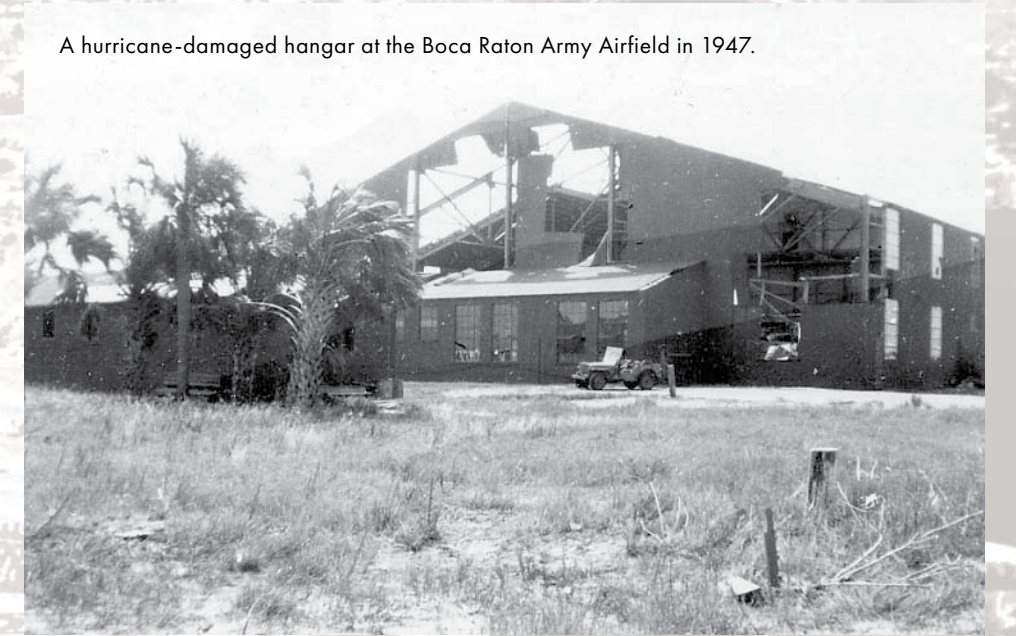
ON THE RADAR

Airborne radar development etched Boca Raton into a crucial chapter of global history. Decades later, it became the subject of Sally J. Ling's book, *Small Town, Big Secrets*, which details the BRAAF's enduring impact on Boca Raton and its residents.

Scan the QR code to explore an interactive timeline of key events that shaped the Airport and Boca Raton — including the story of radar technology and its impact during WWII.



A hurricane-damaged hangar at the Boca Raton Army Airfield in 1947.



1947

TWO HURRICANES PUNCTUATE AN ERA

Two hurricanes hit Florida within a month of each other, marking a destructive end to the by-then mostly abandoned Boca Raton Army Airfield.

For many joining Boca Raton's expanding community, that hurricane season marks their first encounter with the Southeast's volatile weather. The hurricanes highlight the need for ongoing readiness, a principle that remains significant to Boca Raton Airport and the region today.

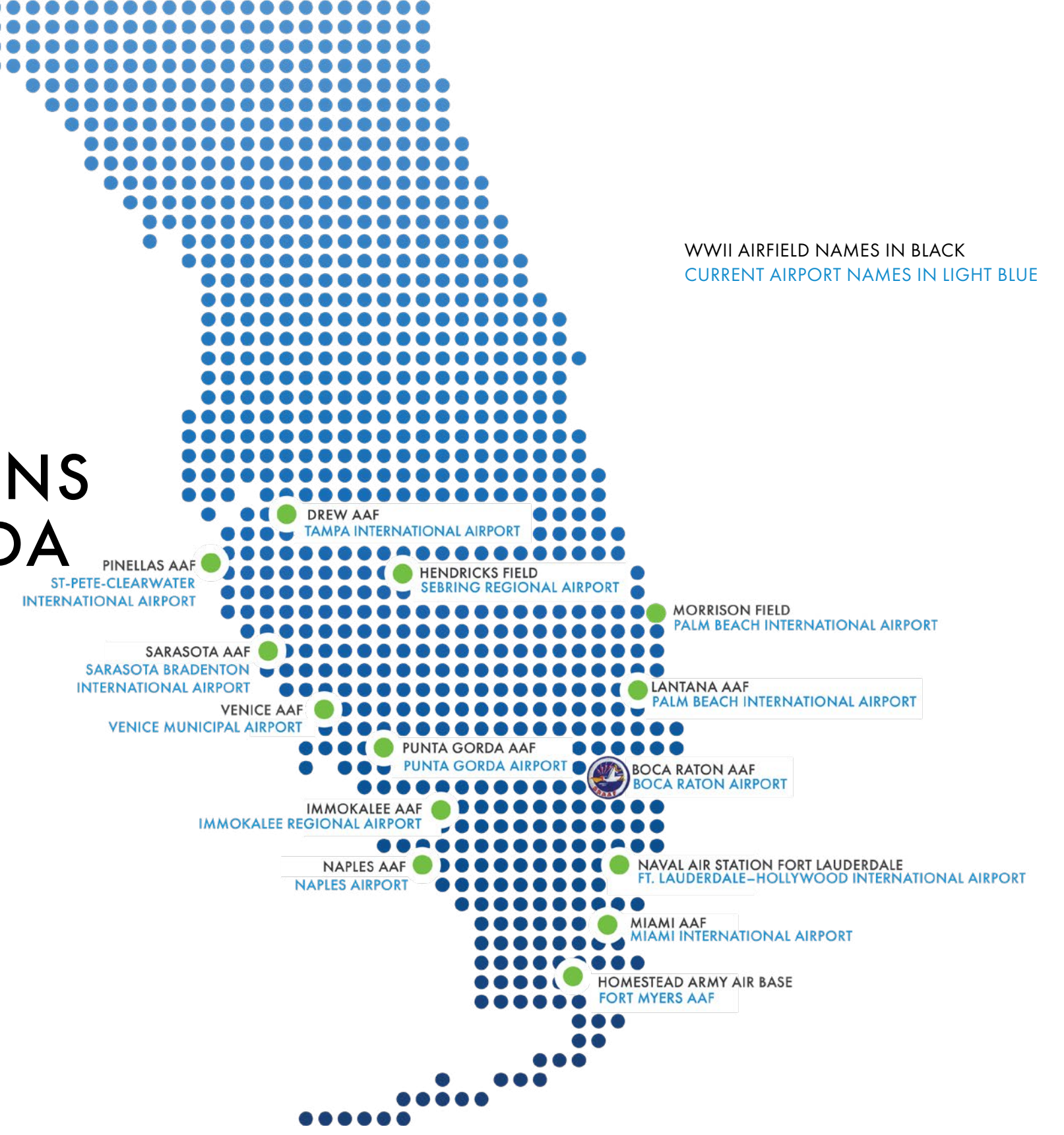
AIRPORT ORIGINS ACROSS FLORIDA

With Florida serving as a key location for training and operations, the Boca Raton Army Airfield (BRAAF) was one of many airfields converted for military use during World War II. Over the course of the war, the number of military bases in the state jumped from eight to over 170.

From Jacksonville to Key West, bases with a range of functions were established on land with ideal conditions — warm weather and abundant open space — for year-round training and runway construction. Many of these locations benefited from that utilization, with the state’s population swelling in the years following World War II.

Today, many of those airfields have evolved into general aviation and commercial airports. Although many of the names have changed, their grounds maintain their historical legacy.

Note: The graphic to the right is not exhaustive.



BOCA RATON ARMY AIRFIELD BY THE NUMBERS

723 ORIGINAL BOCA RESIDENTS	16,000 ARMY AIRMEN
9 SQUARE MILES	5,820 ACRES
\$12M INVESTMENT	3,500 CONSTRUCTION WORKERS
4 MONTHS OF CONSTRUCTION	800 STRUCTURES
7 FIRE STATIONS	

1948

A NEW CHAPTER

75 years ago, in the pivotal year of 1948, the Town of Boca Raton takes ownership of the Boca Raton Army Airfield, transitioning it to officially become the entity it remains today: Boca Raton Airport.

The shift ensures the survival of the BRAAF legacy and sets the stage for regional growth by offering businesses and residents access to a new home.



THE BOCA RATON BOOM

BOCA RATON'S POPULATION SURGES

In the wake of World War II, Boca Raton experiences a population boom, reflective of the nationwide trend toward rapid suburban growth.

1950

A UNIVERSITY GETS ITS LAND

Boca Raton donates 1,000 acres of the former Army Airfield to establish Florida's fifth public university. By 1964, this land becomes Florida Atlantic University.



1957

1955

EDUCATION IS IN DEMAND

The influx of returning veterans taking advantage of the G.I. Bill leads to a surge in enrollment at Florida's colleges and universities, a trend that underscores the increasing value placed on higher education in the post-war era.



FAU OPENS ITS DOORS

Florida Atlantic University officially opens its doors. Over the years, it grows to serve a community of over 30,000 students, becoming a regional center for educational excellence and research innovation.



1964

1962

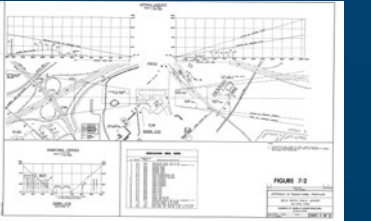
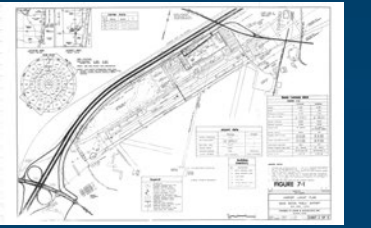
THE FIRST FBO ARRIVES

In response to a growing general aviation sector, Boca Raton Airport welcomes its first fixed-based operator — Florida Airmotive of Boca Raton.



FIRST AIRPORT MASTER PLAN IS COMPLETED

Financed through grants from the Federal Aviation Administration and the Florida Department of Transportation, the first 20-year Master Plan is conducted. Focuses of the study include management considerations and the Airport's relationship with its scholastic neighbor, Florida Atlantic University.



1978

1967

IBM COMES TO BOCA RATON

IBM selects Boca Raton for a major facility. In this location, IBM engineers develop the first personal computer, significantly democratizing access to computing technology. The site is also a pioneer in voice recognition technology, further enhancing Boca Raton's standing in the technological sector.



FROM SKYWAYS TO STUDY HALLS: A LEGACY PRESERVED

World War II is nearly a century in the past, but the FAU campus continues to echo the area's military legacy. From tunnel entrances to uniquely contoured parking lots, vestiges of the Boca Raton Army Airfield remain.

Even as education on campus transforms over time, the backdrop of planes arriving and departing its neighboring airport serves as lingering tribute to the site's historic role.

According to an article on the FAU News Desk titled "FAU Unveils Army Airfield Historical Marker," former FAU President John Kelly emphasized the significance of the Airport's past, stating, "*We are incredibly proud to walk in the footsteps of the American heroes who bravely served our country during World War II.*"



CHANGE OF MANAGEMENT

1982

THE BOCA RATON AIRPORT AUTHORITY IS ESTABLISHED

The Boca Raton Airport is overseen by five different government agencies until the Boca Raton Airport Authority (BRAA) is created by the State Legislature in 1982. Once formed, the Airport Authority takes on the role of managing the Airport, working to establish it as a key general aviation hub within the growing City of Boca Raton.



Then: An aerial view of the Airport, circa 1984.



Now: An aerial view of the Airport today.

TODAY

A LANDMARK SHIFT: FROM STATE TO AIRPORT OWNERSHIP

For most of the Airport's nearly 75-year history, its 212 acres are state-owned. As of the Enabling Act passed by the State Legislature in June 2023, the Airport Authority is now granted sole jurisdiction over the operations, maintenance, and development of the Airport.

The transfer marks a significant milestone, paving the way for new opportunities and efficiencies.

DECORATED LEADERSHIP: BOCA RATON AIRPORT AUTHORITY

The original Boca Raton Airport Authority board is composed of five members, including WWII Bomber pilot George Blank. Another Air Force veteran, Alan L. Brunstrom, was the first Airport Manager.

GEORGE WILLIAM BLANK

Inaugural BRAA Board Member

A community stalwart and a veteran of 31 years, he was radar-trained at the Boca Raton Army Airfield during WWII, and later served as a troop carrier pilot in Korea.



ALAN L. BRUNSTROM

First Airport Manager

Serving 25 years in the military, he was an Air Force pilot who took part in both WWII and the Korean War, and notably, a prisoner of war in Vietnam.



GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT

1994

BOOMERS THEME PARK OPENS FIRST LOCATION

The Airport becomes home to the first Boomers location, expanding its tenant base beyond the aviation industry to include out-of-home family entertainment. The advent of Boomers on the Airport's land spotlights the commercial potential of the facility and captures public attention.

2000

AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL TOWER SIGNIFIES A LEVEL-UP

The Air Traffic Control Tower's inception is driven by a commitment to elevated safety measures and the implementation of noise abatement strategies. Over time, the tower has proven indispensable, managing more than a million flight operations in its first 24 years in service.

TODAY

"Atlantic Aviation is committed to Boca Raton for the long haul, and we're proud to be participating in the city's efforts to stimulate further economic development and attract new business."

TIM BANNON
COO, Atlantic Aviation

"Not only are they (Boca Raton Airport) constantly doing so many wonderful things for the community, but they are like the 'mother hens' for their tenants. They are always looking out for us!"

JENNY MAZZURCO
Fairfield Inn & Suites

2011

SIGNATURE AVIATION JOINS THE AIRPORT

Signature Aviation, the world's largest fixed-base operator (FBO), joins the roster of Boca Raton Airport tenants upon its acquisition of Avitat Boca Raton, Inc. The acquisition includes a state-of-the-art FBO facility featuring a 17,000-square-foot terminal and 72,000 square feet of hangar space, expanding Signature Aviation's global network and underscoring the Airport's role as a premier location in the South Florida aviation landscape.

2014

ATLANTIC AVIATION JOINS THE AIRPORT

Atlantic Aviation marks its entry into the Florida aviation market with the acquisition of five Florida FBOs, including Boca Aviation at the Airport. The acquisition both expands Atlantic Aviation's U.S. footprint and further solidifies Boca Raton Airport's status as a hub for major players in the general aviation industry.



COMMUNITY AND MODERNIZATION

The past decade has been a transformative period for Boca Raton Airport, highlighted by significant strides in community integration and modernization. This evolution stands as a testament to a sustained commitment to quality, engagement, and innovation from the entire Boca Raton Airport Authority, including its board, leadership, and dedicated team.

2014

LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

Clara Bennett joins the Boca Raton Airport Authority as its Executive Director.

In the last ten years as Executive Director, Bennett has steered Boca Raton Airport toward modernization and community engagement.

Projects under her leadership include a \$50 million Capital Improvement Plan, major infrastructure upgrades, and the introduction of a U.S. Customs and Border Protection Facility, among other notable initiatives. Beyond strengthening infrastructure, she has worked diligently to align the Airport with the goals and aspirations of the region's diverse stakeholders.

2015

A MILESTONE IN OPERATIONS

The completion of the 10,000-square-foot Administration Building centralizes the Airport's governance and opens new avenues for community engagement.

Previously confined to off-airport office space for meetings, the Boca Raton Airport Authority enjoys greater autonomy in the new building, enhancing its ability to connect with tenants and the local community.

2017

SUPPORTING STUDENT SUCCESS

The Airport Authority collaborates with the George Snow Scholarship Fund to develop the Boca Raton Airport Scholarship, supporting Palm Beach County students pursuing careers in aviation and aerospace.

The George Snow Scholarship Fund honored the Airport Authority with the Corporate Community Service Award in February of 2023, acknowledging the Airport's contributions to education over the past six years.

2018

CONNECTING BOCA TO THE WORLD

The U.S. Customs and Border Protection Facility opens, enabling international flights to land directly at Boca Raton Airport. The 4,400-square-foot facility is designed to meet all federal security standards for international arrivals and is awarded a LEED certification for its environmentally responsible features.





2023

75TH ANNIVERSARY GALA AT BOCA RATON AIRPORT

On January 19, 2024, Boca Raton Airport hosted a memorable dinner and reception to honor its 75th anniversary, held within the Signature Aviation hangar. The event featured a cocktail reception, a first-class dinner, interactive experiences, and presentations throughout the evening by various regional collaborators.

"What better way to celebrate Boca Raton Airport's 75th anniversary than in Signature Aviation's largest hangar as the gala venue?"

MARCI SHATZMAN
Airport Ambassador & Reporter

"On behalf of the Business Development Board of Palm Beach County, we extend our congratulations to the Boca Raton Airport on reaching the remarkable milestone of 75 years of exceptional service."

KELLY SMALLRIDGE
CEO, Business Development Board of Palm Beach County

"I'm proud to have served as an airport ambassador this past year, witnessing them receive their proclamation from the City as they commemorated 75 years, and celebrating with the community at the memorable dinner and reception last month. I look forward to watching them continue to soar!"

DEBBIE LEVINE
Executive Director, Boca Raton Police Foundation
Airport Ambassador



"Happy Anniversary, Boca Raton Airport! May your wings continue to carry you to even greater heights in the years to come."

ROBERT WEINROTH
Airport Ambassador

2024-2050

The Airport's history and evolution highlight the vast potential for the years ahead. With an emphasis on technological advancements, enhanced safety measures, environmental sustainability, and workforce development, the Boca Raton Airport Authority aims to surpass future expectations through actions initiated today.



02

BOCA RATON AIRPORT AUTHORITY

The Boca Raton Airport Authority provides leadership, governance, and overall management of the Airport, ensuring efficient operations. This chapter delves into the role of the Authority, detailing its structured approach to managing operations and fostering collaboration within the Airport and among its external stakeholders.

AIRPORT AUTHORITY

PURPOSE AND COMPOSITION

The Boca Raton Airport Authority is the governing body responsible for the operation and management of Boca Raton Airport. With a focus on excellence, the Authority prioritizes safety, efficiency, and environmental stewardship in all its operations. These efforts align with its core values of integrity, respect, leadership, and collaboration.

MISSION AND VISION

The BRAA's mission is to operate a first-class aviation facility, promoting safety, efficiency, environmental responsibility, and economic benefits for the community and aviation stakeholders.

Its vision is to achieve operational excellence in all facets.

STRATEGIC THEMES

RESILIENCE • SUSTAINABILITY • LAND USE • COMMUNICATION • ORGANIZATION • OPERATIONS • INFRASTRUCTURE

GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The BRAA is governed by an appointed board responsible for setting strategic direction and ensuring alignment with community goals. Professional staff implement the various policies and efforts required to maintain its mission and move toward its vision. This includes managing diverse areas such as administration, finance, operations, and business development.

BOCA RATON AIRPORT AUTHORITY TODAY

The BRAA's strategic focus underscores its commitment to maintaining and advancing the Airport's position as a vital community asset and a leader in the general aviation landscape.

EXCELLENCE IN GOVERNANCE

The Airport Authority is steered by a board of seven dedicated members and the Executive Director, all of whom are committed to upholding the highest standards of governance and fiscal responsibility.

CATALYST FOR COMMERCE

Airport Authority leadership oversees the activities of nearly 200 based aircraft and aids in the success of over 50 specialized businesses.

STAKEHOLDER SUPPORT

From regular tenant meetings to collaborations with non-profit, educational, and civic institutions, the Airport Authority is proactive in nurturing relationships that support a collective local vision.

BEST-IN-CLASS STANDARDS

The Airport Authority is responsible for the Airport's seamless integration within the National Airspace System. This demands vigilant adherence to the evolving landscape of local and federal standards.





BOCA RATON AIRPORT AUTHORITY BOARD MEMBERS

Boca Raton Airport Authority board members are drawn from various professional backgrounds and appointed to represent distinct geographic regions within both the City of Boca Raton and Palm Beach County.

This intentional selection process brings together a wide range of perspectives and community interests that enrich the collaborative framework of the Airport Authority.

"Boca Raton Airport stands as a critical economic driver, bolstering local businesses and supporting the community with an impact that continues to grow year after year. Our ongoing commitment to economic prosperity and community engagement will continue to strengthen our region in the years to come."

BOB TUCKER | Chair



"Looking ahead, our vision is clear: to lead the way in aviation excellence and innovation. With our comprehensive Master Plan and dedication to future advancements, Boca Raton Airport is poised for persistent growth and success."

RANDY NOBLES | Vice Chair



"Innovation has always been at the heart of Boca Raton Airport. Over the years, we've embraced cutting-edge technologies and forward-thinking policies to enhance our operations and services, making us a leader in the aviation industry."

MITCH FOGEL | Secretary & Treasurer

"In 75 years, the Boca Raton Airport has grown from a sleepy dirt runway to an aviation powerhouse serving stakeholders around the globe. Innovation, commitment, and strategic planning have fueled our past successes and will continue to propel us going forward."

CHERYL BUDD



"Safety is our top priority at Boca Raton Airport. Through our comprehensive Safety Management Systems, we are committed to ensuring a secure environment for all our users and stakeholders, continually improving our safety standards and practices."

GENE FOLDEN



"As we celebrate 75 years, we honor the evolution of the Airport from its early days to the vibrant aviation center it is today. Our legacy is built on decades of progress and dedication, ensuring that Boca Raton Airport remains a pivotal part of our region's story."

JAMES R. NAU

"At Boca Raton Airport, we take pride in our efforts to be a better neighbor to our community. Through our noise abatement programs and pilot outreach initiatives, we strive to balance progress with the quality of life for those around us."

MELVIN POLLACK



AIRPORT MANAGEMENT

The Boca Raton Airport Authority board empowers the Executive Director, who, with a cross-functional team, translates strategy into the daily operations that make the Airport run smoothly and grow consistently.

Guided by a blend of aviation expertise and business acumen, the team embodies the Airport's commitment to exceptional stewardship and innovative strategic planning.

A CULTURE OF GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT

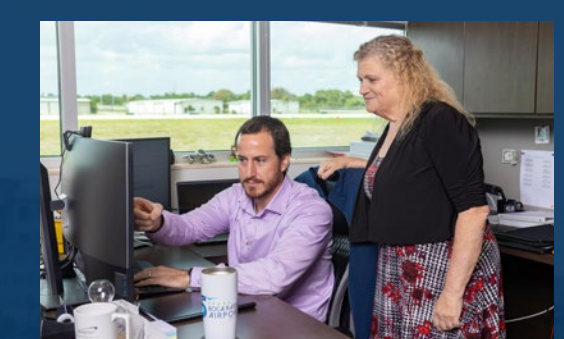
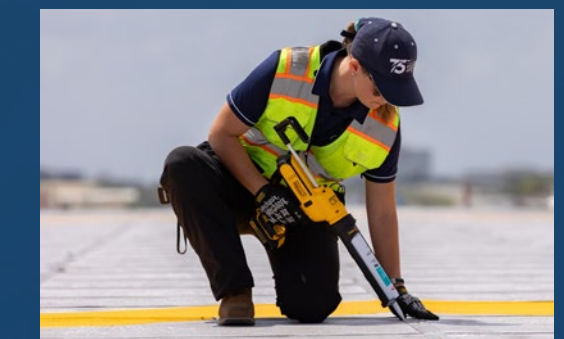
Through annual investments in training and professional development, the Airport Authority empowers its staff to meet the dynamic challenges of the aviation industry head on. Staff members are integral to the smooth operation of the Airport, handling day-to-day tasks ranging from safety inspections and facility maintenance to fostering strong relationships with Airport tenants.

This dedication to professionalism and continuous improvement underpins the Airport's reputation as a reliable and forward-thinking aviation facility. By working collaboratively, the management and staff create a resilient and responsive organization capable of adapting to the dynamic landscape of the aviation industry.



"Our team at Boca Raton Airport exemplifies true collaboration, with each member taking on multiple roles to guarantee the Airport's success. Their commitment and adaptability are crucial to our day-to-day operations."

CLARA BENNETT
Executive Director



03

REGIONAL IMPACT

This chapter explores the transformative impact of Boca Raton Airport, extending far beyond the realm of aviation. Through strategic leadership and innovative initiatives, the Airport acts as a catalyst for regional progress. It fosters robust economic activity and business growth, while also enhancing community mobility and environmental sustainability. These efforts solidify the Airport's role as a dynamic force shaping the future of Boca Raton and its surrounding areas.

ECONOMY · BUSINESS · MOBILITY · SUSTAINABILITY · COMMUNITY

A CATALYST FOR PROGRESS

The 75th anniversary of Boca Raton Airport marks a journey that spans nearly a century, highlighting mutual growth and innovation with the surrounding region. Moving beyond internal management and tenant collaboration, this chapter delves into the broader effects stemming from the Airport's diverse operations, including:

- Stimulating regional development and economic prosperity
- Attracting new businesses
- Improving connectivity and mobility
- Fostering a sustainable future
- Partnering with the local community

IMPACT ON ECONOMY

Boca Raton Airport plays a crucial role in the Boca Raton ecosystem, significantly influencing the local economy through its activity. This impact extends through various benefits, from local employment to commercial appeal.

STATE REPORT SHOWS GROWING ECONOMIC IMPACT

According to the 2022 Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) Aviation Economic Impact Study, the Airport contributes \$693 million annually to the local economy and helps provide employment to nearly 5,000 people. This represents significant growth from the figures reported in previous FDOT studies over the last ten years.



ECONOMIC IMPACT BY THE NUMBERS AS OF 2023



REAL ESTATE

Proximity to private and corporate aviation services has been connected to growth in local real estate markets, often acting as a magnet for both commercial and residential development. Easy access to private travel for businesses, affluent or high-profile individuals, and global tourists make nearby areas highly desirable for living, working, and leisure. This desirability translates into increased demand for property, higher values, and a competitive real estate market.

EMPLOYMENT

Airport activities and operations ripple across the regional job market, providing an array of positions across various fields. These roles range from aviation management and flight operations at FBOs to aircraft technicians and customer service representatives, supporting over 4,800 individuals and families.



IMPACT ON BUSINESS

Boca Raton Airport intersects various sectors of the regional business community, facilitating essential connections for corporate travel, client visits, and the movement of goods both domestically and internationally.

STRATEGIC LOCATION AND FACILITIES

The Airport's prime location and its ability to accommodate a range of business aircraft play pivotal roles in the economic landscape, attracting corporate headquarters and innovative startups. The Airport's operational capacity, coupled with multiple fixed-base operators and maintenance services, offers significant benefits to both local businesses and multinational corporations.

BUSINESS RELOCATION

The presence of Boca Raton Airport, coupled with initiatives like the new Brightline high-speed rail system, catalyzes business relocation and expansion in Boca Raton, enhancing the city's profile as a prime location for commercial prospects.



Business Aviation and Top Performing Companies 2017
S&P 500 Companies Using Business Aircraft to Create Enterprise Value

"Companies utilizing business aviation bring great economic value to general aviation airports and the surrounding communities—on average \$75 for each dollar invested. A single business aircraft can bring an airport and its service community some \$2.5 million in incremental economic benefit, including direct, indirect and induced economic contribution."

- NEXA Advisors Study, 2017

REGIONAL COMPANY HEADQUARTERS

45

~ 539 CORPORATE HEADQUARTERS IN PALM BEACH COUNTY

~50% OF THOSE HEADQUARTERS ARE LOCATED IN BOCA RATON

Over the last 75 years, Boca Raton and the Palm Beaches have drawn the interest of major businesses and corporations. With the convenience and flexibility an airport offers to businesses that travel, many of those companies now call Boca Raton home. Some of them include:

- ADT
- ZIMMER BIOMET
- CANCER TREATMENT CENTERS OF AMERICA
- CAREERS USA
- CENTERRA GROUP
- JOHNSON & JOHNSON
- DYCOM INDUSTRIES
- G4S NORTH AMERICA
- HOLTEC INTERNATIONAL
- KRS GLOBAL BIOTECHNOLOGY
- LOCUS TRAXX WORLDWIDE
- MEDICAL STAFFING NETWORK
- NEXTERA ENERGY, INC.
- OFFICE DEPOT
- ORANGETHEORY FITNESS
- OXBOW GROUP
- SUN CAPITAL PARTNERS, INC.
- U.S. POLO ASSOCIATION

"Over the decades, the Airport has played a vital role in shaping the economic landscape of our region. Its sophisticated infrastructure not only enables convenient business travel for our current executives but also serves as a magnet for new companies, enhancing regional connectivity. As we strive to build a resilient and sustainable economy in Palm Beach County, we eagerly anticipate continued collaboration with the Airport. Thank you for being an invaluable asset to our community."

KELLY SMALLRIDGE

President & CEO
Business Development Board of Palm Beach County, Inc.

IMPACT ON MOBILITY

Boca Raton Airport significantly enhances Boca Raton's national and global connectivity, opening greater access to resources and encouraging cultural enrichment.



INTERNATIONAL ACCESS

The addition of an on-site U.S. Customs and Border Protection Facility at the Airport has transformed Boca Raton into a pivotal gateway for international travelers and businesses. This infrastructure improvement simplifies entry for international visitors and positions Boca Raton as an accessible, attractive destination for global commerce, fostering increased investment and economic diversity in the region.

TOURISM & TRADE

The Airport's extensive network, connecting Boca Raton to a wide range of destinations, plays a crucial role in driving the city's tourism and trade sectors. This broad reach enhances Boca Raton's appeal as a premier destination for leisure and business, enriching the city's arts and cultural scene and supporting the growth of luxury accommodations.

FAST, RELIABLE, FLEXIBLE

The extensive connectivity offered by the Airport enables quick and flexible travel options while providing essential services in times of need. These include delivering rapid response capabilities during natural disasters or emergencies.

MOBILITY IMPACT BY THE NUMBERS

43
COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN
IN 2023

1,883
NUMBER OF AIRCRAFT CLEARED
IN 2023

9,245
NUMBER OF AIRCRAFT
PASSENGERS CLEARED
IN 2023



CELEBRATING 5 YEARS OF U.S. CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION

2023 marked the 5th anniversary for the U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) Facility at Boca Raton Airport. Since its opening, the CBP Facility has cleared over 8,000 international flights and welcomed visitors from nearly 80 countries to the City of Boca Raton.

VISITORS FROM:

- BAHAMAS
- CANADA
- CAYMAN ISLANDS
- COSTA RICA
- BERMUDA
- BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS
- DOMINICAN REPUBLIC
- ITALY
- MEXICO
- ST. MAARTEN
- TURKS & CAICOS
- U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS
- GERMANY
- GUATEMALA
- JAMAICA
- UNITED KINGDOM

...AND BEYOND



Scan the QR code to learn more about the opening of the CBP Facility and its regional benefits.



IMPACT ON SUSTAINABILITY

The Boca Raton Airport Authority places a high priority on environmental sustainability, actively investing in green initiatives and adopting the latest recommendations for energy efficiency from the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA).

SUSTAINABILITY PLANNING

The Airport Authority's sustainability efforts encompass a range of initiatives, from infrastructure enhancements to partnerships with its fixed-base operators, to meet state and federal environmental standards.



LEED CERTIFICATIONS

Both the U.S. Customs and Border Protection Facility and the Boca Raton Airport Authority Administration Building have achieved LEED certification, recognizing an adherence to high environmental standards, including energy-efficient lighting, water conservation, and sustainable construction practices.

AIRFIELD TO RUNWAY

The Airport Authority has installed LED airfield lighting, Navigational Aids (NAVAIDS), and signage systems on several areas of the airfield. Along with safety benefits, the LEDs used in these upgrades help to reduce energy consumption, and environmental impact.



SUSTAINABILITY BY THE NUMBERS

287
LOW-CONSUMPTION LED LIGHTS

INSTALLED IN 2023

114
LED SIGNAGE UPGRADES

MADE IN 2023

135
TREES

PLANTED IN 2023

2
LEED CERTIFICATIONS

AWARDED THIS DECADE

PAST

2021
PIONEERING
INNOVATION

Boca Raton Airport leads the way as the first U.S. airport to install the FAA-certified LEED rotating beacon, enhancing safety and energy efficiency.



WILDLIFE HAZARD ASSESSMENTS

Boca Raton Airport is home to a variety of wildlife such as burrowing owls, recognizable to many in Boca Raton as the mascot for Florida Atlantic University. In consideration of the Airport's animal inhabitants, the Boca Raton Airport Authority has carried out in-depth Wildlife Hazard Assessments to determine how to best conduct operations and construct new facilities, all while maintaining the safety of animals living on-site.



STORMWATER IMPROVEMENTS

Underscoring a commitment to community welfare, the Airport Authority has upgraded the property's stormwater systems, aiming to diminish runoff and mitigate flooding impacts on adjacent communities.

These improvements enhance both Airport functionality and environmental sustainability, ensuring that water exits the Airport cleaner than when it arrives. The effective operation of these systems is crucial for the region's resilience, particularly given the area's vulnerability to rising sea levels.

NOISE MITIGATION AND ABATEMENT

Recognizing the impact of Airport operations on surrounding residential communities, the Airport Authority has proactively implemented comprehensive strategies to reduce aircraft noise. Through close collaboration with the Federal Aviation Administration, pilots, and the community, noise mitigation has become a top priority.

Ongoing noise abatement measures include specific pilot procedures, a noise abatement hotline, an internet-based flight-tracking system, a voluntary night-time curfew for pilots, and recommendations for noise-reducing flight paths.



NOISE ABATEMENT INFORMATION

bocaairport.com/community-noise-abatement-information



ONLINE FLIGHT TRACKING

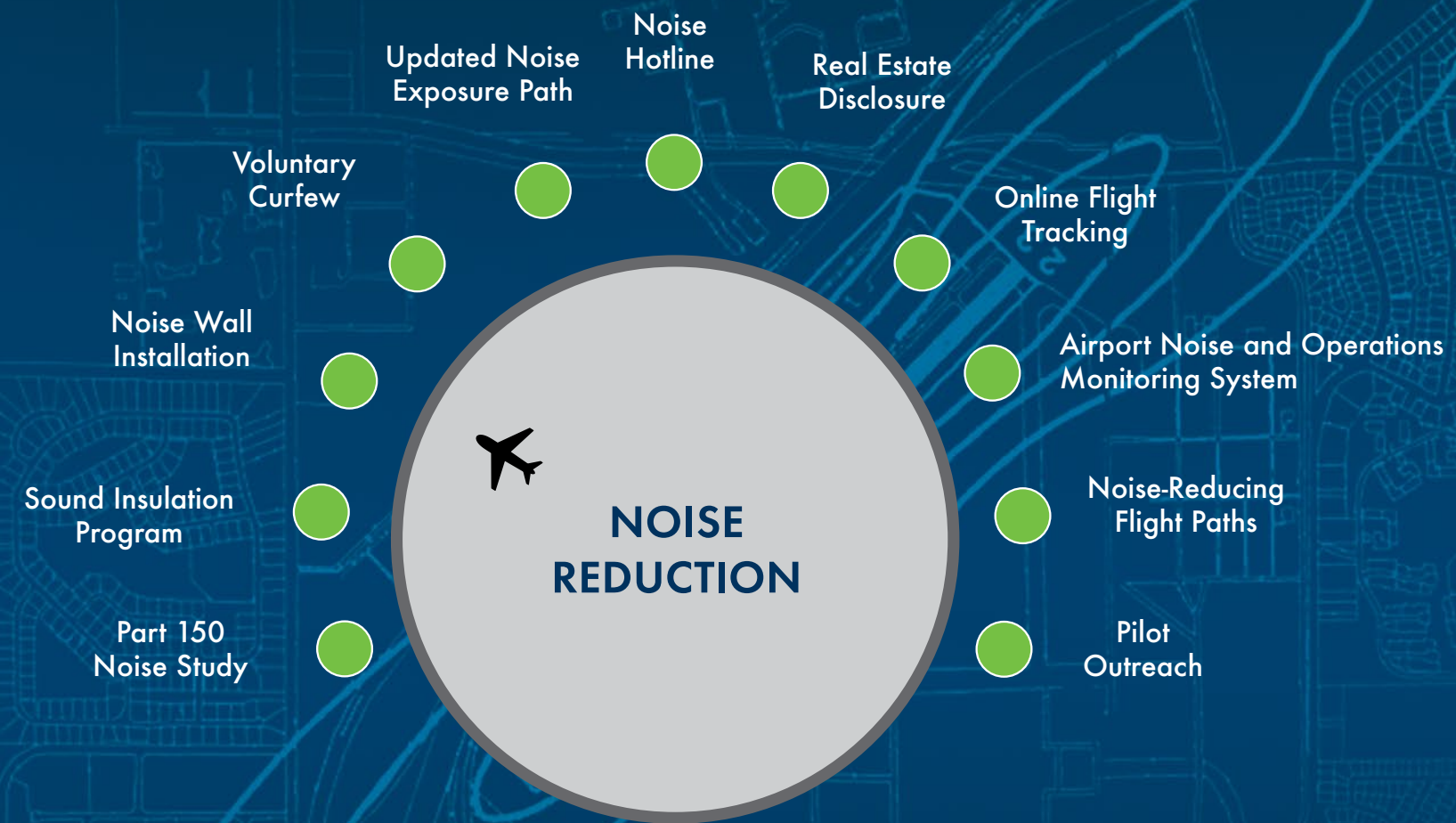
bocaairport.com/pilots/flight-tracking

AIRCRAFT NOISE REPORTING LINE

(561) 391-0296

Over the last two decades, data collected for noise mitigation studies show a decrease in night-time operations from 33,836 in 2001 to only 5,274 in 2017. The studies have also demonstrated a decrease in both the intensity of noise and the area it affects.

Moving forward, the Airport Authority pledges ongoing vigilance and dialogue with all parties to achieve continued declines in the impact of noise on the surrounding community.



PAST

1990

FIRST PART 150 NOISE STUDY

The study paves the way for the Airport to make significant strides in reducing the effects of aircraft noise on the local community through the implementation of various voluntary noise abatement procedures.

A second Part 150 Noise Study conducted in 2001 resulted in additional noise-related improvements, including the sound insulation of 44 residences.

IMPACT ON COMMUNITY

The Boca Raton Airport Authority believes that the success of the Airport is closely intertwined with the growth of the local community. A dedication to regional prosperity and public well-being is embedded in its strategic planning processes, leading to initiatives that resonate throughout Boca Raton and beyond.

COMMUNITY IMPACT BY THE NUMBERS

\$44,000

FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING THROUGH HABITAT FOR HUMANITY'S WOMEN BUILD AND CEO BUILD SINCE 2017

\$350,000

IN SCHOLARSHIPS TO PALM BEACH COUNTY STUDENTS SINCE 2013

OVER 3,500

POUNDS COLLECTED FOR BOCA HELPING HANDS ANNUAL FOOD DRIVE SINCE 2021

OVER 18,000

TOYS COLLECTED FOR TOYS FOR TOTS SINCE 2017

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

The Airport Authority's partnership with educational institutions is a critical step in developing a skilled workforce that addresses current shortages, future industry needs, and emerging technologies. This effort fills employment gaps and integrates the Boca Raton community into the aviation industry's wider ecosystem, connecting industry growth to community benefit.

CRITICAL SERVICES

The Airport plays an indispensable role in public safety, acting as a hub for emergency medical flights and disaster relief operations. Its strategic location and facilities are crucial for rapid response in events such as floods, hurricanes, and other emergencies.

PAST

2019

A PARTNER TO THE COMMUNITY

In the wake of Hurricane Dorian, the Boca Raton Airport's U.S. Customs and Border Protection Facility assists in rendering aid for nearly 300 flights over the course of approximately two and a half months.



The Boca Raton Airport Authority joined a team of over 100 women for Habitat for Humanity's Women Build 2023, an initiative focused on providing affordable housing to families in need.

04

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

This chapter explores the Boca Raton Airport's deep ties with the community, showcasing its commitment to social responsibility, educational advancement, and economic vitality. The Airport Authority actively supports and propels community and cultural development, demonstrating a model of civic engagement that extends far beyond air travel.

CONNECTED THROUGH GIVING BACK

As a long-standing fixture in the local community, the Boca Raton Airport Authority seeks to cultivate an ethos of contribution and support that uplifts and unites the community in which it works and lives. Collaboration with Airport tenants and local non-profits have helped to increase these efforts year after year.



"Women Build 2023 was a testament to the power of community and the ability of women to make a positive impact."

CLARA BENNETT
BRAA Executive Director

"With each passing year, the Airport continues to foster a sense of community and pride among all who have had the privilege of being a part of its journey."

ROBERT WEINROTH
BRAA Ambassador

"This year's Women Build event achieved the distinction of being the number 1 Women Build [event] in the nation for both participation and fundraising."

SEAN D'OLIVEIRA
South Florida Business and Wealth Magazine

"The spirit of generosity brings out the best in our community. We're grateful to have played a role in sharing that spirit through this year's toy donations."

CHRISTINE LANDERS
BRAA Office Manager



CONNECTED THROUGH EDUCATION

Boca Raton Airport champions education as a cornerstone of its mission, fostering the growth of the community and the future of aviation with initiatives that inspire and educate.

"We are very fortunate for the opportunity to partner with the Boca Raton Airport Authority in providing scholarships to exceptional high school seniors in Palm Beach County who possess a true passion for aviation. The Boca Raton Airport Authority's scholarships underscore their recognition of the importance of nurturing and supporting the next generation of aviation and aerospace professionals. We are proud of our collaboration and the positive impact we are making together on the future of the aviation industry!"

TIMOTHY G. SNOW
President, The George Snow Scholarship Fund



"I'm sure this is no surprise to anyone, but the George Snow Scholarship Fund is like a family. It's impossible to compare it or put a price on something like that. The George Snow Scholarship Fund and the Boca Raton Airport Authority have been there for me every step of the way."

BRANDON AUGUSTIN
2016 Scholarship Recipient
Lieutenant Junior Grade, U.S. Navy



CONNECTED THROUGH INDUSTRY

By proactively engaging with industry organizations and regulatory bodies, the Airport strengthens its position as a crucial part of the National Airspace System and a major contributor to the local economy.



ENGAGEMENT AND REPRESENTATION

Affiliations with key aviation organizations, such as the National Business Aviation Association and the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association, allow Airport Authority leadership and staff to gain insights into global aviation challenges and opportunities. These insights are valuable in maintaining the highest standards of safety, efficiency, service quality, and innovation.



ADVOCACY AND COMPLIANCE

Through engagement with local, regional, and state leaders, the Boca Raton Airport Authority champions initiatives that drive workforce development and regulatory collaboration. Interactions with entities such as the Federal Aviation Administration and the Florida Department of Transportation help to maintain active awareness of regulatory compliance, secure funding for infrastructure projects, and align strategic initiatives with broader public interests.

AVIATION ORGANIZATIONS

AAAE – American Association of Airport Executives

ACI – Airports Council International

AOPA – Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association

FABA – Florida Aviation Business Association

NATA – National Air Transportation Association

NBAA – National Business Aviation Association

FAC – Florida Airports Council

USCTA – US Contract Tower Association

BOCA RATON PILOT ASSOCIATION

OTHER GROUPS

FASD – Florida Association of Special Districts

FGFOA – Florida Government Finance Officers Association

GFOA – Government Finance Officers Association

SHRM – Society for Human Resource Management

NAGC – National Association of Government Communicators

ARMA INTERNATIONAL

CONNECTED THROUGH COMMERCE

Boca Raton Airport is a gateway for commerce, facilitating connections that drive economic vitality within the region. This network of connections evolves as the region flourishes, enabling the Boca Raton Airport Authority to support business growth and align Airport development with the needs of the business community.

“The Boca Raton Airport is a critical community partner, collaborating with public and private stakeholders to enrich the fabric of our thriving region. Together, we soar to new heights, advancing prosperity and connectivity for the benefit of our community and beyond.”

TROY M. MCLELLAN
President and CEO,
Greater Boca Raton Chamber of Commerce



BUSINESS ASSOCIATIONS

The Airport Authority collaborates closely with local business associations to foster a thriving commercial environment, encouraging networking, development opportunities, and partnerships across diverse sectors.

HISPANIC ENTREPRENEUR INITIATIVE (HEI)

HEI, an organization where Boca Raton Airport Authority Executive Director Clara Bennett holds the position of President, shares the Airport’s commitment to diversity and inclusion in commerce, empowering Hispanic entrepreneurs through resources, mentorship, and networking opportunities.

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY’S CEO BUILD

Airport Authority leadership’s involvement in Habitat for Humanity’s CEO Build event highlights the Airport’s dedication to community development and corporate social responsibility. The event unites local leaders through hands-on projects that address critical housing needs in Boca Raton.

BUSINESS AVIATION AT THE AIRPORT

Many studies have underscored the profound impact of business aviation, which contributes significantly to job creation, fosters economic growth, and positions Boca Raton as a desirable destination for professionals and corporations alike.



Greater Boca Raton Chamber of Commerce Diamond Award Luncheon.



City Manager George Brown presents a plaque on behalf of the City of Boca Raton at the Airport’s 75th Anniversary celebration.



Celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month with the Hispanic Entrepreneur Initiative.



CONNECTED THROUGH CIVIC SERVICE

The Boca Raton Airport Authority is committed to being a partner to public organizations across the region, supporting local leadership through community welfare efforts and civic engagements.

GOVERNMENTAL COLLABORATION

The Airport Authority actively partners with governmental entities at every level, fostering a comprehensive approach to community development and regional advancement.

EMERGENCY SERVICES

The Airport is a critical asset in regional emergency response strategies. It provides a base of operations during crises for organizations like Angel Flight Southeast, Vital Flight, and Civil Air Patrol.

POLICE AND FIRE RESCUE

Regular engagement with Boca Raton's Police and Fire Rescue departments underscores a commitment to safety and security.

MAYOR'S BALL / GEORGE LONG AWARD

The Airport Authority was presented with the George Long Award at the 2023 Mayor's Ball, hosted by The Rotary Club Downtown Boca Raton. The award was given in recognition of the Airport's 75th anniversary and its enduring contributions to the community.



The City of Boca Raton presents the Airport Authority with a proclamation in recognition of the Airport's 75th anniversary.



Sergeant Jewel R. Wigfall is recognized as 2023's Hometown Hero at FAU Stadium.



The Boca Raton Airport Authority team displays the George Long Award at the eighth annual Boca Raton Mayor's Ball, hosted by The Rotary Club Downtown Boca Raton.



CONNECTED THROUGH COMMUNITY

In representing the Airport, the Boca Raton Airport Authority embraces its role within the wider community, appreciating the opportunity to engage with and contribute to the public sphere.

These engagements reflect the Airport's broader commitment to the economic, cultural, and social framework of Boca Raton, recognizing that its success is intrinsically linked to the vitality of its community.

FABULOUS FOURTH

The Fabulous Fourth of July 2023 event in Boca Raton brought the community together with local food trucks, live music, and a spectacular fireworks show. In addition to sponsoring the event, the Boca Raton Airport Authority hosted an interactive booth with family-friendly activities.

HOMETOWN HEROES

The Airport Authority, in collaboration with Florida Atlantic University, proudly acknowledges local champions through its Hometown Heroes initiative. Sergeant Jewrel R. Wigfall was selected for the honor in 2023.

75th ANNIVERSARY MURAL WALL

To commemorate the 75th anniversary of Boca Raton Airport, a mural was painted on the masonry security wall at the southern side of the Airport. The 135-foot artwork, crafted by artist and mural creator Craig McInnis and team, brings to life the Airport's historical journey, current significance, and future aspirations.

Scan this QR code to access a video library of the Airport's community connections.



VALUED TENANTS: THE AIRPORT COMMUNITY

The Boca Raton Airport Authority values its close working relationships with tenants who play a crucial role in the Airport's development. This partnership is marked by a collaborative spirit, with all parties working together to enhance the Airport's community and operational value.

The diversity of tenants at Boca Raton Airport contributes to a rich, multifaceted Airport environment. Among them are both aeronautical services and non-aeronautical businesses.

AERONAUTICAL TENANTS

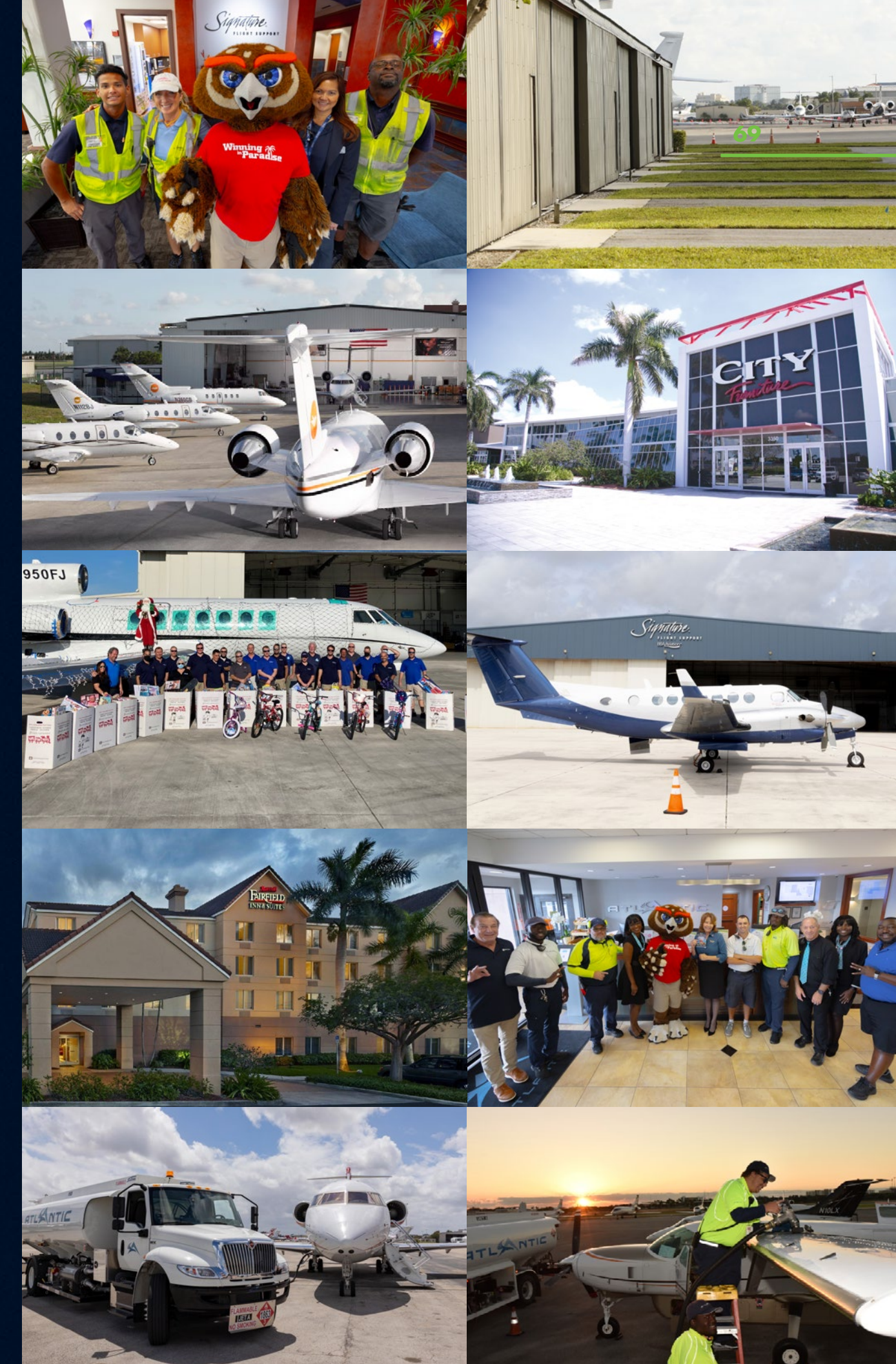
The aeronautical tenants at Boca Raton Airport support the local community and significantly contribute to the economy through job creation. Their diverse services and commitment to quality uphold the Airport's reputation and directly influence its ability to serve the aviation needs of the region.

NON-AERONAUTICAL TENANTS

The presence of non-aeronautical tenants on Airport property offers a dual benefit: it enhances the Airport's economic resilience and self-sustainability for the long term, and contributes to the vitality of the broader community.

"At the Airport, as with the City of Boca Raton, we are very invested in our community, and its culture – and art is a big part of that culture."

CHERYL BUDD
Boca Raton Airport Authority Board Member



05

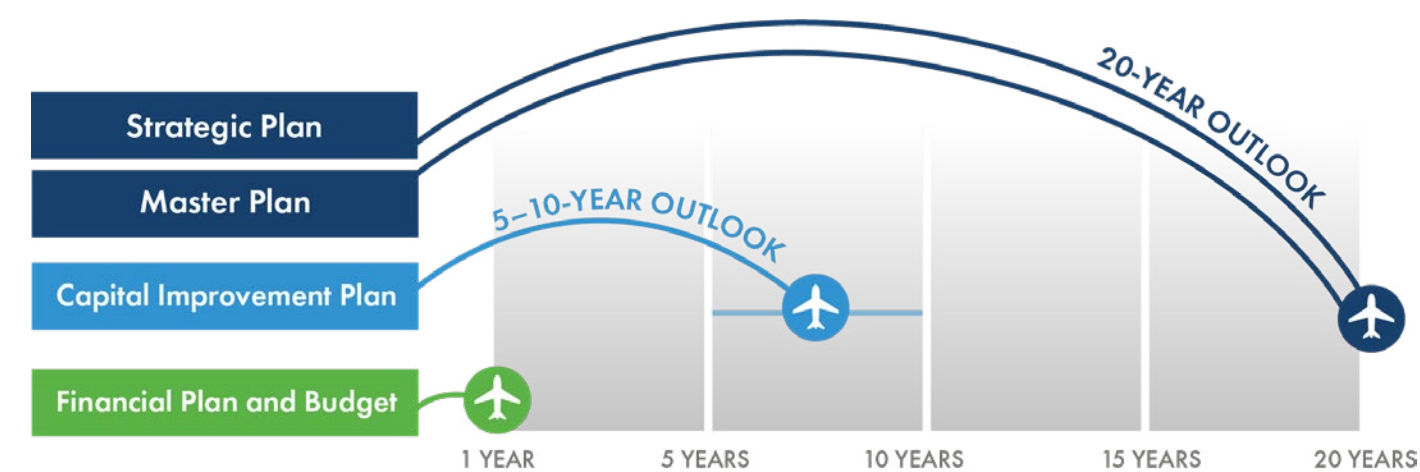
AIRPORT DEVELOPMENT

This chapter reveals the strategic vision and transformative projects shaping Boca Raton Airport's future. Under thoughtful leadership, strategic investments and infrastructure improvements position the Airport to meet the evolving needs of aviation while seamlessly integrating into the fabric of Boca Raton.

BOCA RATON AIRPORT'S STRATEGIC VISION

The Boca Raton Airport Authority operates under a strategic vision focused on the dual principles of aviation excellence and sound fiscal management. This approach was solidified in 2014 with the appointment of Executive Director Clara Bennett, whose leadership embodies the Airport Authority board's commitment to transforming the Airport into a model of both aviation proficiency and business efficiency.

This commitment to strategic foresight has guided the Airport's planning initiatives, which form an integrated system for continued growth. Each of the core plans build upon the others and cover a range of timeframes, resulting in a strong foundational structure that remains adaptable to unforeseen external factors.



SOURCE: Ricondo & Associates, Inc., January 2020.

STRATEGIC BUSINESS PLAN SETTING A COURSE FOR CONTINUED GROWTH

Key among these initiatives is the Airport's Strategic Business Plan. Developed through collaboration with key stakeholders in 2020, the plan established a foundation for all operations undertaken at Boca Raton Airport.

The long-term strategy, designed to navigate a 20-year landscape, informs both operational decision-making and day-to-day management. It's crafted to specifically address evolving technological innovations, economic landscapes, regulatory frameworks, and community needs.

PAST

2011 FIRST STRATEGIC BUSINESS PLAN

The Boca Raton Airport's first Strategic Business Plan, developed in 2011, identifies strategic initiatives for the Airport Authority to address this challenge.

20-YEAR MASTER PLAN

PLANNING INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS

Building upon the strategic approach solidified in 2020, the Airport Authority has crafted a comprehensive 20-year Master Plan to guide the Airport's development over the next two decades.

The plan is a comprehensive effort to enhance operational efficiency, address evolving aviation trends, and meet the diverse needs of Airport users while considering environmental and community dynamics.

Scan this QR code to learn more about the Airport's recent Master Plan.



INCLUSIVE GROWTH MIXING BUSINESS WITH PLEASURE

The Master Plan includes an infrastructure that caters to both the sophisticated needs of business jet clientele and the vibrant community of sports and recreational aviators.

CONTINUOUS EVOLUTION

PAST (COMPLETED 5+ YEARS AGO)

- 01 AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL TOWER
- 02 AUTOMATED WEATHER OBSERVING SYSTEM
- 03 ADMINISTRATION BUILDING
- 04 U.S. CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION FACILITY

PRESENT (RECENTLY COMPLETED)

- 05 ENGINEERED MATERIALS ARRESTING SYSTEM
- 06 WILDLIFE HAZARD ASSESSMENT
- 07 STORMWATER DRAINAGE SYSTEM UPGRADES
- 08 SECURITY ENHANCEMENTS
- 09 AIRPORT ROAD IMPROVEMENT PROJECT
- 10 AIRFIELD LIGHTING
- 11 SIGNAGE UPGRADES
- 12 TAXIWAY IMPROVEMENTS
- 13 75TH ANNIVERSARY MURAL WALL

FUTURE (PLANNED)

- 14 OBSERVATION DECK
- 15 ATLANTIC \$40M EXPANSION
- 16 UTILITY BOX ART INSTALLATIONS
- 17 RUNWAY AND TAXIWAY IMPROVEMENTS
- 18 HOLDING BAY REHABILITATION
- 19 SERVICE ROAD REHABILITATION



UPCOMING PROJECTS

ATLANTIC AVIATION'S \$40M INVESTMENT

Atlantic Aviation has initiated a \$40 million upgrade and expansion of Airport facilities under a new 40-year lease. This multi-year project includes significant infrastructure enhancements, such as the expansion of ramps, hangars, and the terminal facility.

These upgrades are intended to better support Boca Raton's growing demand for business aviation travel, showcasing a dedication to the city's economic development.

"We are committed to nurturing our long-standing partnership with Boca Raton Airport and surrounding communities to further stimulate economic development and attract new business."

JOE THERRIEN
South Florida Area Director, Atlantic Aviation



OBSERVATION AREA AND ART INSTALLATIONS

The Flight Observation Area and art installations, including the 2023 Mural Wall, reflect the Airport's commitment to community engagement and local arts and culture. These initiatives offer unique experiences for visitors and integrate interactive elements into the Airport's landscape.



ADVANCED STORMWATER MANAGEMENT

The Airport will enhance its stormwater management infrastructure along the runway safety area and the adjacent open ditch treatment area on Airport Road. The introduction of underground containment systems is set to level terrain, minimize wildlife hazards, and repurpose land, potentially freeing up space for further development and economic opportunities.



06

INDUSTRY TRENDS

This chapter discusses the changing landscape of aviation and explores Boca Raton Airport's focus on safety, efficiency, environmental responsibility, and technological innovation.



FUTURE TRENDS IN AVIATION

The landscape of general aviation and the National Airspace System stands at a key juncture, marked by rapid technological advancements and evolving operational models. As these global trends take shape, Boca Raton Airport is poised to adapt and thrive within this changing landscape.

Globally, as airports transform into multi-modal transport hubs integrated with urban settings, Boca Raton Airport stands ready to embrace digital technologies that streamline operations, enhance security, and elevate the user experience.

This principle of adaptability will maintain the Airport's position at the forefront of modern aviation practices, striving for a blend of functionality, safety, and environmental stewardship.

REDEFINING URBAN TRAVEL

Research and technology play pivotal roles in shaping the future of general aviation and the National Airspace System. Continuous advancements in materials science, propulsion systems, and digital technologies contribute to the development of safer, more efficient, and environmentally friendly aviation solutions.

The emergence of Advanced Air Mobility initiatives, including electric vertical take-off and landing (eVTOL) aircraft and unmanned aircraft systems (UAS), signifies a shift towards even greater innovations. These technologies promise to revolutionize air travel, widening the potential of general aviation airports to include several exciting new use cases.



“The possibility of Advanced Air Mobility developments at Boca Raton Airport has been on the radar for the past few years and is being considered as part of the Master Plan Update.”

CLARA BENNETT
BRAA Executive Director



eVTOL

ELECTRIC VERTICAL TAKE-OFF AND LANDING

Electric vertical take-off and landing aircraft, driven by electric propulsion, offer a quieter, environmentally friendly, and more efficient mode of transportation.

These innovative vehicles have the capacity to offer unprecedented speed and convenience for travel, as well as the potential to transform how people connect throughout South Florida and beyond.

With several models ready to launch from new and innovative startups in the aviation industry, the main hurdles to adoption involve significant legislation and regulatory review.

BENEFITS

- QUICKER COMMUTE
- ZERO EMISSIONS
- NOISE REDUCTION
- CONNECTING COMMUNITIES
- AUTONOMOUS CAPABILITIES

OBSTACLES

- INFRASTRUCTURE REQUIREMENTS
- TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT
- REGULATION AND CERTIFICATION
- AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL COORDINATION



UAS

UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEMS

Unmanned aircraft systems, more commonly known as drones, have emerged from their niche origins to become a powerful force shaping the future of flight. Initially associated with hobbyist activities, their technological advancements have opened a vast range of possibilities for commercial applications.

From precise aerial surveys and inspections to innovative delivery solutions and even supporting a new era of urban air mobility, drones are changing the way people interact with the skies. The Boca Raton Airport Authority recognizes the transformative potential of the technology and is committed to exploring how drones can enhance operations, benefit the community, and contribute to a more efficient future.

CARGO DRONES AND LOGISTICS

Automated cargo drones, integrated within the Advanced Air Mobility ecosystem, have the potential to revolutionize logistics for the Boca Raton community. These innovative vehicles offer rapid, point-to-point delivery of essential goods and packages. They have the potential to significantly reduce reliance on traditional delivery trucks, possibly easing road congestion and contributing to a more sustainable logistics network.



MEDICAL TRANSPORT AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE

Advanced Air Mobility technologies have the potential to transform emergency medical care in South Florida. In critical situations where every minute counts, electric vertical take-off and landing vehicles and other Advanced Air Mobility aircraft could rapidly transport patients to specialized care or deliver life-saving supplies. This technology has the potential to expand the reach of medical services, benefiting communities throughout the region and aiding in hurricane relief efforts by reaching affected areas more efficiently.

EXAMPLE UAS USE CASES

SHIPPING

SURVEYING

EMERGENCIES

INSPECTIONS

DRONE SHOWS

SECURITY

SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH

DATA COLLECTION

INDUSTRIAL

ENTERTAINMENT

GREENER AIR TRAVEL

Carbonless flight initiatives hold the promise of minimizing environmental impact as the air travel industry continues to grow. These initiatives encompass sustainable aviation fuels, electric and hydrogen propulsion, and operational enhancements.



APPLICATIONS OF AI IN AVIATION

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

The role of artificial intelligence (AI) in the aviation industry is becoming increasingly significant, offering unprecedented opportunities for enhancing efficiency, safety, and passenger experience.

Boca Raton Airport's proximity to various educational, research, and technology hubs positions it well to support the research and development of AI-driven innovations in general aviation as more progress is made.

PERSONAL AIR VEHICLES

Personal Air Vehicles (PAVs), often envisioned as Jetsons-style flying cars, are another type of emerging aircraft designed for individual or small group transportation. Often driven by electric propulsion, they promise a more accessible and personalized mode of air travel.

As further developments occur, the Boca Raton Airport Authority continues to follow discussions around Airport adoption, airspace integration, and long-term infrastructure implications.



WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

STEM education, research & technology, and workforce development are pivotal in preparing for the future of aviation, equipping the next generation of professionals with the skills and knowledge to drive ongoing innovation. These areas are foundational to fostering a culture of continuous learning and adaptation.

The Boca Raton Airport Authority has made the development of future industry and community leaders a priority through its partnerships and events and intends to continue those efforts as emerging technologies make Airport grounds increasingly valuable to hands-on training and education.

"You are in a career where you are constantly learning and working hard to be better. There's never a perfect landing, never a perfect instrument approach. You have to build that confidence to fly through the bad weather days, and you have to constantly study and practice to achieve that. It keeps you alive, keeps you motivated, and there's never a boring day at work."

BRANDON AUGUSTIN
2016 Scholarship Recipient
Lieutenant Junior Grade, U.S. Navy



AGENCY COLLABORATION

Collaborating with the Federal Aviation Administration and other regulatory bodies is vital for Boca Raton Airport. This partnership ensures the safe adoption of technologies such as Advanced Air Mobility systems, electric vertical take-off and landing aircraft, and unmanned aircraft systems. With a long-standing practice of active engagement with state and federal agencies, the Boca Raton Airport Authority is fully equipped and prepared to navigate these rapid flights into the future.



AN AIRPORT IS A CANVAS...



...THAT ONLY GAINS COLOR THROUGH THE PEOPLE IT SERVES.



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