

Jesse Fosnaugh, A.A.E, ACE
Airport Director
Gulf Shores International Airport

The gateway to Coastal Alabama



What a year 2025 was!

Airline Service **ARRIVED** in Gulf
Shores & Orange Beach!

The gateway to Coastal Alabama

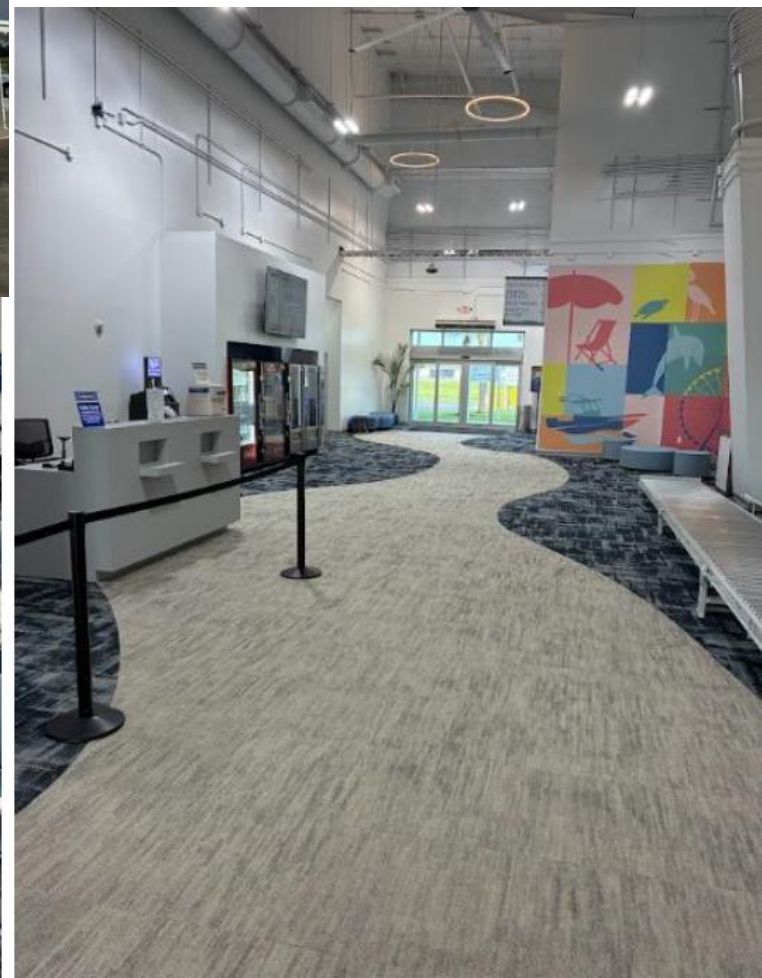


Allegiant inaugural flight May 21, 2025









LuLu's Grab & Go – Grand Opening July 30, 2025



Cover article in Airport Magazine published in August, 2025

Read at 900+ airports, the circulation of *Airport Magazine* includes more than 21,000 digital circulation and 6,500 print circulation



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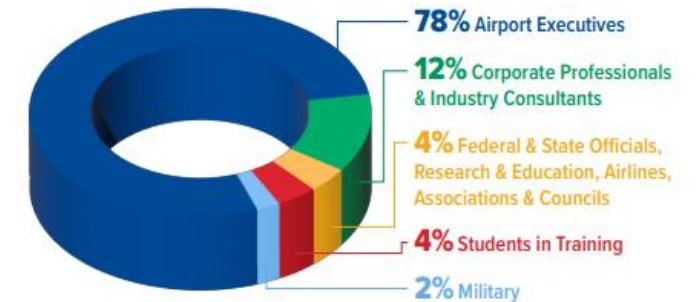
CIRCULATION

19,200 members

Circulation Basis: Paid, Benefit of Dues

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Brian M. Kalish
*Associate Vice President,
Communications*



...es valuable insights into the latest
...es and expert perspectives keep me
...nges and solutions. It's an essential
...future of aviation."



airportmagazine.net

Air Transport Weekly – featured article, Sept. 2025



An Alabama coast airport becomes a model for how to attract airline service before the terminal is built.

By Karen Walker

In a Field of Dreams sort of way, the story of Gulf Shores Airport (GUF) in Alabama is a “build it and they will come” tale that could easily turn into a movie.

Located in the little-known city of Gulf Shores sitting just a couple of miles from a 32-mile stretch of pristine white beaches that span Alabama’s coastline and blend into the beaches of Florida, GUF was initially a U.S. Navy aviation train-

From there, aspirations for GUF grew. By 2022, the airport had obtained its operating certificate but still had no commercial airline service. That changed again in May this year when Las Vegas-based leisure carrier Allegiant Air launched non-stop flights to GUF from cities that included Bellevue, Illinois; Bentonville, Arkansas; Cincinnati, Ohio; Houston, Texas; Kansas City, Missouri; and Knoxville, Tennessee.

“You don’t get pigeon-holed here.”

Airport & Allegiant receive “Partnership Award” Alabama’s Governors Conference on Tourism



allegiant



GULF SHORES
INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
— JACK EDWARDS FIELD —

TakeOff North America Tallahassee, FL 11/4 to 11/6



Congratulations Coastal Alabama!

13 destinations being served by Allegiant

- Huntsville, AL (HSV)** – 2x/week
- Louisville, KY (SDF)** – 2x/week
- Omaha, NE (OMA)** – 2x/week
- Springfield, MO (SGF)** – 2x/week
- Oklahoma City, OK (OKC)** – 3x/week

Returning Destinations for Summer 2026

- Cincinnati (CVG) – 3x/week
- Appleton (ATW) – 2x/week
- Des Moines (DSM) – 2x/week
- Belleville/St. Louis (BLV) – 3x/week
- Bentonville (XNA) – 3x/week
- Knoxville (TYS) – 2x/week
- Kansas City (MCI) – 2x/week
- Nashville (BNA) – 2x/week




30 FLIGHTS/WEEK IN SUMMER 2026



2025 performance

Over 80,000 passengers served since opening in May

Our top performers in Summer 2025

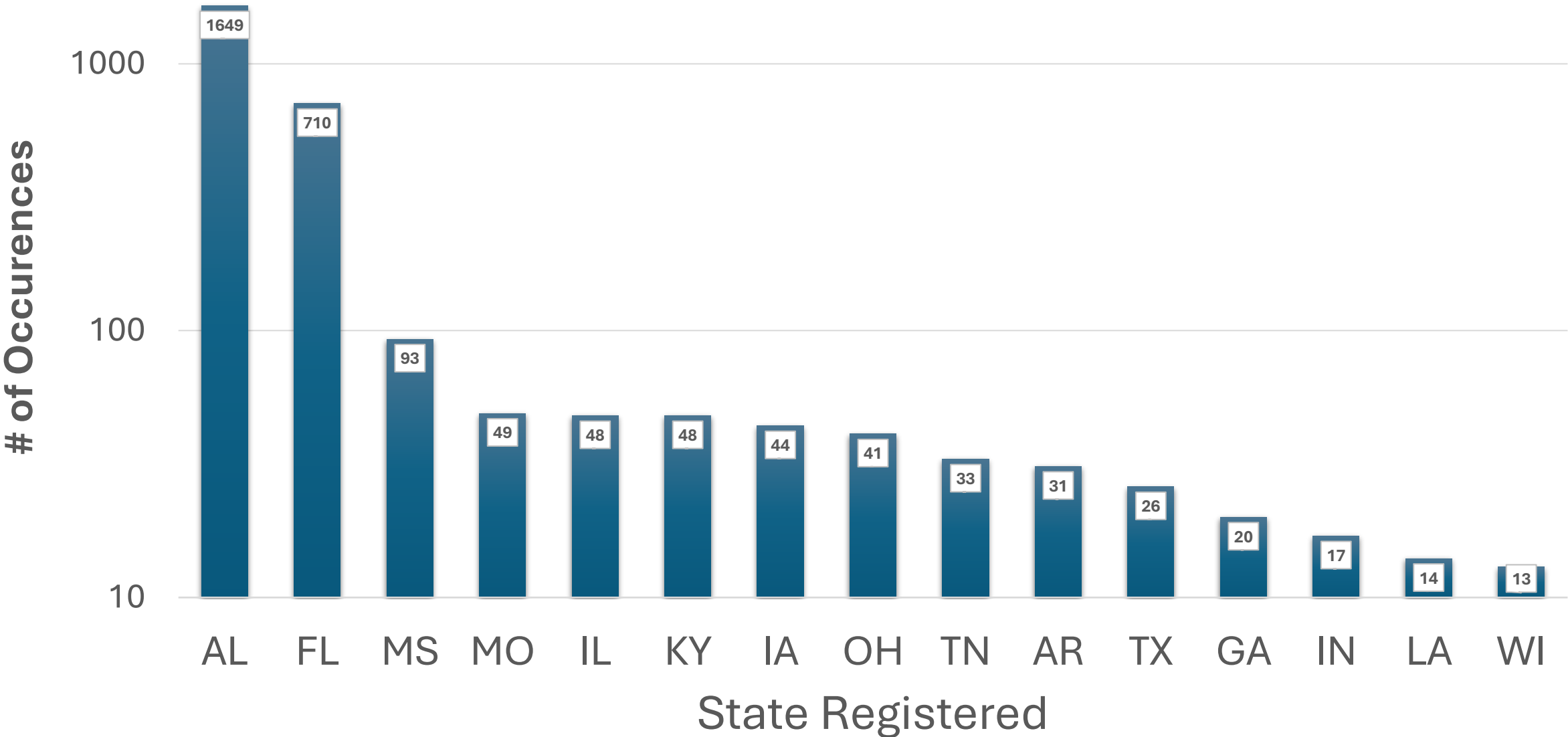


City	Average Load Factor	Single Month Peak
Kansas City (MCI)	80%	88% (August)
Belleville/St. Louis (BLV)	78%	92%(July)
Cincinnati (CVG)	75%	87% (July)

Across all destinations, since May 21, average load factor is 67%, meaning flights averaged **117** passengers on board

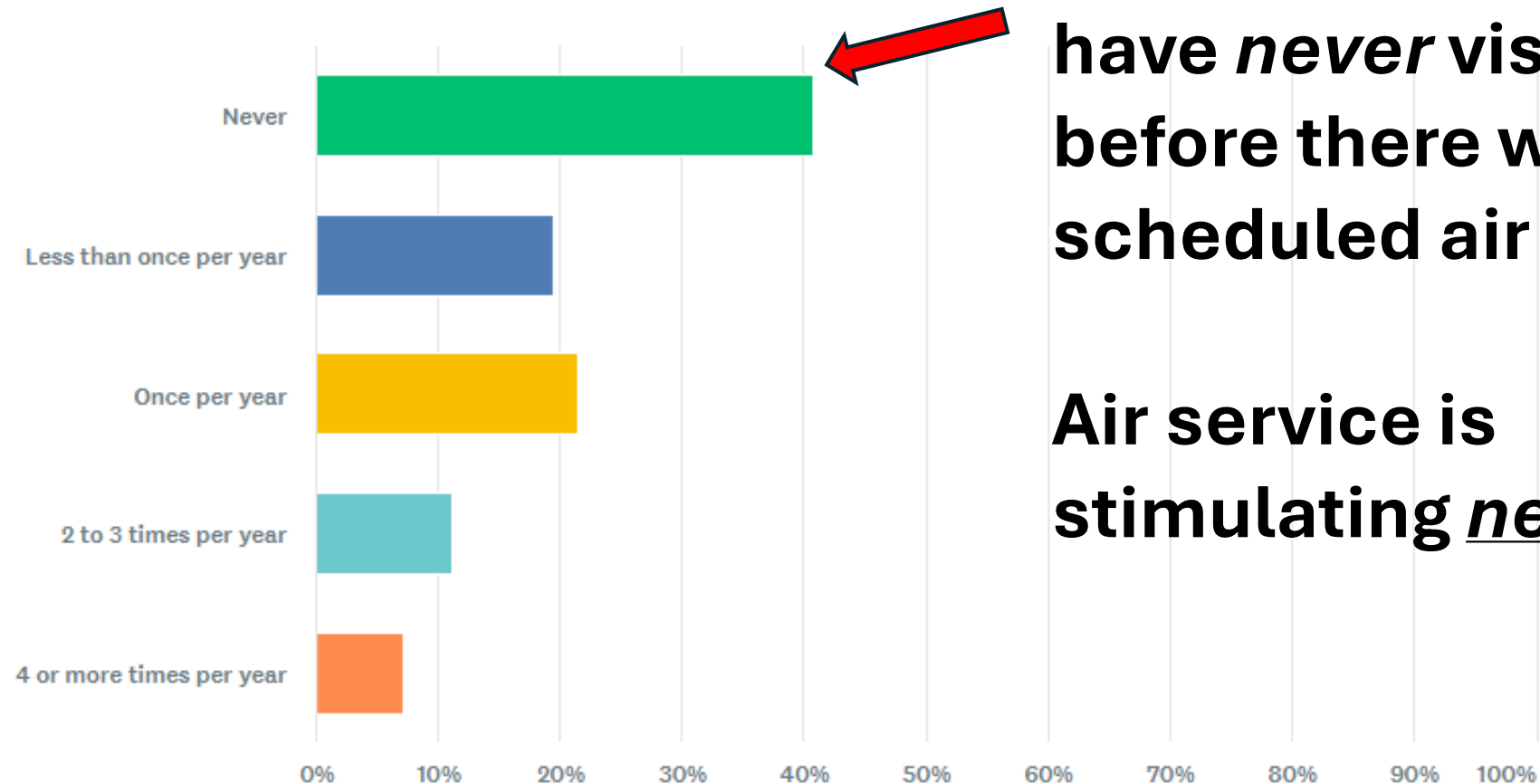
Outbound travel at a glance

License Plates in our Parking Lot



How often did you visit before there was commercial air service to Gulf Shores?

Answered: 98 Skipped: 40

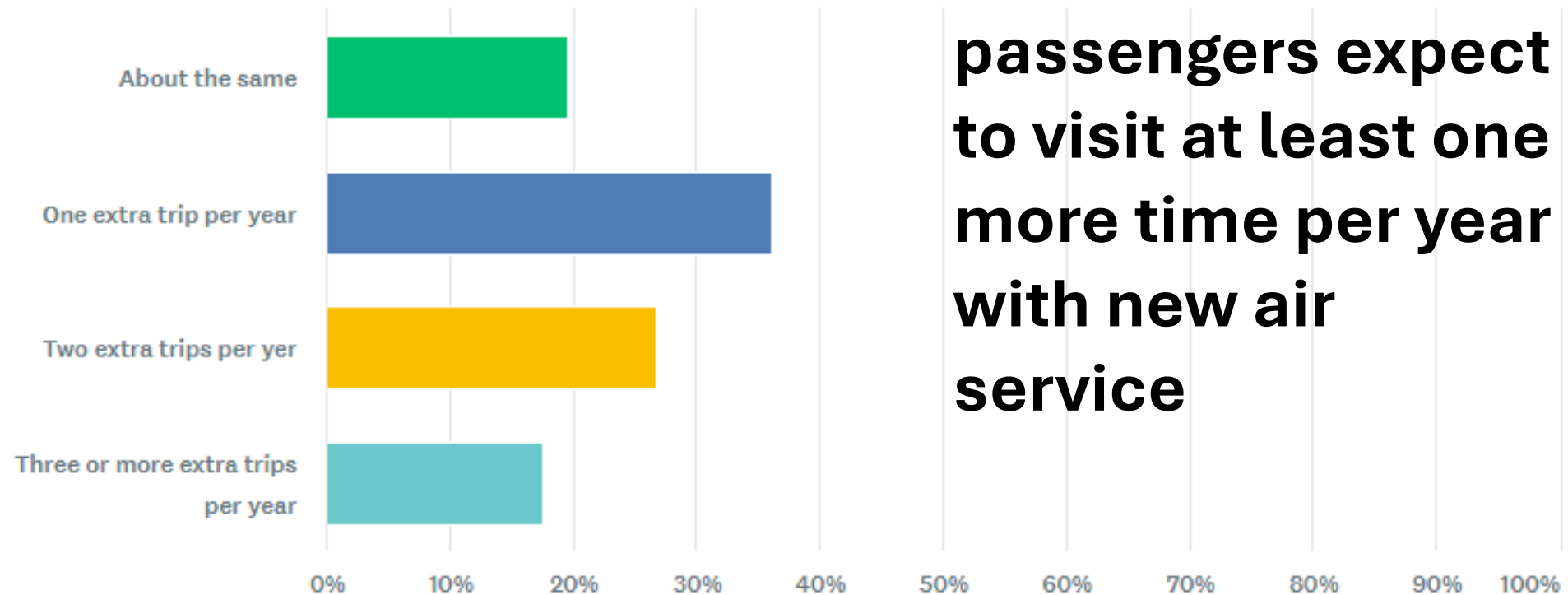


43% of air passengers have *never* visited before there was scheduled air service.

Air service is stimulating new visitors

How much more often per year do you expect to visit Gulf Shores/Orange Beach now that there is commercial air service to Gulf Shores?

Answered: 97 Skipped: 41



80% of air passengers expect to visit at least one more time per year with new air service

What our customers are saying.....

<  **Gulf Shores International Airport** ...
Dec 30, 2025 · 🌐

View 1 reply...



Suzanne Marguerite
Took it back in November for Thanksgiving (turkey on the beach I call it) from STL, was just wonderful, thx allegiant ! And to gulf shores international!!

3w Like Reply



Author
Gulf Shores International Airport
[Suzanne Marguerite](#) Thanks for flying through JKA! We hope to see you again soon! ✈️

2w Like Reply



JoDee Schober
Love your airport

3w Like Reply



Author
Gulf Shores International Airport
[JoDee Schober](#) 😊

3w Like Reply



Gulf Shores International Airport ...

Jan 12 · 🌐

2



  155

8 shares

Most relevant ▾



Kathleen Schanzmeyer Schwartze
Just experienced this airport and it was so convenient!

1w Like Reply



Author
Gulf Shores International Airport
[Kathleen Schanzmeyer Schwartze](#)
Thanks for flying through JKA! We hope to see you again soon! ✈️

1w Like Reply





Karla McKinnies

We flew down from Belleville in November & rented a car. It was so quick & easy. So much better than the 11+ hr drive. ❤️

4d Like Reply 2 👍



 Author

Gulf Shores International Airport
[Karla McKinnies](#) So happy to hear you had a great experience! ✈️ 😊

4d Like Reply 1 👍



Angie Haering ✓

Just flew home last night! The non-stop route to Cincinnati is the best! ✈️

2w Like Reply



 Author

Gulf Shores International Airport
[Angie Haering](#) Thanks for flying with us! ✈️

2w Like Reply



Jenna Geiser

That is a sweet flight! Easy in and out! Love that you are using ATW!

1w Like Reply



Margie Brendalen

Easiest airport in the US to get around.

5d Like Reply



Paige Coffman

I flew into gulf shores this past weekend and it was nothing short of fabulous! 🎉

2w Like Reply



Author

Gulf Shores International Airport

[Paige Coffman](#) Thanks for flying through JKA! We hope to see you again soon! ✈️

2w Like Reply



Leilani Gaspar Flynn

Midamerica (BLV) loves Gulf Shores! We've flown down 3 times since June plus another the end of February. It prompted us to purchase an RV lot at the [Grand Riviera Rv Resort](#) and keep our fifth wheel down there. Would love added days to the flight schedule!

Newest ▾



Rita Marie

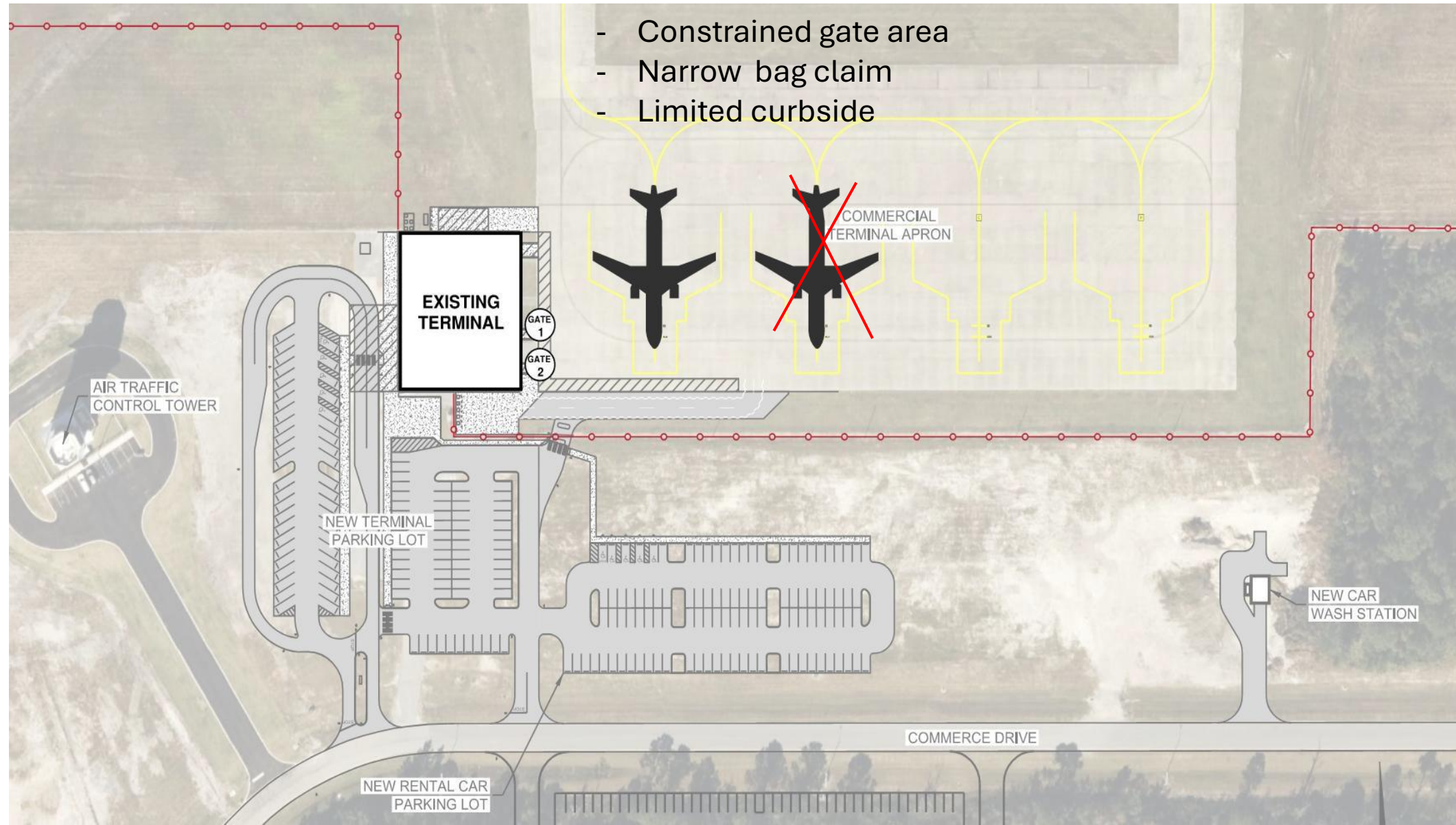
great flight! husband has used this several times. Please add Bloomington IL to that flight agenda.. WE LOVE GULF SHORES AND ORANGE BEACH!

Plans for Growth

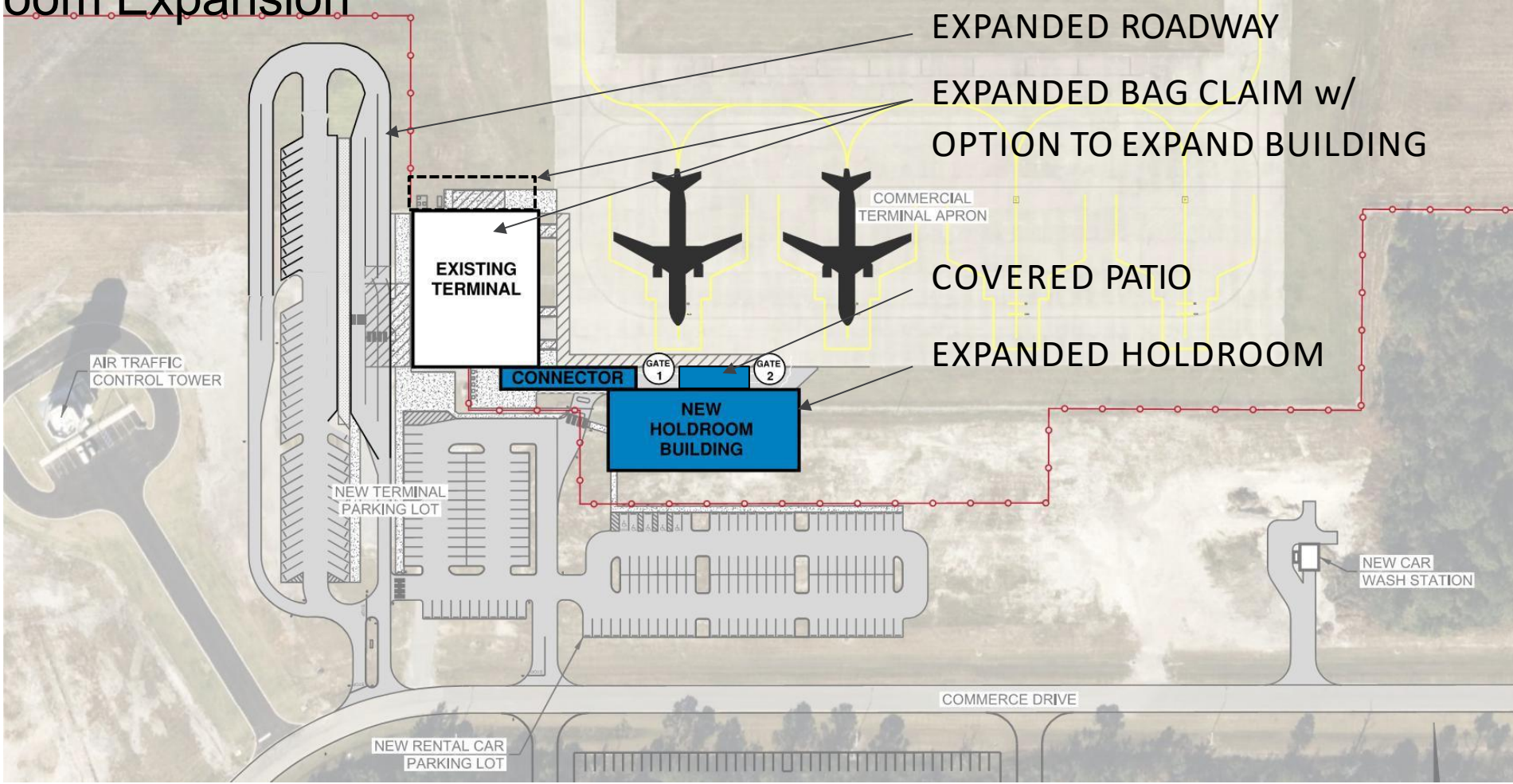
“We knew we were a baby, but ended up having ~~twins~~ triplets”



Existing Conditions Current Terminal

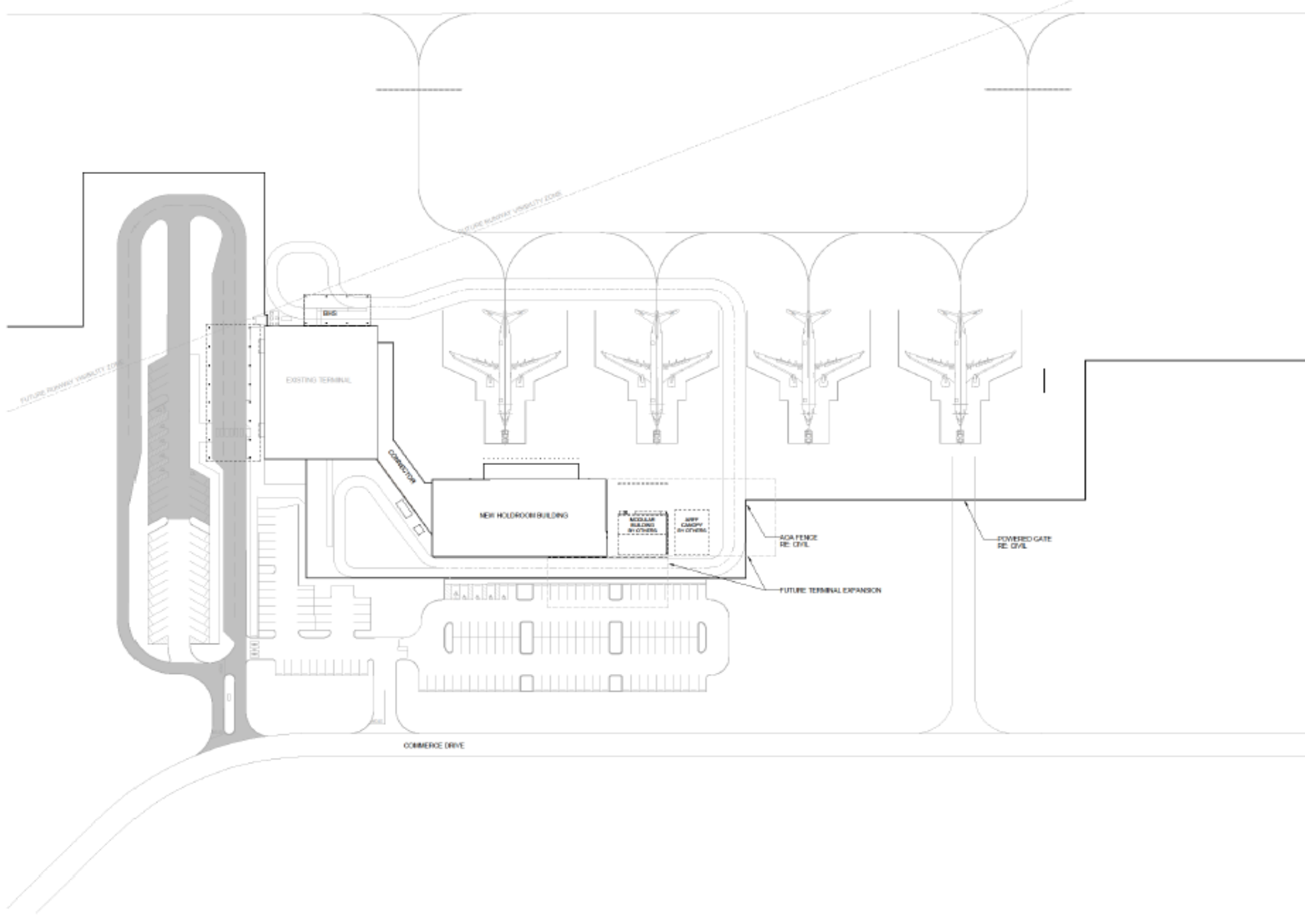


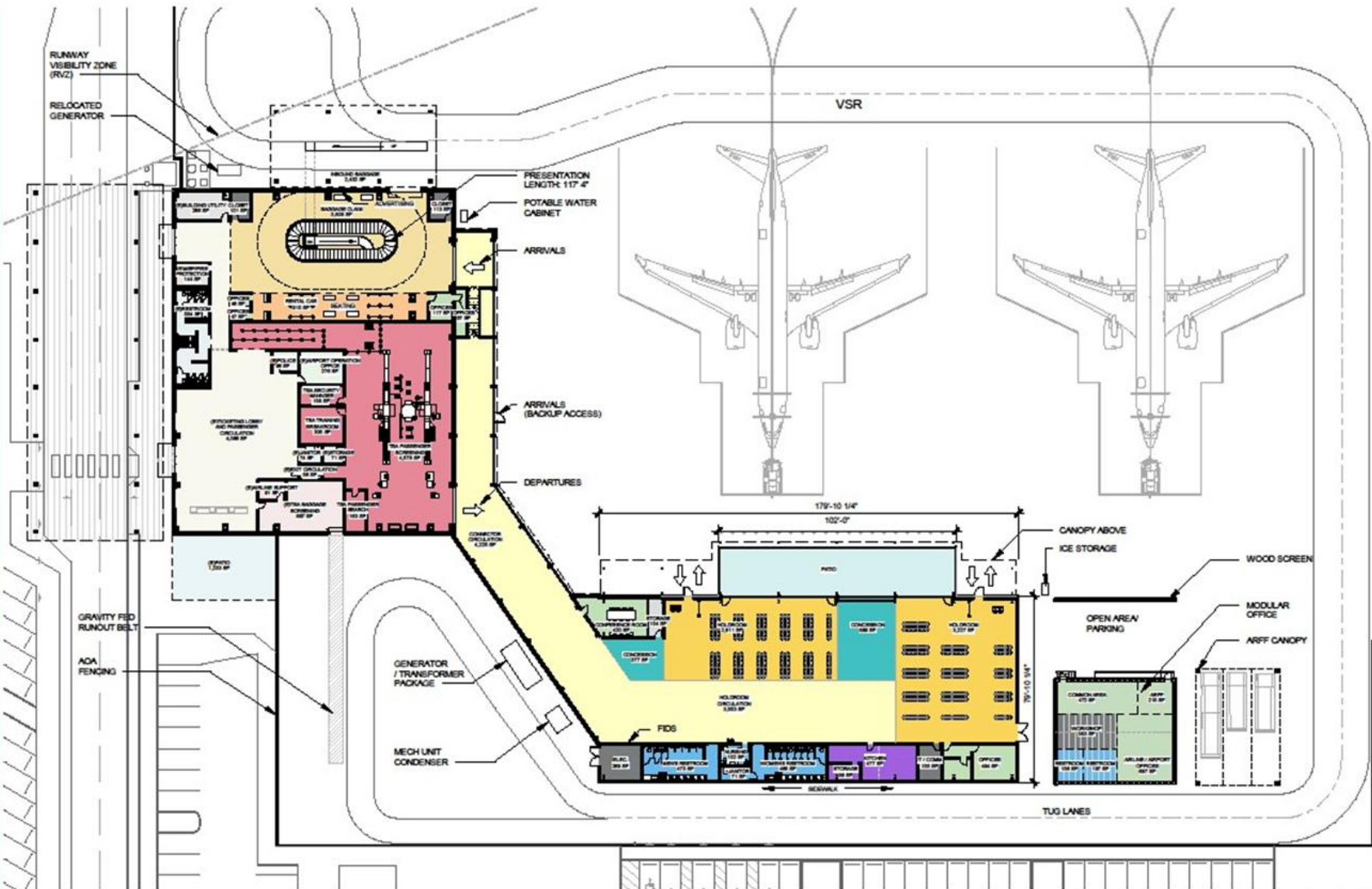
Terminal 1.5 Scope – 2 Gate Holdroom Expansion



Terminal 2.0 Scope – 4 Gate Potential Option 2







- DEPARTMENT**
- AIRLINE SUPPORT - TRAILER
 - AIRLINES OFFICES - EXISTING
 - BAGGAGE CLAIM
 - CIRCULATION
 - CIRCULATION - EXISTING
 - CONCESSIONS
 - CONCESSIONS SUPPORT
 - COUNTER
 - HOLDROOM
 - MEP
 - MEP - EXISTING
 - OFFICE
 - OFFICE - EXISTING
 - RESTROOM
 - RESTROOM - EXISTING
 - RESTROOM - TRAILER
 - STORAGE
 - STORAGE - EXISTING
 - TSA
 - TSA - EXISTING
 - UNENCLOSED SPACE
 - UNENCLOSED SPACE - EXISTING

NEW
20,759 SF

RENO
10,136 SF

GULF SHORES INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT TERMINAL 1.5
SCHEMATIC DESIGN
12/18/2025

1 FLOOR PLAN
SD1.5-2 SCALE: 1" = 40'-0"

FENTRESS
STUDIOS

A Populous Company

“Terminal 1.5” Renderings



Terminal 1.5

Outdoor Patio
Feature

“Terminal 1.5” Renderings



Terminal 1.5

New Passenger
Gate Holdrooms
and
Concessions

“Terminal 1.5” Renderings



Terminal 1.5

Outdoor Patio
Feature

“Terminal 1.5” Renderings

Project starting
Summer 2026,
completion of
May 2027

Terminal 1.5

Expanded
Passenger Pick-up
and Drop-Off

Two A-320 Aircraft
Simultaneous
Operation

\$25mm Total

Investment in
Facilities for
Commercial Air
Service



What's possible with
Allegiant service; a case
study

PGD – Punta Gorda, FL

Airport Comp – Punta Gorda, Florida (PGD)

- Allegiant began service at PGD in 2010; By 2015 they had over 300,000 enplanements
- Between 2015-2020 Allegiant passenger service increased to over 800,000 enplanements

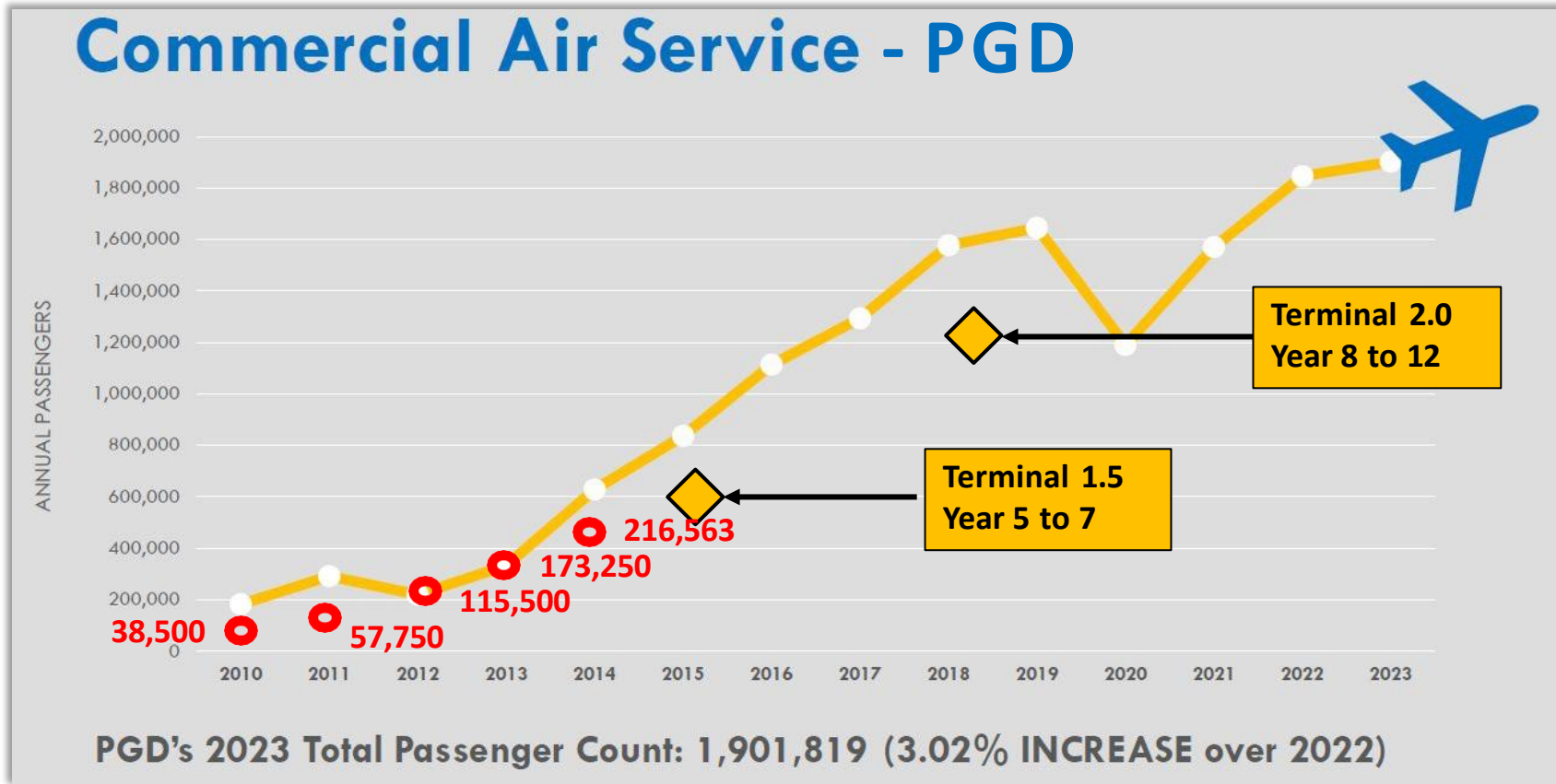


Chart shows total annual passengers. Divide by two for enplanements only

First 5 Years of Air Service

JKA Passenger Forecast
vs.
PGD Passenger Growth

JKA projected in five years to be at about 217,000 enplanements by 2029

Airport Comp - Punta Gorda, FL (PGD)



Punta Gorda started out with a simple terminal and maintained very low airline rates and charges <\$1

Their future “Terminal 1.5” and “Terminal 2” can be seen as the terminal was expanded to the left in the photo.





You don't need ***many*** airlines to have ***many*** routes

Allegiant now flies to **over 50 destinations** from Punta Gorda and will have over 1.2 million enplanements this year.

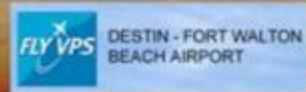
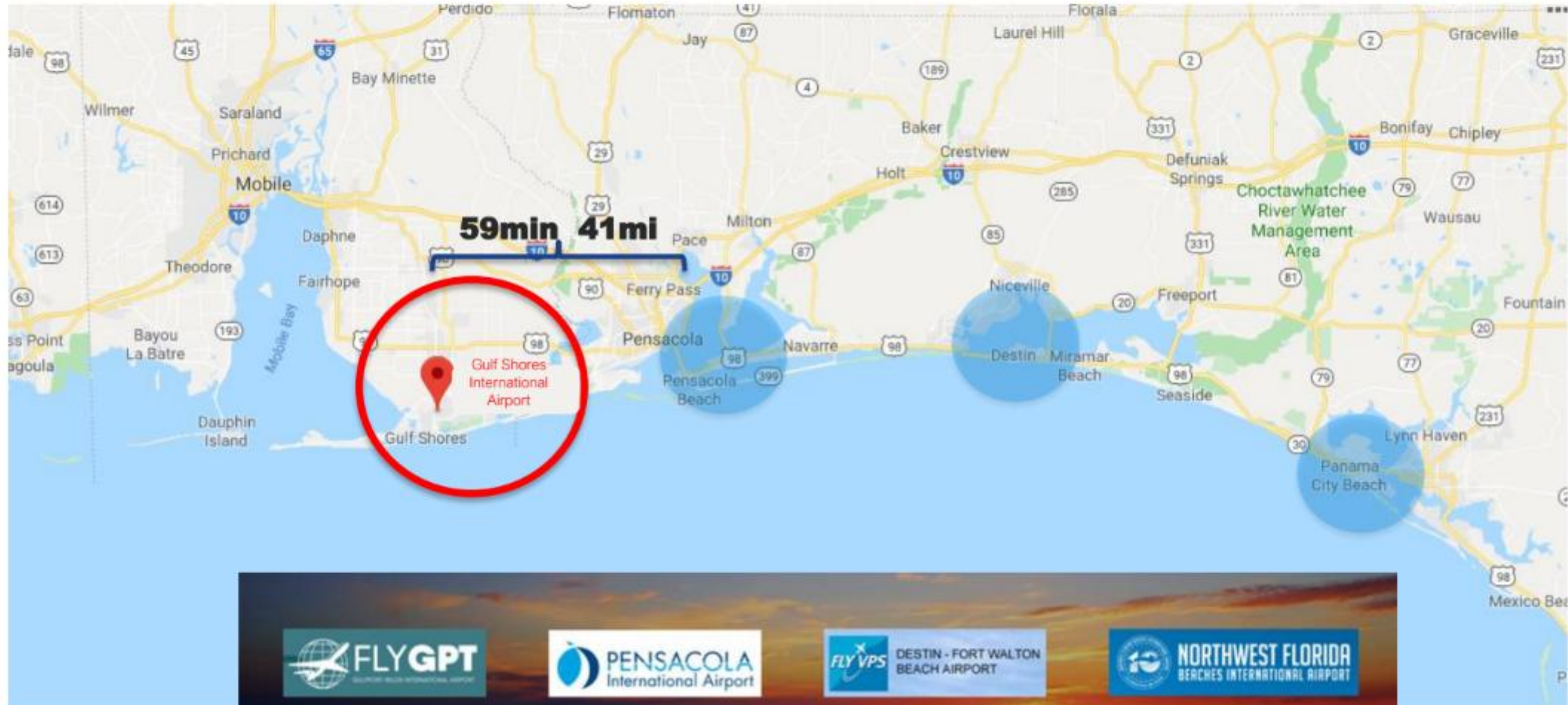
Charlotte County has a population of 206,000.

Allegiant crew base in our future???





~~LAST~~ THE NEXT MAJOR GULF COAST DESTINATION



Keys to our success

- We took the leap with infrastructure development
- Convenience, ease, and proximity of airport to the beach
- Excellent airline partner in Allegiant
- Nonstop routes vs. connecting routes
- Marketing Support through grant funds, Alabama's Beaches
- Support from our businesses community & unwavering commitment to your faith and family values

How can we keep it going?

- At *every* interaction, *every* setting, promote the airport and the air service
- If you want more air service, develop the air service you have (Use it or lose it)
 - A tale of Houston, TX and Belleville, IL.
- Educate customers (Digital Advertising, in-business advertising, word-of-mouth, share your stories with others)
- Know the value of air service
 - New visitors, More often, and stabilizing our economy.

Romans 8:28 “And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.”

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**Call, text, or email me
with any questions,
ideas, or business
opportunities at the
airport!**



Jesse Fosnaugh, A.A.E., ACE, MBA
Airport Director at Gulf Shores International
Airport (GUF/JKA)

