

WISCONSIN AIRPORT MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION
JANUARY 2024 NEWSLETTER



NEWSLETTER

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MESSAGE FROM WAMA'S PRESIDENT

Happy New Year from the Wisconsin Airport Management Association! It's time for us to reset and refocus on the goals and objectives that matter most to our members. Take some time to check out our first 2024 newsletter for more information about upcoming events and priorities your WAMA Board is working on. Stay safe out there on the roads or in the sky!

With warmest regards,

Jim Schell
Airport Director, Wittman Regional Airport

SAVE THE DATE, WAC OCT. 2-4 IN MADISON

Mark your calendars. The 68th Wisconsin Aviation Conference (WAC) is Oct. 2-4, at the Madison Marriott West in Middleton, WI. WAC was last in the Madison area over a decade ago.

The WAC Planning Committee is beginning its work this month. Please send any topic ideas to director@wiama.org.

Also, it is not too soon to reserve your hotel room for the event. Fall, this week in particular, is a busy time in Madison. See hotel details [HERE](#).

Be on the lookout for registration, sponsorship, and exhibitor information this spring.

We can't wait to see you in October!

WISDOT BIPARTISAN INFRASTRUCTURE LAW WEBINAR

On Wednesday, Jan. 24, from noon to 1:30 p.m., BOA will host a webinar to discuss Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) funds and how you can make the most of them at your airport.

This presentation is geared toward the non-primary general aviation airports, but there will also be valuable information for primary airports.

Registration for the webinar is required. Please share this webinar information with anyone who would benefit from participation. WisDOT is recording the presentation for people unable to attend for later viewing.

If you have any questions or have trouble registering, please don't hesitate to contact Mark Graczykowski at mark.graczykowski@dot.wi.gov.

[REGISTER NOW](#)

GOVERNOR SIGNS WILDLIFE NUISANCE BILL

On Dec. 6, Governor Evers signed WAMA-spearheaded state legislation codifying nuisance wildlife management at airports. See Act 51 [HERE](#).

Control of nuisance wildlife is crucial to safe operations at the state's airports. Act 51 provides exceptions to state statutes, which limit the ability of designated personnel to manage nuisance wildlife at a public-use airport or an airport under the exclusive control of the National Guard or U.S. Department of Defense.

THANKS, BEST WISHES TO IAN TURNER

La Crosse Regional Airport Director Ian Turner has accepted a position to run the Idaho Falls Regional Airport. This move brings Ian and his family closer to his roots in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, and their extended family members.

Ian was the airport director in La Crosse for 4½ years. During this time, he was also involved with WAMA, serving on the board and the executive committee. Ian is currently WAMA's treasurer.

Please join WAMA's board members in thanking Ian for his contributions to the association and wishing him and his family all the best in this new endeavor.

Ian's last day at La Crosse Regional Airport is Jan. 17.

FAA REAUTHORIZATION AND OTHER UPDATES

Before the Dec. 31 expiration of the Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA) statutory authorities, Congress passed a second short-term extension of aviation excise taxes, spending authority, and policies. The measure was signed into law by President Biden.

The new extension ([H.R. 6503](#)) runs from Jan. 1 through March 8, following a three-month extension from Sept. 1 to Dec. 31, 2023.

FY 2024 Appropriations Bills

As the deadlines loom, Congress must still wrap up twelve unfinished fiscal year (FY) 2024 appropriations bills. The current continuing resolution (CR) has two expiration dates - Jan. 19 and Feb. 2, with transportation in the earlier tranche.

According to news stories, congressional leaders have reached a deal to avert a partial government shutdown this week by kicking the deadlines to March 1 and 8. This stopgap funding measure would be the third CR since fiscal 2023 funding expired in September last year.

AIRPORTS IN THE NEWS

If your airport has been in the news and you would like us to share the story, email a link to: director@wiama.org.

[50k+ passengers at the Chippewa Valley Regional Airport in 2023](#), WEAU-13 News, Jan. 10

[Airports rush to keep flights on time while dealing with lots of snow](#), WSAW-TV, Jan. 9

[Airport director Ian Turner leaves La Crosse to lead Idaho airport, search for new director underway](#), La Crosse Tribune, Jan. 8

[What will it cost you to fly from Green Bay or Appleton to Dallas for Packers playoff game?](#) Green Bay Gazette, Jan. 8

[Milwaukee Airport reports 11% increase in November passenger traffic](#), Milwaukee Business Journal, Jan. 5

[Pistons & Props comes to Southern Wisconsin Regional Airport in July](#), WCLO, Jan. 2

[Holiday travelers find serenity amidst anticipated chaos at Milwaukee's Mitchell International Airport](#), Spectrum News 1, Dec. 31

[Southern Wisconsin Regional Airport hosts 2024 SAFECON event](#), WCLO, Dec. 29

[Non-stop flights from Green Bay to popular Florida destinations set to return](#), FOX 11 News, Dec. 27

[New flights are leaving Milwaukee Mitchell International Airport in 2024](#), Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, Dec. 26

[Smooth travels for those flying into Madison Christmas Day](#), Channel 3000, Dec. 25

[Busiest holiday travel season in years is off to a smooth start with few airport delays](#), Spectrum News 1, Dec. 23

[Dane County Regional Airport ready for holiday travel rush](#), WKOW-27, Dec. 22

[Holiday traveling reaches all-time highs at Dane County Regional Airport](#), Channel 3000, Dec. 22

[A horse stable helped a Wisconsin airport \(Appleton\) announce a new nonstop flight](#), WTMJ-4, Dec. 19

[Airport plans to repair, replace taxiways](#), Urban Milwaukee, Dec.19

[La Crosse has second-best record for reliability among large airports in U.S., according to survey](#), WIZM, Dec. 17

[Green Bay Austin Straubel International Airport and Delta celebrate 95-year partnership](#), WTAQ, Dec.15

[Airport gets federal funds for runway rehab](#), Urban Milwaukee, Dec. 13

[Wisconsin airports receiving more than \\$38M for upgrades](#), WAOW, Dec. 1

[5 changes travelers can expect from the \\$66M Appleton airport expansion](#), Appleton Post-Crescent, November 29

[Milwaukee airport surpasses 5 million passengers](#), Milwaukee Business Journal, Nov. 29

[Post-Thanksgiving travel at Mitchell Airport goes smoothly despite snow](#), WTMJ4-TV, Nov. 26

[La Crosse Regional Airport stays busy with Thanksgiving travel](#), News 8000, Nov. 22

[Dane County Regional Airport adds more seasonal flights to warm weather cities](#), Wisconsin State Journal, Nov. 22

[Hunters and Thanksgiving travelers fill flights at Central Wisconsin Airport](#), WSAW-TV, Nov. 21

[Milwaukee airport concourse roof project will get \\$5.1M from feds](#), Daily Reporter, Nov. 21

[Surge in Thanksgiving travelers at Appleton International Airport](#), WBAY, Nov. 21

[Allegiant expands Appleton airport schedule with flights to New York City metro area](#), Appleton Post-Crescent, Nov. 17

[Milwaukee airport nears 5M passengers this year, expects growth through end of year](#), Spectrum News 1, Nov. 10

[Dane County Regional Airport adds Breeze Airways, direct flights to Tampa and Orlando](#), Wisconsin State Journal, Nov. 8

[Orlando flight a big hit at Central Wisconsin Airport](#), WEAU, Nov. 8

[Southwest to add direct flights from Milwaukee to San Diego](#), WISN ABC 12, Oct 27

[Airport Finishes LED Lighting Project](#), Urban Milwaukee, Oct. 25

[Airport must improve security system](#), Urban Milwaukee, Oct. 17

[Soaring into the future: Appleton Flight Center celebrates 10 years of innovation](#), NBC-26 Northeast Wisconsin, Oct. 12

[Sheep thrills at Appleton Airport](#), Flying Magazine, October 10

[American Airlines begins daily nonstop flights to Washington D.C.](#), Urban Milwaukee, Oct. 6

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