Phase 1 has a big impact in Tampa Bay

The Rental Car Center is almost finished. The SkyConnect train is undergoing final testing. Most of the new concessions are open and serving guests.

Phase 1 of Tampa International Airport’s Master Plan expansion is nearly complete and the results – and the economic impact to the region – are tremendous.

“This project not only benefits our guests, but it benefits our community as a whole,” said Airport CEO Joe Lopano. “We are committed to growing as our region grows so we can better serve our passengers while also helping Tampa Bay prosper and thrive.”

Since the groundbreaking in late 2014, more than 10,500 people have logged more than 5.7 million hours transforming nearly every corner of the Airport campus. Workers have created more capacity on the Airport roads and in the terminals, adding modern amenities and providing economic opportunities for businesses throughout Tampa Bay and Florida.

As of January 2018, roughly 600 companies have worked on the job. Of those, about 90 percent are based in Florida or have regional offices in the state and nearly 200 are women, minority or disadvantaged enterprises. With some elements of the project still to go, Tampa International has already surpassed its initial goal of spending $122.8 million with woman- and minority-owned companies. To date, the Airport has paid $153.6 million with a total commitment of about $180 million.

“Our local contractors have been a crucial part of our Phase 1 expansion,” said Executive Vice President of Facilities and Administration Al Illustrato. “This is Tampa Bay’s airport and it is important that we involve the community at every step – from concept to completion.”

A series of outreach and networking events involved the general public in the planning stages and helped bring in Bay area companies to handle some of the heaviest lifts.

Morrow Steel, a Zephyrhills-based fabricator and erector, installed much of the structural steel for the Main Terminal expansion. West Tampa Glass hung all of the glass panels for the Main Terminal and the three SkyConnect stations. Architectural Tile and Marble, based in Tampa, laid all the tile for the Main Terminal, the SkyConnect stations and the Rental Car Center customer service building.

The list of local companies also includes L.A. Design, which designed the landscaping; Borrell Electric, which managed electrical work; site developers McKenzie Contracting; and design-builders Kimmins Contracting, and Cone & Graham, which built a new taxiway bridge and redeveloped Airport roads.

New concessions! TPA’s concessions redevelopment is 80 percent complete.

Employee Spotlight
Trudy Brandvold is a marketing machine!

In the News
TPA is looking to build upon a year of major air service announcements.

TPA BY THE NUMBERS
27,825 bags
TPA’s outbound baggage system processed 27,825 bags on Dec. 28 - the second busiest day of the calendar year.
Employee Spotlight: Trudy Brandvold

While she and her husband raised two boys in her home state of Minnesota, Trudy Brandvold was always the mother that had a houseful of teenagers who looked up to her as a “second mom,” she said. She loved cooking for them, joking around with them and being there if needed for the 10 or more kids that were always hanging around in the basement or kitchen with her sons.

She also owned and ran a coffee shop in Princeton, Minn., called Coffee Corner, which often set up booths and kiosks at various town festivals and grad night events. It was a lovely life … but very, very cold in the winter, particularly for Trudy’s husband who worked outdoors as a glazier who fit glass into windows and doors.

“We got very tired of the weather and wanted to be somewhere warmer,” said Trudy, who was born and raised in International Falls, Minn., nicknamed the “Icebox of the Nation.”

About four years ago, the Brandvolds visited Georgia to see their younger son, Rory, who was graduating from Army boot camp and then visited a cousin in the Tampa Bay area. Shortly after, they decided to sell the coffee shop and move down themselves.

Trudy, her husband Guy and their younger son Rory settled in Spring Hill, where they still live, while their oldest son Trevor stayed in Minnesota. After a few months of not working, Trudy was at the DMV office one day and mentioned to a woman handling her car registration that she was looking for a job. The woman had told her that Tampa International Airport was a good place to work and to check there.

In December 2014, Trudy began working as a temporary administrative assistant in the Marketing Department at TPA, and by the following summer, she was a full-time part of the team. Trudy supports the department with Oracle requisitions and other duties but also has a heavy hand in coordinating and planning the annual TPA 5K on the Runway and helping with other events such as air service launches and ribbon cuttings throughout the year.

“I really enjoy it,” Trudy said. “It’s always very busy and interesting, and you never know what you’re going to be doing from day to day. It’s just a really great team and I love the people I work with.”

Trudy loves reading and taps into her more creative side by knitting and crocheting in her free time. She and her husband of 28 years recently began traveling more now that their sons are grown.

“One of our goals when we moved down here was to be able to do more things together,” Trudy said.

The couple still visits Minnesota once or twice a year when they have the chance, and Trudy still sees some of her other “children” she watched grow over the years.

“...it’s always very busy and interesting, and you never know what you’re going to be doing from day to day.”

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JANUARY 19th
4:30 pm to 6:30 pm
Main Terminal between Airsides A and C
Senior Manager of Airport Concessions Nina Mahoney, VP of Airport Concessions Laurie Noyes and Director of Commercial Parking Roop Johal join concessionaire SSP on Nov. 29 to build bikes for hundreds of needy children.

Director of Service Development Kenneth Strickland visited Dublin on Nov. 15 to visit with Aer Lingus about new air service opportunities.

New spa, retail locations now open at TPA

With the addition of four new retail options, TPA has now opened 80 percent of all the new concessions.

Tampa International Airport's comprehensive concessions redevelopment is nearing completion. With 2017 coming to an end, TPA's concessionaires have opened 55 of 69 new shops and restaurants – nearly 80 percent complete.

The most recent new options include two new retail options in the Main Terminal and two new Airside spas – the first-ever spa locations at Tampa International. In the Main Terminal, Mindworks/Tampa Bay Sports opened on Dec. 22, and Tampa Life opened on Dec. 23. Terminal Getaway Spa Tampa opened its Airside C location on Dec. 23 and its Airside F location on Dec. 29. Spa locations will soon come to Airside A and Airside E.

Work progresses on two outdoor courtyards

Looking for a quiet space to escape for a few minutes? Tampa International is building just the place.

Located just between the Main Terminal and the new SkyConnect station on the ticketing level, TPA is constructing two new outdoor courtyards – complete with comfortable seating, beautiful landscaping and large stone fountains.

This photo shows the layout of the north courtyards. Landscaping will go inside the concrete structures, while the rest of the space will be open, with room for benches and the fountains.

Crews are currently building two outdoor courtyards, including the northeast courtyard pictured above. The space will be a quiet place to relax.
TPA is looking to add new destinations following a year of major air service wins.

From the Tampa Bay Business Journal, Dec. 8:
New nonstop service to San Diego is already on the horizon in 2018. Read about TPA’s other recent air service additions and the exciting destinations on Tampa’s New Year’s wish list in the Tampa Bay Business Journal.

From TravelBank.com, Dec. 12:
Tampa International Airport has the fourth-cheapest parking rates in the country, according to a recent study by TravelBank. The study compared parking rate averages for options including Short Term and Economy. Read more about the survey results on TravelBank.com.

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