

REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION

HENDERSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

MEETING DATE: July 20, 2016

SUBJECT: Asheville Airport Update

PRESENTER: Lew Bleiweis

ATTACHMENTS: Yes
1) 2015 Airport Highlights

SUMMARY OF REQUEST:

Lew Bleiweis, Airport Director at the Asheville Regional Airport, will provide an update to the Board of Commissioners on the Asheville Airport.

BOARD ACTION REQUESTED:

No action is requested. The presentation is for information purposes.

Suggested Motion:

No motion suggested.



Greater Asheville Regional Airport Authority
2015 Highlights





2015 Highlights

a glance at the high notes of a historic year



a note from the executive director



2015 was a noteworthy year for Asheville Regional Airport – one for our history books. From a record year of passengers and the addition of a new airline base of operations, to the commissioning of temporary runway 17-35 (a major milestone in Project SOAR, our 4-phase airfield redevelopment project), “growth” was the theme of our year.

Enjoy this brief look at the highlights of accomplishments during 2015. As always, I thank all of Western North Carolina for their loyalty and support of AVL. We are our region's local airport, and will continue to work diligently to ensure this important asset serves our region well for years to come.

Lew Bleiweis, A.A.E.
Executive Director
Asheville Regional Airport



Authority Board

Greater Asheville Regional Airport Authority
board members and appointments



Bob Roberts Chair —
City of Asheville appointment

K. Ray Bailey Vice Chair —
GARAA Board appointment

Stephanie Pace Brown Member —
City of Asheville appointment

Matthew Burril Member —
Buncombe County appointment

William Moyer Member —
Henderson County appointment

Jeffrey Piccirillo Member —
Buncombe County appointment

Andrew Tate Member —
Henderson County appointment



Air Service Overview

a few slices of "RECORD BREAKING YEAR" pie



TOTAL number of passengers served in 2015 —

787,037

breaking the previous record of 756,425 set in 2014

INCREASE in total number of airline seats —

8%

LEGACY CARRIERS market share —

69%

of all air service was provided by legacy carriers

LEGACY CARRIERS

Delta.....**34%**

American.....**28%**

United.....**7%**



Air Service Overview

a few slices of "RECORD BREAKING YEAR" pie

Allegiant, the ultra-low cost carrier servicing Asheville Regional Airport, established AVL as a base of operations on September 1, 2015. The base favorably positioned AVL for future growth. Allegiant based two planes at the airport, crews, and a maintenance facility, providing 40+ new jobs in the region to accommodate the base. The community of western North Carolina has embraced Allegiant. Throughout 2015, Allegiant offered non-stop flights to five Florida destinations; Orlando, St. Petersburg, Ft. Lauderdale, Puta Gorda, and Palm Beach. Allegiant increased the number and frequency of flights to their Florida destinations during 2015.

25.5% increase of Allegiant enplanements
(compared to 2014)

31% of passengers were served by Allegiant



Facility and Infrastructure Growth

the theme was NEW and MORE



NEW entrance — Main entrance completed and opened.

NEW digital entrance sign — In April 2015, the new entrance sign made its debut. It is a focal point of the new main entrance. The new sign boasts an LED display, on both sides, that advertises different airport happenings and other information. The completion of the new sign was an exciting addition to the face of the airport. It is the first thing that greets AVL travelers and those passing by. It also stands as a tangible part of all the monumental things happening at AVL from another record breaking year to Project SOAR.

MORE parking — AVL opened an additional long term credit card parking lot to help manage the increase of passenger vehicles in 2015.



Project SOAR

one mile of runway, or future taxiway,
will take you anywhere



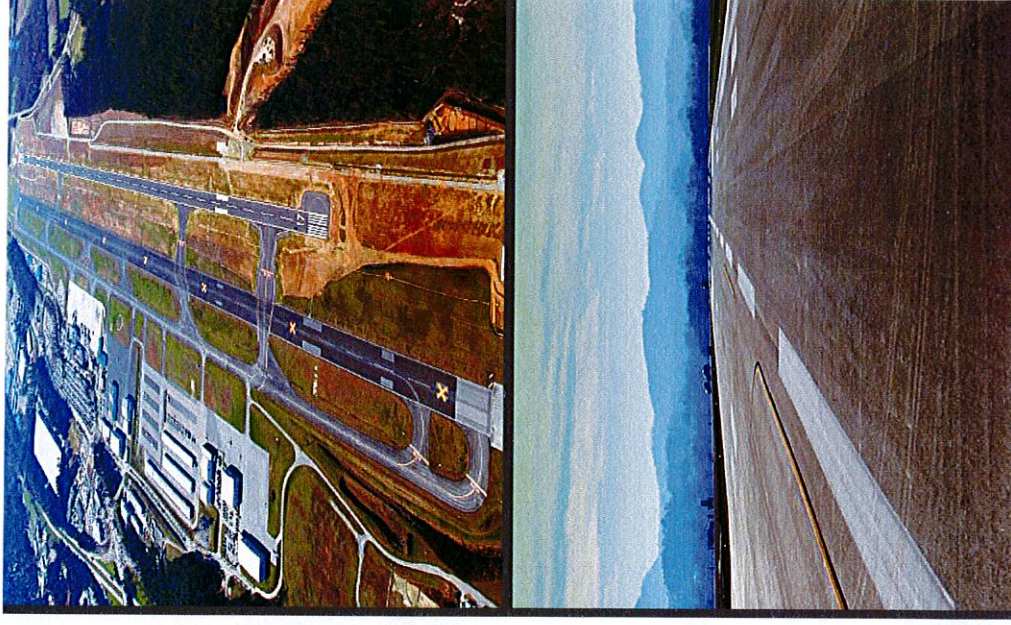
Project SOAR advancement — The 4-Phase | 5-Year airfield redevelopment project, Project SOAR, is the most significant construction project since the airport was built and opened in 1961. It was a big year for Project SOAR in 2015, with the completion of Phase I early in the year, along with beginning and completing Phase II of the project.

HELLO — (temporary) RUNWAY 17/35

On December 10, 2015, temporary runway 17/35 (future permanent taxiway), was commissioned. The commissioning was right on schedule, meeting a project deadline set two years in advance.

GOODBYE — RUNWAY 16/34

2015 marked the final year of operation for runway 16/34 at AVL. The runway was permanently decommissioned, as part of Phase II of Project SOAR, on December 10, 2015.



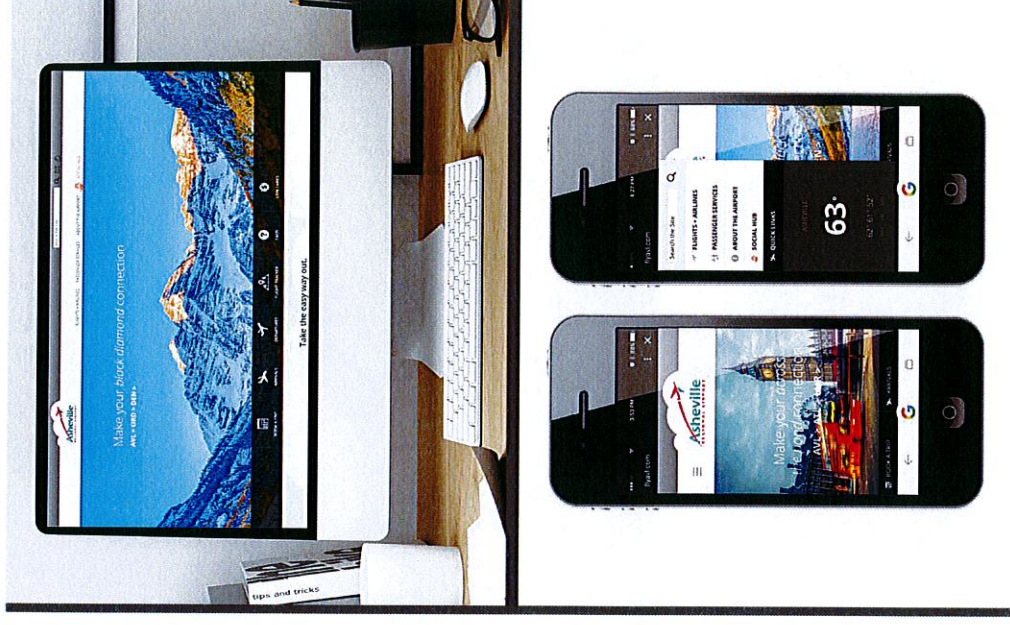
Airport Industry Leadership & Awards

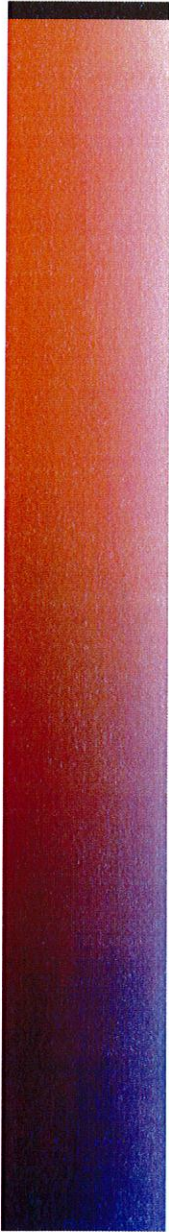
keys to success, hard work and dedication —
international awards are nice, too



WEBSITE received international recognition —

AVL's website, **flyavl.com**, underwent a total redesign and new development. Airports Council International - North America (ACI-NA) recognized excellence in airport marketing and communications at their annual Marketing and Communications Conference in November, 2015. Three airport websites received awards: Lynden Pindling International Airport in Nassau (Bahamas) - top winner; Montréal-Pierre Elliott Trudeau International Airport (Canada) and **Asheville Regional Airport** (North Carolina) - honorable mention winners.





Airport Industry Leadership & Awards

AVL leaders taking off at home and spreading wings throughout the industry

Lew S. Bleiweis, A.A.E.

Executive Director —

Elected as Airports Council International-World Governing Board Regional Advisor

Michael A. Reisman, A.A.E.

Deputy Executive Director —

Served on the Board of Directors of the Southeast Chapter of the American Association of Airport Executives

Tina Kinsey, A.A.E.

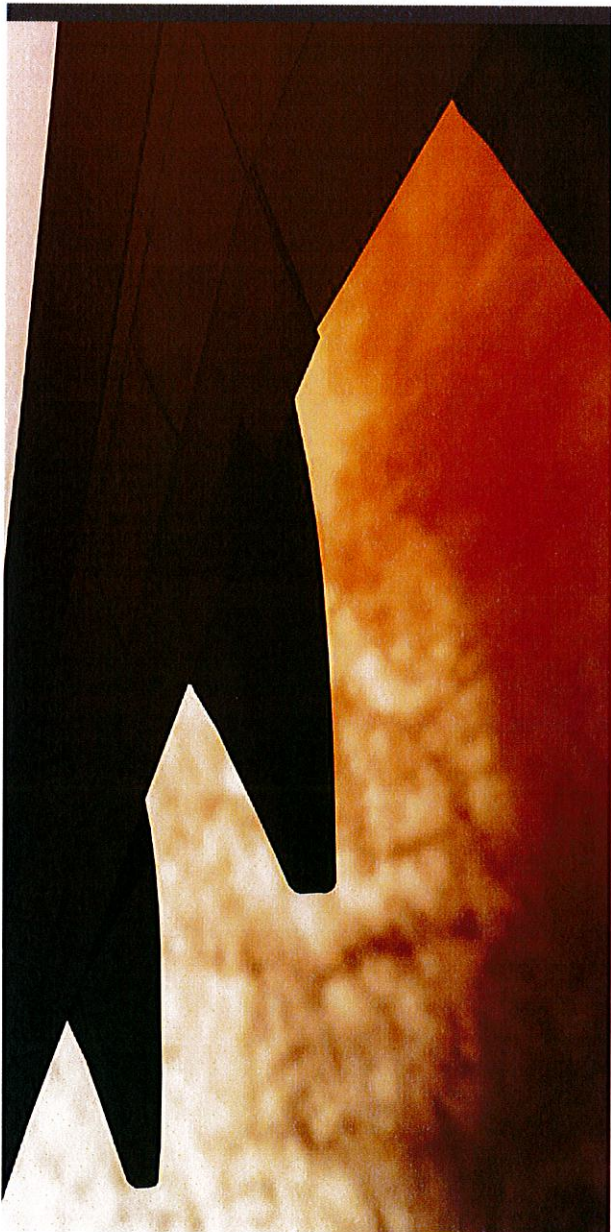
Director of Marketing, Public Relations and Air Service Development —

Elected to the North Carolina Airports Association Board

David Nantz

Safety Manager —

Received National Safety Certification





Department of Public Safety

perpetually honing our focus on operating a safe airport

SAFETY training —

The airport hosted a region-wide disaster drill in May 2015, using the National Incident Management System (NIMS). The disaster drill allowed NIMS-certified airport employees and regional emergency workers to implement their FEMA training in a mock crisis.

OPERATION MEDICINE DROP event —

In an effort to provide a safe, secure way for residents of western North Carolina to dispose of potentially dangerous expired, unused or unwanted prescription medications, Asheville Regional Airport Department of Public Safety and the Partnership for Substance Free Students in Buncombe County hosted a drop-off event in September, 2015. The event was a success and recieved the highest number of drop-offs, in one day, in Buncombe County.



Community Connections

from mainstreet to runway, we're proud to be part of our thriving WNC community



Economic Development Coalitions

Asheville-Buncombe County Economic Development Coalition
Henderson County Partnership for Economic Development
Carolina West

Chambers of Commerce

Business After Hours Sponsor for Asheville
Business After Hours Sponsor for Hendersonville

The Arts

Sponsor of the Flat Rock Playhouse theatrical production of "Fly"
Continued success with the internal Art in the Airport program

Children's Museum

Sponsor of Hand's On! — A Child's Gallery Summer Educational Series "Take Flight"

Aviation Partners

WNC Air Museum
WNC Pilots Association
Landmark Aviation

Local Team

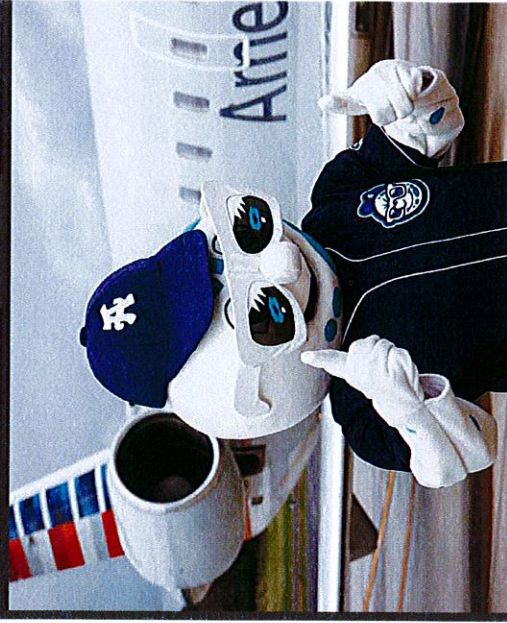
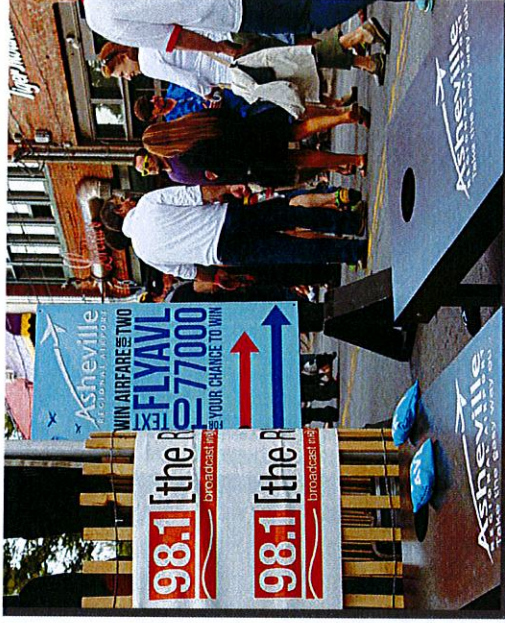
Strategic Sponsorship with the
Asheville Tourists baseball team

Festival

Downtown After 5 Asheville,
Summer 2015

Rotary

"House of Friendship" District
7670 sponsor



Financial Overview

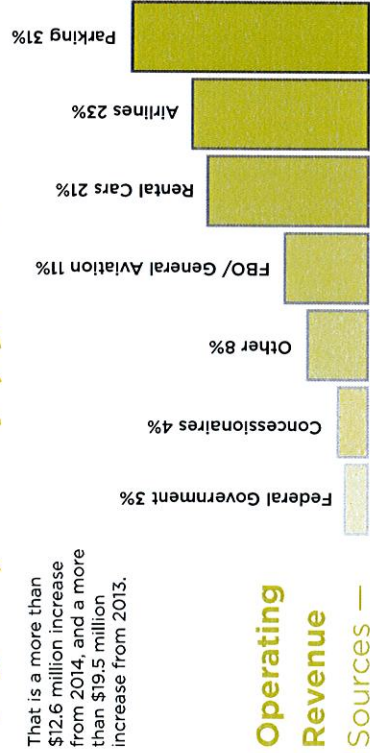
a snapshot of the fiscal year (ending June 30, 2015)

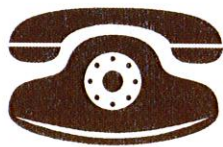


The Authority's assets exceeded liabilities by \$98,207,986 at June 30, 2015.

\$98,207,986

That is a more than \$12.6 million increase from 2014, and a more than \$19.5 million increase from 2013.





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