



Welcome to On The Horizon, Southwest Oregon Regional Airport's newsletter. Our goal is to keep you up-to-date on airport activities, get to know our tenants better, and tell you more about airport operations. We appreciate any suggestions you may have regarding stories, updates, or questions we can answer for you. Feel free to reach out...Stephanie (stephanie@flyoth.com)

Board Hires New Airport Executive Director



Rodger Craddock was recently appointed as the new Executive Director at Southwest Oregon Regional Airport. Rodger has deep roots on the south coast, working in Coos County for more than 30 years. He started as a Reserve Police Officer for the Coos Bay Police Department in 1991, ultimately becoming a full-time officer. Rodger held several positions including a Field Training Officer, K-9 Officer, Watch Commander, Sergeant, and Captain, eventually serving as the Chief of Police from 2008 to 2009.

Rodger then became the City Manager for Coos Bay in 2009 and held that position for almost 14 years. His duties included handling the city's multi-million-dollar budget, personnel management, serving as the city council's chief advisor, and overseeing the day-to-day operations of the city. A major goal of his was to bring development and economic progress to the Coos Bay area while fostering positive communications and building relationships.

Rodger holds an Associate of Science degree in Criminal Justice, a Bachelor of Science degree in Criminal Justice Administration, and a Master of Business Administration degree with an emphasis in Public Administration. He is a member of many organizations, including the International City/County Management Association, South Coast Development Council, CCD Business Development, and Visitor and Convention Bureau.

Rodger will be responsible for managing the airports' \$19 million budget and 619 acres of airside and landside property. Those include leased properties that house the Oregon State Police, UPS,





Bureau of Land Management, and the Department of Human Services. He will oversee all financial aspects of the airport, including programs and developments.

The Coos County Airport District (CCAD) board of commissioners also acknowledges the work of Theresa Cook who was instrumental in changing the look and function of the airport district during her 14 years as Executive Director. Those include the construction of the main Commercial Hangar, Aircraft Rescue and Fire Fighting station, Airport Ramp Expansion, and the Department of Human Services Multi-

Service Building. She was also instrumental in updating lighting on the airfield and securing building ownership on property owned by the district, including the Bureau of Land Management offices and the North Bend Recreational and Senior Activity Center.

Aircraft Rescue and Firefighting Station Now Open



The new Aircraft Rescue and Firefighting (ARFF) station has been completed and crews and apparatus have moved into the large modern building. The station has four bays to house all three airport fire trucks and a support trailer. It also has storage for fire and training equipment, turnouts, and other apparatus.

It has offices, sleeping quarters, storage rooms, and a video training room.



As a commercial airport, the Southwest Oregon Regional Airport maintains strict firefighting requirements written and enforced by the Federal Aviation Administration. Fire personnel employed by the airport district are fully certified and trained to respond to aviation fires and as first responders to general medical emergencies. Firefighters must recertify each year at a





“live burn” facility, typically in Texas and Montana. On-going drills and training help fire personnel maintain knowledge and familiarity with all aspects of the job.

The former fire station was built in the 1950s and was used until it was demolished in 2021. Construction on the new station began in the summer of 2020. \$6.5 million of FAA discretionary funds helped pay for the construction of

the multi-million-dollar project. The station will be a great benefit to the commercial and general aviation communities that service the airport.

United Commercial Passenger Traffic Remains High

As expected during the summer peak travel season, United Airlines is reporting high passenger numbers.

The July Passenger Load Factor was 86 percent for Denver (DEN) and 83 percent for San Francisco (SFO). Commercial air service includes flights to



SFO daily and non-stop flights to DEN on Wednesdays and Sundays. Daily flights to San Francisco can be booked through October. It will then switch back to its off-peak schedules. The Denver route is in effect through September. The passenger experience still includes the spacious and comfortable 76-passenger Embraer-175. As always, parking is free when you fly OTH. Be sure to book your tickets today at www.united.com.

Schedule, aircraft, and times are subject to change due to a variety of factors. Check www.United.com for any additional information. As a friendly reminder, SkyWest recommends all travelers arrive at the airport at least 90 minutes before scheduled departure, especially if bags are to be checked. Strict checked bag cut-off

Airport Terminal Access Changes



To ease congestion in front of the Southwest Oregon Regional Airport terminal, crews from Knife River Materials removed a circular roundabout and two smaller parking lot islands. They were originally installed for aesthetic and guidance purposes and to allow for a parking payment system. Instead, they became more of a hindrance. During flight times, buses, larger shuttles, taxis, and passenger vehicles use the area in front of the



terminal to drop off and pick up passengers. About 3,300 square feet of grass, dirt, concrete, and asphalt were removed.

The next planned phase will be to stripe the area and rework the parking lot layout. Coos County Airport District Commissioners will decide on reconfiguring the parking at an upcoming meeting.



Grant will Enhance Perimeter Signage



The airport recently received a grant to help fund new signage for all perimeter areas on district property that will help maintain safety and security at the airport. This Special Districts Association of Oregon (SDAO) Safety and Security grant will be used to improve the visibility and quality of the airports' signs. Around 175 new signs along with new brackets, posts, and hardware have been ordered. The airport is located on the bay and salt in the air takes

its toll on signs causing them to rust and lose all reflectivity. The new signs are 24" x 18", consisting of high-grade reflective aluminum outer sheets and an inner polyethylene core. An engineer-grade reflective vinyl overlay is then applied. They are specifically made for marine outdoor weather conditions and are visible during the day and night. The material will also increase the lifespan of airport signs.

Department of Aviation Closes out Runway Lighting Grant

Replacing aged runway and taxiway lighting at the Southwest Oregon Regional Airport has been checked off the list of completed projects. Earlier this month officials from the Oregon Department of Aviation closed out a Critical Oregon Airport Relief (COAR) grant and toured the completed project with State Representatives Boomer Wright and Court Boice. They looked at the updated lighting along the runways and taxiways, air navigation aids, and airport wind socks. Nearly 600 lights and 10 miles of wiring were replaced and new electrical panels were installed.





Due to the Earth's composition, magnetic North is constantly moving, which results in magnetic declination (variation). Because runway headings are designated by magnetic headings, runway 4/22 was renumbered and repainted to 5/23. The project replaced infrastructure above and underground.

Before completing the project, maintenance crews would sometimes have to search nationally to find replacement parts and



lights. Some parts of the fixtures were installed back in the 1950s or even earlier during World War II. The new lighting system will be



more reliable and easier to maintain.



The \$4.2 million project was funded by the FAA, Oregon Department of Aviation, and the District. Now that the work is completed the lighting system should serve the airport and its customers for many years. The Southwest Oregon Regional Airport is owned by the Coos County Airport District. The COAR grant assists airports in infrastructure projects and economic development.

New Billboard Shows Way to Airport Terminal

Southwest Oregon Regional Airport passengers now have a new way to help them navigate the route to the terminal in North Bend. The Coos County Airport District Board of Commissioners approved new signage to help identify the boundaries of the airport and business park. Art Signs of Coos Bay installed the vinyl on the billboard located on Colorado Avenue in North Bend. The base of the sign will be repainted and available for additional information on seasonal flight schedules or targeted advertising.





Did you know JFK visited OTH in the late 1950s? Interested to see how the airfield looked 80 years ago? Be sure to stop by the terminal and check out the new cabinet display showing various historical pictures of Southwest Oregon Regional Airport!

No better way to get noticed than to advertise at Southwest Oregon Regional Airport! We offer static displays, digital media ads (in terminal TV's & website), and more! For additional information and pricing, please contact Stephanie at (541) 756-8531. Or you can reach her by email, stephanie@flyoth.com. Hangar space, manufacturing bays, and parcels of land also available.



Southwest Oregon Regional Airport
owned by Coos County Airport District

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