

# RE:LAX

The LAX Capital Improvement Program Newsletter

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## LAX Modernization Begins With Bradley West Groundbreaking

JAY BERKOWITZ



Breaking ground on the Bradley West Project are (from left): Airport Commissioner Michael A. Lawson, QANTAS Senior Executive Vice President Americas and the Pacific Wally Mariani, architect Curtis W. Fentress, Ralph Ketchum of Austin Commercial, Airport Commissioner Walter Zifkin, L.A. City Councilwoman Janice Hahn, Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa, L.A. City Councilman William Rosendahl, Airport Commission President Alan Rothenberg, Los Angeles World Airports Executive Director Gina Marie Lindsey, Airport Commission Vice President Valeria C. Velasco, and Commissioner Joseph Aredas.

Los Angeles Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa, local elected officials and airport executives broke ground on February 22 for the Bradley West Project, the largest public works project in the City's history and the first major capital investment at LAX since 1984. The \$1.545-billion project will create a new world-class terminal that will offer travelers 1.25 million square feet of new building area, including a Great Hall for premier shopping and dining, new airline lounge space, and enlarged customs facilities to speed up passenger processing.

The project also includes new concourses containing 15 new boarding gates and enlarged seating/holdroom areas to accommodate new-generation aircraft such as the Airbus A380 super jumbo jet and the Boeing B787 Dreamliner.

In addition, this project is expected to create 4,000 construction-related jobs during the three-year construction period. The new gates on the west side and the Great Hall are scheduled to be completed at the end of 2012. New gates on the eastside are expected to be finished in 2013.

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RE:IMAGINE  
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## American Eagle Commuter Operations Relocate To New On-Airfield Site



ALBERT RODRIGUEZ

The "New Eagle's Nest" with distinctive curvilinear ceiling provides passengers more modern facilities.

The LAX modernization is on track with certain airport operations shifting to accommodate the Bradley West Project. American Eagle's regional commuter propeller and small jet aircraft are now serving passengers at a new on-airfield facility near Terminal 8 instead of at its former commuter terminal located west of the Bradley International Terminal. Passengers still board buses at Terminal 4 Gate 44 for transport to a new facility, dubbed the "New Eagle's Nest." The new facility offers passengers more food and beverage choices and other amenities than the former facility. Movement of operations to this new facility frees up the area west of the Bradley terminal for further construction efforts, an example of the carefully orchestrated coordination necessary to maintain uninterrupted daily operations.

## Theme Building Undergoes State-of-the-Art Seismic Retrofit

The LAX Theme Building recently underwent an historic seismic retrofit as part of the iconic building's final phase of renovation. The seismic retrofit entailed the installation of a mass tuned damper within the structure to protect the building from violent motion caused by earthquakes. The system counter-balances harmonic vibrations of earthquakes. A total of 22 two-inch steel plates weighing a total of 600 tons, the equivalent of 200 Lincoln Navigator Sport Utility Vehicles, were installed into the base of the building with a heavy construction crane. The finishing touches on the \$9.3-million renovation will be completed by May. The 49-year old building was marked for renovation when a



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1,000-pound section of stucco fell from an upper arch in 2007. Following engineering studies, it was determined that complete upgrades to the arches of the building were necessary, as well as design of an entirely new stucco cladding system.

A heavy industrial crane lifts one of the two-inch steel plates that make up the mass tuned damper, an essential part of the Theme Building's seismic retrofit.

## Crossfield Taxiway Project Receives Environmental Award

The Southern California Chapter of the American Concrete Institute recently awarded Los Angeles World Airports the Excellence in Concrete Award – in recognition of Excellence in Environmental Usage of Concrete on the LAX Crossfield Taxiway Project (CFT). As part of the project, a new 1,600-space parking lot was constructed with pervious concrete to accommodate airline tenants that were displaced by the new taxiway. Pervious concrete is an environmentally friendly hardscape surface that allows stormwater to flow through, reducing flooding and standing water. This material also minimizes surface pollutants, reduces the need for separate stormwater retention ponds, and allows for the use of smaller capacity storm drains. The new parking lot is currently the largest

pervious concrete installation in California. It is part of the multi-faceted relocation efforts involved to create the Crossfield Taxiway, which in turn, frees up the area immediately west of the Tom Bradley International Terminal to construct new gates and a Great Hall under the Bradley West Project.

**TOP:** Civil Engineer Rosa Brice, construction manager, and Civil Engineering Associate III Goran Lazarevic, project manager, display the Excellence in Concrete Award they accepted on behalf of LAWA.

**BOTTOM:** Designed to improve safety and efficiency of aircraft ground movements, the Crossfield Taxiway will also alleviate periodic congestion that occurs at existing taxiways.



JAKE ADAMS



JAY BERKOWITZ

## Full Installation of Runway Safety Warning System Slated for LAX



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Red Runway Status Lights, much like regular traffic lights, warn pilots to not enter active runways.

Runways at LAX are getting an added measure of safety with the full implementation of the Runway Safety Status Lights (RWSL) system. An agreement between Los Angeles World Airports and the Federal Aviation Administration augments a prototype system that was first installed June 2009. The system is designed to in-

crease overall safety of aircraft operations by reducing the likelihood of runway collisions. Red lights embedded in runways warn pilots that it is unsafe to cross or enter a runway.

The lighting system works in conjunction with a state-of-the-art Airport Surface Detection Equipment Model-X (ASDE-X) ground radar. This radar provides air traffic controllers with color map displays showing the location of all aircraft and vehicles on the runways and taxiways. When completed, LAX's airfield will have a total of 27 Runway Entrance Lights (RELs) and two Takeoff Hold Lights (THLs).

## Faces of America Welcome International Travelers to the United States



Smiling American faces greet international travelers as they retrieve luggage at the Tom Bradley International Terminal, part of an effort to provide a warmer welcome to the U.S.

Friendly faces of America are now welcoming international travelers in the federal inspection area of the Tom Bradley International Terminal via video displays hanging over baggage carousels. As part of its Model Ports Initiative, U.S. Customs and Border Protection (USCBP) is working with the U.S. State Department, other federal partners and major airports to create standards that ensure passengers entering the United States experience a process that is welcoming, understandable, respectful, time-efficient and less stressful.

Walt Disney Parks and Resorts commissioned and donated "Welcome: Portraits of America," a seven-minute film featuring images of American people from all regions and walks of life. Visitors will see families standing in front of their homes, smiling cowboys with their horses, playful children, people in various trades and jobs around the U.S., as well as majestic scenes that epitomize the geographic beauty of America. These efforts by USCBP aim to create an environment that accommodates increased security screening and a more visitor-friendly process. As one of the first airports to feature this program, LAX is proud to be at the forefront of these new initiatives.

## Engaging Video Art Project Meets the Vision of World-Class Terminal

By Megan Lynch

The modernization of the Tom Bradley International Terminal will offer travelers the very best in airport amenities, including one of the largest, most impressive video art project installations at any airport worldwide. As a city renowned for public art programs, Los Angeles requires one percent of the construction costs of new buildings to contribute to public art.

The video art project entails a 90-foot filmstrip suspended from the ceiling and comprises 58 46-inch LCD (liquid crystal display) screens. In addition to the filmstrip showcased in the Arrivals Lobby, there is also a video wall of 25 46-inch LCD screens. LAWA commissioned



17 artists from across the country to create a video art display specific to the unique and diverse climate of Los Angeles. The completion and official opening of this project is scheduled for early summer.

This 90-foot video public art display in the TBIT Lower Arrivals is one of the largest airport installations worldwide.

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