

**AIRPORT ADVISORY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES  
FOR AUGUST 17, 2021  
STINSON MUNICIPAL AIRPORT**

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

1. Marco Barros
2. Vaughn Caudill
3. Frank Cruz
4. Mark Fessler, Chairman
5. John Grisell
6. Marsha Hendler, Secretary
7. Earl Jackson, Jr., Vice Chairman
8. Deborah Omowale Jamon
9. Maureen McCann
10. Ed Onwe
11. Aurelina Prado

**MEMBERS NOT PRESENT**

1. Charnelle Chin
2. Valerie Peak
3. Diane Rath

**CITY STAFF**

- Jesus H. Saenz, Jr. IAP, Director of Airports
- Tom Bartlett, Deputy Director
- Jeff Coyle, Assistant City Manager
- Nicole Fowles, Sr. Special Projects Manager/Board Liaison
- Katinka Howell, City Attorney

Chairman Mark Fessler called the meeting to order at 3:34 p.m. Roll call was taken, and a quorum was determined to be present. Mr. Fessler asked the Board Liaison if there were any Public Comments to share with the Commission. It was noted that no comments were received. The chairman asked if there were any changes to the posted minutes from the March 16, 2021 and July 8, 2021 meetings and a motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes for both meetings.

Mr. Fessler recognized the meeting was the first in-person meeting of the Airport Advisory Commission since February 2020. Mr. Fessler recognized Aviation Director Jesus Saenz to provide the Director's Report and an update to the Strategic Development Plan.

As part of his Director's Report, Mr. Saenz noted that the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) had extended its mask mandate to January 18, 2022. He asked the Commissioners to help communicate to their co-workers, friends and family information about the mandate. Mr. Saenz also provided information on the air service levels at San Antonio International Airport which had been mischaracterized in media and failed to recognize the resumption of service to several markets. He noted that summer travel had been very strong.

Mr. Saenz recognized Deputy Director Tom Bartlett who gave an update on the vaccine clinics that have taken place at San Antonio International Airport. The clinic is located outside of the Customs and Border

Protection area on the baggage claim level of Terminal A. Mr. Bartlett noted that San Antonio Metro Health hosted a clinic from late June through July which resulted in 4,633 vaccine shots being given. A new clinic, staffed by the Texas Department of Emergency Management, began on August 4<sup>th</sup> and was scheduled to continue through September 12. *[Editor's note: Following the meeting, the Texas Department of Emergency Management announced it would continue its clinic at the airport through mid-December].* Mr. Bartlett noted that the clinic was averaging over 120 vaccine shots a day.

Commission members offered the following comments or questions:

- Airlines are cancelling many flights which is upsetting passengers but not the fault of the airport.
- TSA is reporting that travel is decreasing, is this true?
  - We will see what happens with the impact of the delta variant on travel. However, with school beginning, all airports see a decrease in travel in September and October.
- Is there a location at the airport to take a COVID test?
  - We are considering it, but the tests must be taken more than 24 hours before the flight. We do link to the City's information on COVID testing on our website.
- Do you have a demographics of those who are taking advantage of the vaccine clinics?
  - We are not allowed to track that information.
- Is free parking provided for individuals who want to come to the airport for the vaccine?
  - No. The vaccine clinic is intended for our employees (both City and tenants including airlines, concessionaires and other vendors) as well as passengers.
- Is there a rule that allows a business to create a vaccine mandate?
  - [Assistant City Manager Jeff Coyle] The City cannot institute a vaccine mandate. A private business is allowed.
  - The vaccine clinic is at the airport to provide opportunity for those who wish to receive the vaccine to do so.
- Has the airport considered hosting a vaccine clinic at Stinson?
  - That is a wonderful idea *[Editor's note: Aviation staff reached out to San Antonio Metro Health to let them know the department would welcome hosting a clinic at Stinson. Currently, San Antonio Metro Health has identified its target locations but has kept Stinson on the list for future consideration].*
- The airport looks great!
  - We appreciate your comments. Please let us know when you see something that we could do better or are doing well.

Mr. Saenz provided a briefing on the Strategic Development Plan, the planning document that will help guide the Aviation Department on the future development of the airfield, terminal complex and roadway access at the San Antonio International Airport. He noted that some of the information had been provided earlier but wanted to share the update with Commission again.

Commission members offered the following comments or questions:

- Could we decouple the runways?
  - We are looking at the options. We are working with the Federal Aviation Administration on a project that would shift the runway end by 1,250 feet and increase the runway length by 9,750. We would look at the potential to decouple if needed in the future. We have made a large investment in our runways that we cannot ignore.

- Are we looking to have parallel runways?
  - We are focused on this layout but it will be a long-term goal.
- The Airport System Development Committee looked at the terminal alternative and focused on the option that brought a central process to the terminal complex
  - The option provides additional space for opportunities to grow our concession space and increase the potential for non-aeronautical revenue.
- How does this option support our military options?
  - The design will take supporting Military City USA into consideration, including the USO and Holiday Block Leave operations.
- After City Council approves this plan, what are the next steps?
  - We will finalize the Airport Layout Plan for submittal to the Federal Aviation Administration.
  - We will then procure an airport planning consultant to assist with the development of advanced planning documents for projects coming out of the Strategic Development Plan. Tasks may include financial analysis, phasing, recommendations on delivery methods for terminal, roadway, airfield, or support facilities projects.
- Where do most airports locate TNCs [Transportation Network Companies]?
  - The location for TNCs and other ground transportation companies ultimately depend on the passengers' preferences and what operationally works best for us.
- I fly to Atlanta and it has a long walk from baggage claim to the TNC pick-up.
  - We have to be considerate of those issues in the implementation of this plan.
- What is the status of driverless cars?
  - We have experienced more zero emissions vehicles that require charging stations. We will have to sustain that effort.
- The highest priority is to reach out to the public and hear their input. If we have discussions with our council members, neighbors, co-workers...we should share the information of the plan so they are better informed.
- [Mr. Coyle]: The public doesn't always have the time to attend the public meetings, so please reach out to us and let us know who we need to get in front with this presentation.
- Could you host a table at the Budget Town Halls?
  - We can explore that option.
- District newsletters/e-blasts are a good resource and effective communications tools.

Mr. Fessler asked the members if they had any announcements that they would like to share. Commissioner Deborah Omowale Jarmon announced that the San Antonio African American Community Archive and Museum would host a backpack/book giveaway the upcoming Saturday. Commissioner Marco Barros reported that the hospitality industry in San Antonio had a great July and that the HOT Tax was doing better than anticipated. It was requested that Visit San Antonio Executive Director Marc Anderson be invited to a future meeting to provide an overview of their activities. [Editor's note: The Board Liaison reached out to Visit San Antonio for potential meeting dates for the November 2021 and January 2022 meetings. Originally, this briefing was targeted for the October 2021 meeting.]

This meeting adjourned at 5:12 p.m.