



COOS CO. AIRPORT DISTRICT ✈️ SOUTHWEST OREGON REGIONAL AIRPORT

On The Horizon Newsletter

Passengers Choose OTH for Travel



It's time to start planning for spring and summer travel, and we hope you'll choose to fly OTH when you need to get from here to there. Coming off a record year in 2023, the Southwest Oregon Regional Airport continues to see better-than-expected passenger numbers for commercial travel out of North Bend.

Just under 68% of available seats in January were filled by passengers flying to and from San Francisco aboard United Express operated by Skywest. Those contributed to a 17% increase over January 2023.

Passengers can fly directly to and from San Francisco four days a week. The Flights on Sunday, Monday, Wednesday, and Friday will remain in effect for San Francisco at least through March 31, 2024. Daily flights to and from San Francisco will likely return in April. Flight schedules are determined by United next month. To book your flight, visit www.flyOTH.com or www.united.com.

Northbound Air Service Unlikely in 2024

One of the most commonly asked questions is when will a northbound flight be re-established at Southwest Oregon Regional Airport. At the most recent meeting of the Coos County Airport District Board of Commissioners, Executive Director Rodger Craddock reported there is nothing likely to happen with Alaska Airlines in the short term. Craddock and Deputy Director Robert Brittsan attended a regional roundtable of the Oregon Regional Air Service that included representatives from airports around the state. Almost all in attendance had the same request of establish-



ing service to PDX. Unfortunately, those who work directly with Alaska Air say nothing will happen in the short term due to variables like a merger, tourism being down in Portland, and a pilot shortage. The news is not all bleak. They are in talks with another carrier, but nothing is anticipated until 2025 or later. Flights are up across the US. That is also true locally. 2023 boasted some of the highest numbers of passengers through the terminal in more than a decade.

Employee Spotlight: Scott Knight



It's not too often you get to see change happen and be part of it. But, that's just what Scott Knight has done since becoming part of the Airport Maintenance Team. Scott has worked his way up to supervisor after coming to work at the airport when the Oregon International Port of Coos Bay took over management of the airport from the City of North Bend. As unlikely as it seemed to Knight, voters approved and formed the Coos County Airport District. It remains strong providing invaluable commercial air service as well as building and property leases.

Since becoming a district employee, most of the old World War II buildings are gone, demolished so new, modern facilities could be built in their places. The construction of the terminal and the Air Traffic Control Tower were two of the highlights of his 22 years of watching local leaders and federal legislators work together to make that a reality. For him though, the best part is the day-to-day duties and working with his staff.



What is little known about Scott is his artistic ability. Operations Manager Bob Hood says he has incredible building skills and is also talented artistically. That's a skill that probably comes in handy when doing the painting around the airport of which there seems to be a lot. Handling painting of runway and taxiway navigational markings, parking lots, interior and exterior of buildings, and airport signs has saved the district thousands of dollars every year.

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Southwest Oregon Regional Airport | 1100 Airport Lane, North Bend OR 97459 | p. (541) 756-8531



Budget Committee Applicants Needed

The Coos County Airport District (CCAD) is currently taking applications from interested persons in Coos County who would like to volunteer to serve on the District's Budget Committee. The five CCAD Commissioners and five appointed Coos County residents make up the budget committee. Terms are for three years. The district's fiscal year starts on July 1 and ends on June 30. Budget preparation usually occurs over the five months prior to the July 1 start of the new fiscal year. Generally, the Budget Committee meets one to three times in May to hear the budget presentation, study the proposed budget, and consider changes. Committee applications are due by 5:00 pm on February 15, 2024. The application is available online at www.cooscountyairportdistrict.com, or pick up a copy at the airport business office inside the Southwest Oregon Regional Airport terminal.



Terminal Facelift Planned for Interior

If you've traveled OTH over the past 15 years, you've probably seen the carpet. That's because it is the original carpet installed when the terminal was built in 2009. Night maintenance crews will remove the carpet in sections and replace it with a new updated design and color. Work begins later this month and will take up to a month to complete. Crews are also painting all interior walls of the interior of the terminal.



Terminal Parking Lot Improvements

You've probably heard it before... Parking is free at the Southwest Oregon Regional Airport. A project being evaluated by the district would change some of the parking configurations for shuttle buses and add sidewalks for pedestrian safety. The project will also look at enhancing walking areas for people who use the grounds for daytime and evening walks.

Park Improvements Set To Begin

ROTARY CLUB HIRES CONSULTANT TO CREATE MASTER PLAN



Airport Maintenance staff installed a temporary sign at the park located near the North Bend Senior Center and Baseball Fields. The sign coincides with the announcement of a partnership made last year between the Coos County Airport District and the Coos Bay-North Bend Rotary Club to revitalize the 13-acre area. The park currently has a playground, sand volleyball court, basketball and tennis courts, and baseball fields.

During the summer and early fall, Rotary and the district painted and refurbished playground equipment however, there are much larger plans for the area. Those include the development of a plan to consider what the community would like to see in the park, an area designed for the highest and best use, and a park setup that all abilities can use. There will be more opportunities for community and stakeholder input. In the meantime, the district has purchased two pieces of equipment. Those will be installed later this month.

Visiting Aircraft

SOME OF OUR GENERAL AVIATION TRAFFIC



Important Dates

FEBRUARY PUBLIC NOTICE

Park Steering Committee -
Feb. 8th, Noon, Conference Room

Budget Comm. Applications Due
Feb. 15th, 5:00pm, Admin Office

CCAD Board Meeting -
Feb. 22nd, 7:30am, Conf Room



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