



AGTA News from the Airport Curb



[Meeting Registration](#)

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October 23 - 26 Raleigh Conference Theme

"Airport Ground Transportation Preps for ACTION"

Have you registered yet? ...We're meeting October 23 - 26 in Raleigh, North Carolina at the Sheraton Raleigh Downtown. The theme for this year's conference is ***Airport Ground Transportation Preps for ACTION***. Links for the Preliminary Program, AGTA registration, and Hotel reservations are below. To receive the preferred AGTA rate of \$179 at the Sheraton, you must reserve your room prior to the September 26 hotel cutoff.

Primary program sessions will address such important topics as ***What an Effective 5-Year Plan Should Look Like, Ground Transportation & the EV Challenge, Developing a Public/Private Airport/Ground Transportation Partnership, Solving Labor Issues in Ground Transportation, and Airport Virtual Queue Taxi Systems***. As always, the six afternoon discussion breakouts will tackle the nuts and bolts of implementing these issues and more, specifically within our delegate provider companies and airports. Meet with your colleagues and learn firsthand about in-progress and newly-implemented approaches to the issues facing all arms of the industry today. Share your concerns and your insights with others facing the same issues.

Members wanting to take part in the presentation and/or discussion of any of these topics should contact the office.

We doubled the expected participation at our Spring 2022 Meeting - Why not take advantage of this in-person opportunity to promote your services and/or products and [consider sponsoring a portion of this meeting?](#)

Fall Conference: Breakouts, breakouts, breakouts...

A hallmark of AGTA Conferences has been our afternoon breakouts, those 12 small groups who openly discuss issues presented in the morning sessions and more. Just some of the topics proposed for October will address the number and the process used to determine how many EV chargers are planned for *your* airport or ground operation; the pay levels for your shuttle drivers; and the turnover rate for parking shuttle drivers. Open discussions among colleagues faced with similar issues often provide the most valuable meeting takeaways. Plan now to attend the AGTA Fall Conference in Raleigh to participate in these informative - and sometimes lively - discussions. We're looking forward to seeing you at our *Rally in Raleigh!!!*

GROUND TRANSPORTATION NEWS

[Shared Ride Airport Shuttles Back in Demand for GOWithUs.com](#)

Yahoo.com - Sept. 12, 2022

International travel and transportation company GOWithUs.com, (formerly GO Airport Shuttle) reports that searches for lower cost airport shuttles on its website have reached the highest level in a 12-month period for three consecutive months.

This indicates travelers are seeking alternatives to expensive ride-share companies which add high surge prices during peak times of inclement weather.

While GO operators suspended shared ride services during the height of COVID, many are bringing Shared Ride options back and adding economy priced private services to accommodate budget-minded travelers.

"With rising inflation and fears of a recession, it was apparent we needed to offer more affordable options without compromising safety, convenience or the quality of our customers' experiences," says John McCarthy, president of The GO Group LLC, GOWithUs' parent company.

According to the World Travel & Tourism Council, the travel sector's GDP contribution will account for 7.6 percent of the U.S. economy in 2022.

GO also expanded its ground transportation and around town service locations to tourist sites sports venues and other entertainment destinations within its most popular service areas. Discounted tickets for attractions and tours are available on the site via partner CitySights, providing convenient one-stop shopping for travelers.

[Victoria hikes taxi fares as petrol prices soar](#)

9news.com.au- Sept. 6, 2022

Victorians hailing a cab can expect to pay more for their taxi ride after the state's independent regulator lifted the maximum fare drivers can charge in response to soaring fuel costs.

The Essential Services Commission (ESC) today decided to increase the maximum fare of "unbooked" taxis - such as those hailed off the street or caught from a rank - by 11.2 percent.

The fare change equates to about \$1.50 extra for a three-kilometer trip in Melbourne's central business district, or \$5.60 to travel from the CBD to the international airport.

It is the first time the ESC has raised the maximum fare since 2014, citing higher petrol prices and a general lack of drivers on the road.

"Operators are dealing with significantly higher fuel prices and a driver shortage in the face of recovering demand, so the fare decision considers those issues to help ensure the service is readily available," said ESC director of pricing Marcus Crudden.

The decision does not include taxi services that are booked online, through an app or over the phone, which are outside the regulation of the ESC.

"We listened to views raised at stakeholder meetings and a public forum, and the vast majority of feedback was supportive when our draft decision proposed increasing the maximum fare," he said.

In a separate decision, the ESC kept the maximum surcharge for non-cash payments in taxis to 4 percent, while Cabcharge payment instruments will continue to attract a 6 percent surcharge.

The higher fares will take effect from September 15 this year.

[Detroit Metro Airport to allow Turo car sharing company to leave hosts cars at airport](#)

Detroit Free Press - Sept. 8, 2022

The peer-to-peer car sharing company Turo has won the first-of-its-kind permit in Michigan to operate its services at the Detroit Metro Airport, the company said Thursday.

In June, the Wayne County Airport Authority Board of Directors approved a permit granting Turo the non-exclusive right to operate peer-to-peer vehicle sharing services at the airport, Erica Donerson, a spokesperson for the Airport Authority, confirmed in an email to the Free Press. She said the reason for the approval was to provide another ground transportation option for airport customers beyond traditional rental cars, taxis or ride sharing.

With Turo, people can rent a car through a website or app, similar to booking an Airbnb. The owners of the cars offered for rentals get to pocket some of the profits from allowing their cars to be rented.

Under the airport's policy, which became effective July 1, Turo pickups and returns are designated at these locations:

- Short-term vehicle parking at McNamara Parking Garage and the Big Blue Deck.
- Long-term vehicle parking at McNamara Parking Garage, the Big Blue Deck and Green Lots.

"Peer-to-peer car sharing not only provides travelers with more options for booking a car, but also gives locals in Michigan the opportunity to turn their own vehicle into an earnings engine," said Turo CEO Andre Haddad in an email to the Free Press.

Pricing for the daily car rentals varies from an economical SUV or sedan for \$35 a day, a Jeep Wrangler Unlimited at \$93 a day or a luxury sports vehicle, such as a Lincoln Navigator, for \$224 a day, according to Turo's website.

[Uber Begins Rolling Out Yellow Taxi Rides in New York City](#)

Bloomberg - Sept. 7, 2022

Uber Technologies, Inc. has started offering taxi rides in New York, a long-awaited effort to help ease a driver shortage and pressure on fares.

As of last month, the Big Apple's iconic yellow cabs have started to appear on the ride-hailing platform for a randomized majority of active New York City riders, allowing them to book trips in taxis through the Uber app.

The rollout, will "continue expanding the offering to all consumers in the coming weeks and months, as more taxi drivers sign up," said Paul Picinich, Uber's general manager of US taxis & fleets, in a statement.

In March, the San Francisco-based company reached a deal with the New York Taxi & Limousine Commission's technology partners, Creative Mobile Technologies and Curb Mobility, whose apps power the city's yellow taxis. Uber had initially expected to roll out the new feature in the spring.

Under the agreement, Uber customers can hail a taxi at the same price as an UberX and can see the fare upfront before requesting a trip. Driver earnings will initially be based on the TLC mandated rates, which are close to \$32 an hour according to Uber's estimates. Drivers will also be able to see upfront pricing before accepting a trip request.

Uber already has partnerships with taxi companies in countries from Spain to Colombia. In some markets, like Hong Kong and Turkey, cabs represent the company's primary market. In April, Uber partnered with San Francisco's Flywheel and Yellow Cab SF, operator of the YoTaxi app, and will launch service to riders in the near future, the company said.

[Electric Air Taxis Being Simulated in Chicago Could Make Commuting Downtown a 15-Minute Affair](#)

AviationPros.com - *Sept. 14, 2022*

Electric air taxis could one day whisk commuters from downtown Chicago to O'Hare International Airport or to the suburbs, high above expressway traffic, in a fraction of the time it takes to drive.

That's the vision of electric aircraft developer Eve, which is leading a group of aviation companies and local governments conducting simulations in Chicago this week. Though the aircraft are likely years away from receiving federal authorization to fly, it's a vision shared by other major companies like Chicago-based United Airlines, which recently struck a conditional agreement to purchase at least 200 of Eve's flying taxis in United's latest investment in the industry.

For now, Chicago commuters can book a \$150 trip on one of the simulation flights that are running for the next several weeks between Vertiport Chicago, in the Illinois Medical District, and heliports in Tinley Park and Schaumburg. The simulations use regular helicopters, but Eve, which is backed by Brazilian plane manufacturer Embraer, envisions bringing electric air taxis to markets like Chicago as early as 2026.

Eve co-CEO Andre Stein said the air taxis are nothing like electric helicopters or flying cars. They will use eight motors distributed around the aircraft to take off vertically, then electric pushers and wings to glide forward.

Stein envisions the air taxis helping commuters reach meetings across town, or providing a way to get home quickly in time for a child's birthday. Rather than an everyday option like commuter rail or public transit, they can help save time in a pinch, he said.

Stein said the new technology is expected to make air taxis more affordable and seamless than helicopters, and estimated a viable ticket price could be around \$100 to travel 20 miles. He also touted what he described as improved efficiency and sustainability.

Using Chicago-specific data and models, Eve estimates the city could eventually have around 240 electric aircraft flying 150 possible routes, once the network is fully built out.

United Airlines, which has invested in flying taxis, said initial markets it is considering for use are the carrier's hub markets, like Chicago. The company could use them to transport customers from

cities to airports. The airline said last week it invested \$15 million in Eve and reached a conditional purchase agreement to buy 200 four-seat aircraft that have a range of 60 miles, with the option to buy 200 more.

[Leaders visit Houston before city receives billions of dollars for transportation projects](#)

ABC13.com - Sept. 12, 2022

HOUSTON, Texas (KTRK) -- With billions of dollars coming to Houston to address transportation issues, the nation's top infrastructure leader visited to see what needs to be addressed.

In 2021, Congress passed the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act which allows billions of dollars to be distributed over the next five years. Before it happens, Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee invited U.S. Transportation Sec. Pete Buttigieg to Houston.

Buttigieg's trip focused on aviation, climate change, and public transportation. "Really looking forward to getting an on-the-ground feel for some of the transportation issues the congresswoman frequently raises to me when we're in Washington," Buttigieg said.

According to a White House fact sheet, Texas received a C- for its infrastructure. The infrastructure bill brings \$3.3 billion to Texas' public transportation. METRO in Harris County will get some of it for its projects.

The agency posts its monthly ridership numbers. It shows about 1.5 million people rode the light rail five years ago in July. In 2022, it was less than a million people.

Bus ridership is down too. Five years ago, nearly 5 million people took a METRO bus during the month of July. In 2022, it was about 3.5 million people.

"Transit benefits everybody," Buttigieg said. "Even the people who drive. The more people who transit, the less congestion there is for drivers. We've got to have a full system approach here because everything in transportation is connected to everything else."

Texas will receive about \$27 billion to improve freeways. Buttigieg said it doesn't necessarily mean more will be constructed. "It's not always as simple as more roads for less congestion," Buttigieg explained. "Sometimes more roads means even more cars. It's about how you design it. What alternatives you create, and we're seeing an increasingly important role for technology as well."

Buttigieg met with Texas Southern University aviation students. "These students have good paying jobs waiting for them and it's fantastic to see those connections be made," Buttigieg said. A job that pays six figures also requires a lot of money up front to earn a license.

"We're looking at everything from how funding and financing is available in student loan programs to what can be done to lower that upfront cost in the first place," Buttigieg explained.

The transportation secretary also went to George Bush Intercontinental Airport with \$80 million from the infrastructure bill already allocated to improve the aging facility. About \$40 million will go towards updating Terminal A.

[EVs and Flying Taxis: The Transportation Revolution Is Here](#)

InvestingDaily.com - Sept. 14, 2022

President Biden in August signed into law the Inflation Reduction Act. Despite the law's name, even the Congressional Budget Office estimates it will have a "negligible effect" on inflation this year.

While the act won't do much to lower inflation, it will have a huge impact on transportation and clean energy. At the same time, the technology behind flying cars is coming to fruition.

The Inflation Reduction Act aims to reduce carbon emissions by offering numerous clean energy tax credits and financial incentives and to make access to clean energy products more affordable for average Americans.

Consumers will get rebates and tax credits for items such as energy-efficient home appliances, rooftop solar installations, and electric vehicles (EVs). Specifically, consumers will receive up to a \$7,500 tax credit for buying a new EV and \$4,000 for buying a used one. Analysts estimate that by 2040 the vast majority of new cars sold will be EVs.

Besides frustrations for drivers, congestion also leads to inefficient driving, greater fuel consumption, and more carbon emissions released, as engines continue to run even though the cars are barely moving. This is a huge problem that plagues major cities, but relief could be on the way.

One seemingly fantastical but increasingly realistic solution is air taxis. Passengers riding in for-hire vehicles soaring through the air was once science fiction, but the technology is now being tested in multiple countries in the world. Both automated (still requiring human intervention) and autonomous air taxis are being tested. They will be electric.

To be clear, the Federal Aviation Administration has yet to approve air taxis to transport passengers, but the fact that major airlines are willing to spend millions of dollars to preorder them suggests that the technology is viable.

[Cascadia leaders draw bead on planes, trains, and electric vehicles](#)

BIV - Sept. 12, 2022

“We are a fossil-fuel-driven industry at our core,” Tamara Vrooman, CEO of the Vancouver Airport Authority, acknowledged Monday while speaking at the Cascadia Innovation Corridor (CIC) conference in Blaine, Wash.

“The price of carbon-emitting fuels is going to go up, so if we want to make our airport competitive from both a cargo, and a tourism, and passenger and business development point of view, we need to decarbonize and future-proof, and we’re very committed to doing that for business reasons.”

With wildfire smoke still hanging in the sky, Vrooman and counterparts in Seattle and Portland signed a statement earlier in the day at the CIC conference supporting four shared goals aimed at reducing carbon via four areas:

- Sustainable aviation fuels
- Airport facilities
- Airfield operations, and
- Vehicle trips to and from airports by employees and travellers

Vrooman said the signed statement would allow the three big airports to share data as well as their own experiences reducing carbon coming from their facilities.

She pointed to the recent creation of a digital twin for YVR – a digitized model of the airport that has been opened up for use among regional and national partners – as one initiative already underway that’s helping it better control its energy usage.

Vrooman also said regional commitments to expensive sustainable aviation fuels would help the three large airports enter into long-term contracts and reduce the prices for those fuels in the coming years.

She said Cascadia already has regional infrastructure in place for conventional aviation fuel, but the combined scale of the three airports will make it more practical to obtain sustainable aviation fuels.

The CIC conference comes after Washington state legislators earmarked US\$150 million for ramping up the development of a high-speed rail line linking Vancouver, Seattle and Portland back in March.

A report commissioned by the CIC is urging stakeholders throughout the region to support the high-speed rail initiative.

The CIC is also calling for public-private partnerships for initiatives such as:

- Accelerating the adoption and rollout of medium to heavy-duty electric vehicles (EV)
- Standardizing and expanding light-duty EV charging infrastructure
- Convening stakeholders to further develop a green hydrogen economy

AIRPORT NEWS

[Mineta San José International Airport Now Powered by 100% Renewable Energy](#)

AviationPros.com - *Sept. 12, 2022*

As of July 1, 2022, Mineta San José International Airport (SJC) upgraded to San José Clean Energy's (SJCE) TotalGreen service for all City-owned buildings at the Airport. TotalGreen provides 100% percent renewable, emission-free energy from renewable sources such as sunlight and wind, thus completing one important goal of SJC's Sustainability Management Plan.

"We're thrilled about the Airport's decision to upgrade to our TotalGreen service," said Lori Mitchell, Director of the Community Energy Department, which operates SJCE. "It shows their commitment to a clean energy future and helps advance the City's ambitious goal to be carbon neutral by 2030."

Upgrading to SJCE's TotalGreen service is part of SJC's overall Sustainability Management Plan, a platform for establishing SJC as global leader in environmental stewardship. The plan builds several initiatives around eight key dimensions: energy, water, waste, ground transportation, natural resources, social responsibility, sustainability governance and climate action.

In support of this plan and commitment, SJC has taken several important steps towards decarbonizing the future including:

- When SJC enrolled in SJCE's GreenSource service in 2018, the renewable energy content in Airport buildings increased by 12% (33% to 45%) and carbon-free energy content increased by 11% (69% to 80%).
- In 2019, SJC received a brand-new fleet of 10 battery-electric, zero-emission buses that are used to transport passengers and their luggage between SJC's parking lots, rental car center, and terminals. SJC's deployment was the first of its kind for a California airport and among the largest deployments for a U.S. airport.
- In January 2020, SJC completed the first Sustainability Management Plan to serve as roadmap for reducing resource consumption, environmental impact, and greenhouse gas emissions while promoting social responsibility. One of the specific goals outlined in the Sustainability Management Plan was to make the switch to SJCE's 100% TotalGreen option.
- To stay committed to the goals that were outlined in the 2020 Sustainability Management Plan, SJC secured the additional funding necessary to make the switch to SJCE's TotalGreen service for FY 22-23.
- In 2020, SJC helped to setup a Food Donation Program between a local community pantry and Airport concessions.

In recognition of its sustainable environmental practices, Mineta San José International Airport was awarded the Airport Carbon Accreditation Level 1 Certification in 2021 by ACI-North America. Airport Carbon Accreditation is the only global carbon management certification program for airports, providing a common framework for active carbon management with measurable goalposts,

and recognizing the efforts of airports to reduce their carbon emissions through six levels of certification.

[Orlando International Airport to open Terminal C this month](#)

Airport-Technology.com - *Sept. 14, 2022*

The Greater Orlando Aviation Authority (GOAA) has announced that Orlando International Airport's (MCO) new \$2.8bn Terminal C will be opened this month.

Spread over 300 acres of land, the 15-gate terminal will be able to accommodate up to 20 aircraft. It will feature informational video displays in the ticket halls, concession hub and gate areas.

GOAA said that Terminal C underlines MCO's commitment to sustainability and environmental responsibility. It is one of the first airport campuses to be built in line with Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) v4 standards.

The terminal is claimed to be the US' first integrated, multimodal airport terminal for rail, air and ground transportation. It also features automated screening lanes at the TSA checkpoint, as well as facial recognition for arriving and departing international passengers.

Burns Engineering project manager Greg Spence said: "Terminal C's technology amenities put passengers in control of their airport journey. Features that enhance the passenger experience include common-use technologies, enhancements like automated airport screening lanes, and mind-blowing immersive multimedia entertainment."

In February last year, GOAA reached a contract with AERO BridgeWorks to deploy ADB SAFEGATE's Safedock Advanced Visual Docking Guidance System and SafeControl Apron Management.

[Reopened valet service at MIA provides closest, easiest airport parking option](#)

Miami's Community News - *Sept. 12, 2022*

Valet parking returned to Miami International Airport for the first time since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic and just in time for the Labor Day travel weekend. Travelers now can save time before their flight and avoid the hassle of parking before heading into the terminal.

Valet parking is conveniently located at the departures level entrance to the Dolphin garage, directly across from Door 4 of MIA's Concourse D airline check-in area. Later this month, valet parking will reopen in MIA's Flamingo garage directly across from Door 20 of Concourse J on the departures level.

Valet parking attendants take a driver's vehicle and park it in one of 225 dedicated spaces on the departures or arrivals level. Drivers will get a parking receipt containing the date and time their car was parked, which they will present when they return to the drop-off location. Returning travelers can call or text message in advance to alert parking attendants that their flight has arrived so their vehicle can be ready for pickup. The service also is available to MIA users who are picking up travelers.

"I am so pleased that travelers will now be able to take advantage of the convenience of valet parking at MIA. Travelers who need additional assistance or a shorter walk to the terminal can once again use this premium service," said Miami-Dade County Mayor Daniella Levine Cava.

Valet parking rates are \$18 for under three hours, \$30 for the first three to 24 hours, and \$30 each day after. All vehicles parked in valet are limited to a maximum length of stay of 20 days.

[PHX travelers will soon be able to ride the Sky Train to pick up a rental car](#)

ThePointsGuy.com - *Sept. 14, 2022*

Within the new few months, getting to the rental car center is going to be a much easier process for travelers landing at Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport (PHX). Crews are on target to finish a new extension of the airport's Sky Train by the end of the year, airport officials told TPG. Once it is operational, passengers will no longer have to take a shuttle bus between the terminals and the rental car center.

Right now, testing is underway on Phase 2 of construction on Phoenix's Sky Train. Sections of the line's first phase opened in 2013 and 2014, connecting Terminals 3 and 4 to economy parking east of the airport and regional light rail.

The Sky Train's first phase has served millions of passengers over the better part of a decade since opening. But travelers arriving at and departing from Phoenix have still faced a rather dated and inconvenient trek to the rental car center by shuttle. That's all set to change. When you arrive in Phoenix today, you can use the Sky Train to connect to the city's largest mass transit system.

After catching the Sky Train from Terminals 3 or 4, it's a short ride — after a stop at east economy parking — to the 44th Street/Washington station where you can access Valley Metro Rail, the Phoenix area's light rail system. Trains typically run every three to five minutes, 24 hours a day.

The system, which is free to ride like most similar systems at U.S. airports, served an average of 14,600 passengers each day prior to the pandemic, airport officials said.

Sky Train Phase 2 broke ground in 2018. Once complete, the Sky Train's line will run all the way from the 44th Street/Washington station at one end of the line past the terminals to the rental car center at the other end of the line. In all, it will encompass five miles and an estimated 13 minutes of ride time from one end to the other.

The Sky Train's new phase includes the construction of two new stations: one at the rental car facility and another between the rental car center and terminals at 24th Street, which will include 1,600 additional economy parking spaces, along with additional curbside pick-up and drop off areas for passengers — something the airport says will reduce congestion at the terminals and improve freeway access for travelers arriving at Sky Harbor from the west.

[Tampa Airport's first new airside terminal gets final approval](#)

AXIOS.com - *Sept. 9, 2022*

Construction will start soon on Airside D, the first new airside terminal at Tampa International Airport in 17 years.

The Hillsborough County Aviation Authority approved the airport's capital and operating budget for FY2023, and it includes the new \$787.4 million terminal.

The project will add 16 gates with capacity to accommodate 13 million more passengers at TPA by 2037. The new terminal will feature lots of glass, plus bright, open spaces, an outdoor terrace, and furnishings that ... border on luxurious.

The project is the final part of a three-phase master plan for the airport's ambitious, years-long expansion. Phases 1 and 2 included adding the Rental Car Center, SkyConnect Automated People Mover, and Blue Express Curbsides for passengers without luggage, among other projects.

Heralded as the airport of the future, TPA opened in 1971 with a hub and spoke design that used trams to shuttle passengers from a central ticketing and baggage terminal to outlying gates.

Airside D is the newest terminal addition since Airside C — aka the Southwest terminal — added 16 gates at a cost of \$135 million in 2005.

The project — paid for through airport-issued bonds and state and federal grants — was stalled during the pandemic, and inflation has pushed cost estimates up by almost \$100 million, per the Tampa Bay Business Journal.

[Car sharing goes electric at Frankfurt Airport](#)

eTurboNews.com - *Sept. 14, 2022*

Car sharing providers at Frankfurt Airport (FRA) have now been joined by two companies that rely exclusively on electric vehicles.

The popularity of car sharing – in other words, shared use of rental vehicles – is growing fast. And it's a very flexible alternative to owning and using your own car or taking taxis or public transportation to get to and from the airport.

It's also attuned to the trend toward sustainable, climate-friendly mobility, both in the air and on the ground. The car sharing providers at Frankfurt Airport (FRA) have now been joined by two companies that rely exclusively on electric vehicles: deer and UFODRIVE, each of which has five dedicated parking spaces with charging capabilities next to Terminal 1 in parking facility P2 (in row 1406 on level 14).

Fraport AG has ambitious climate protection goals. Among other things, it has committed itself to reducing carbon emissions to zero at both FRA and all of the Group's other fully consolidated airports worldwide. "We're also encouraging the companies we have contractual arrangements with to adopt clearly defined targets and solutions along these lines," says Gerald Krebs, who is responsible at Fraport AG for parking and mobility. "So, we're very pleased to be working with these two outfits to promote emissions-free, sustainable mobility at the airport."

UFODRIVE GmbH is internationally active, currently operating a network of 21 locations across nine countries. Its operation at FRA, dubbed "UFOBAY Frankfurt Airport", is the company's third station at an international airport in Europe's German-speaking countries (Germany, Austria, and Switzerland). It offers vehicles of the Tesla brand, which can be booked via its website, or an app. Renters can also use a smartphone as a digital key for unlocking and starting the car.

deer GmbH, based in the southern German state of Baden-Württemberg, has the declared mission of enabling flexible, low-cost connections, especially in rural areas. The electric vehicles of its fleet have a range of up to 500 kilometers. One-way rentals are also possible among its nearly 200 bases. Customers can choose from a wide selection of makes and models and use an app to conveniently rent and reserve them.

[Super Bowl visitors will swamp Sky Harbor Airport. Here's what it's doing to get ready](#)

azcentral.com - *Sept. 8, 2022*

When the Super Bowl last came to Arizona in 2015, people who flew to Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport had to ride a shuttle bus to get to the Rental Car Center. That's still true today, but airport staff are working to change that before the big game comes back in 2023.

When the Super Bowl was last played in metro Phoenix — at what was then called University of Phoenix Stadium in Glendale — Sky Harbor's traffic the day after the game was about 175,000 passengers. Airport staff expect 180,000 passengers on Feb. 13, the day after Super Bowl 2023 at the renamed State Farm Stadium.

As part of their preparations, Sky Harbor staff are working to finish projects that will enhance infrastructure and amenities — most notably, connecting terminals 3 and 4 with the Rental Car Center via the PHX Sky Train — and hiring more employees to manage the expected traffic surge.

Airports Council International named Sky Harbor the No. 11 busiest airport in the world and No. 9 busiest in the U.S. for passenger traffic in 2021, something airport staff attribute to a faster pandemic recovery compared to other airports.

The Rental Car Center is about 3 miles away from the terminals. It can take seven minutes — or longer during peak traffic periods — for a shuttle bus to transport passengers each way.

When completed, the long-awaited PHX Sky Train extension will offer a more convenient and direct way to travel between the terminals and the Rental Car Center. And phasing out the shuttles will reduce road congestion and carbon emissions.

Currently, the Sky Train connects the terminals with the east economy parking lot and the Valley Metro light rail station at 44th and Washington streets.

Staff expects the Rental Car Center's connection to the Sky Train to finish this year. Right now, the route is undergoing safety and reliability tests.

There's no specific date for completion of the \$745 million project, funded through rental car customer and airline passenger facility charges. The goal is to have the route fully operational before the Super Bowl.