



Issue 11 | December 2024

Looking Ahead to 2025

The Terminal Modernization Development Program continues to ramp up as Cleveland Hopkins International Airport (CLE) looks ahead to 2025. In 2024, the biggest project was the removal of the former Sheraton Hotel site, which will ultimately become additional airport parking.

To end the year and begin 2025, CLE is asking for public input on Cleveland's Sense of Place. What makes Cleveland, Cleveland? What are the unique characteristics of the City and the region that make it distinct, and what people connect with? The data gathered will be one piece that is used to inspire and influence the architecture and design of the new facilities.

To participate in the survey, please click the button below:

Take Survey

Other elements of the TMDP you can look forward to in 2025 include: introducing the evolving layout and the corresponding schedule of work, the beginning of detailed design work, and the procurement of a program management team to lead us into the future.

CLE looks forward to continuing to improve our guest experience for you, the traveler. Help us shape CLE's future!

United Fantasy Flights Return!



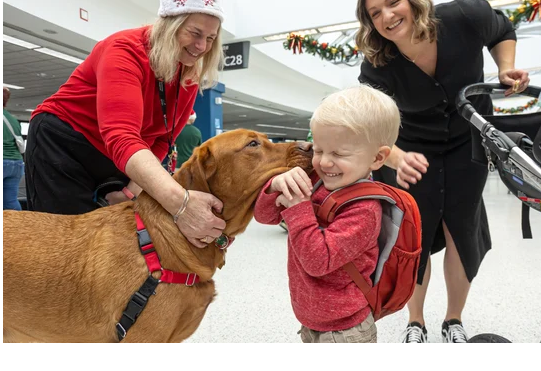
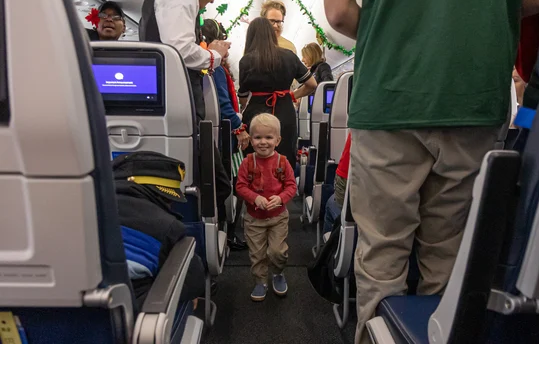
For the first time since 2019, United's Annual Fantasy Flight returned to Cleveland Hopkins International Airport (CLE). United, in partnership with Rainbow Babies and Children, MetroHealth and the Cleveland Clinic welcomed sixty local children to the "North Pole."

United employee volunteers pulled off a magical treat for the kids, aged 2-14 years-old as they departed on a United plane and "landed" in the North Pole in just 60 magical minutes after taking off.



Volunteers greeted the kids as Santa Claus and other holiday characters, also offering refreshments and presents.

"It's been absolutely amazing to see all the departments come together to make this happen," said Jeff Mechnig, United's General Manager. "It's really, really nice to see the children come off the airplane. It makes it all worthwhile."



Snowball Express Eases Grief of Families of Fallen Military and First Responders



American Airlines, the Official Airline Partner of the Gary Sinise Foundation, hosted 11 families from Northeast Ohio as they hopped on the Snowball Express to Orlando, Florida.

The Gary Sinise Foundation honors the children of fallen heroes with a blend of fun entertainment, inspiring programs and support by bringing these families together. Families receive a five-day experience at the Walt Disney World Resorts.

"You can see in the eyes of all participants they enjoyed and appreciated the start of their journey to Disney," said Stephen Shaffer, Customer Service Manager for American Airlines.

These events are essential for children and the surviving spouse/guardian to develop bonds with the only people who can truly understand their loss: each other.



New Lightning Detection System Installed at CLE

Cleveland Hopkins International Airport (CLE) is proud to announce the recent completion of installation of a new lightning detection and alerting system.

Weather plays a huge part in the operation of an airport. Most passengers don't realize that when there is lightning near the airport, aircraft cannot push back from or pull up to a gate, as the people who would be on the ground to marshal the aircraft are unable to be out on the ramp for safety reasons.

"Weather is inseparable from airports, it determines what operations look like for any given day," said Zach Randall, Airport Operations Manager. "Whether it's snow removal or severe thunderstorms, weather is a major factor for operations around an airport."

This system installed on all concourses and other strategic locations around the airfield will provide audible and visual alerts anytime severe weather is in proximity to the airport.

Prior to installation of this system, there was no airport wide method of alerting. Severe weather pages did go out, but nothing that would deliver information to ground crews as quickly as the new system can deliver the warning.

The installation of these devices helps increase safety by delivering an alert quickly to key employees, which will contribute to a safer environment for everyone around the facility and ensure that all personnel are communicated with when severe weather may pose a hazard.

This system uses state of the art technology to track and identify severe weather in the area and relays that information regarding cellular network to the alerting equipment.

"We believe that this technology will not only increase the safety of our passengers but personnel working on the airfield as well," said Randall.



Watch for more stories like these that share information about DPC and our airports. The stories in this issue of The Hopkins Approach demonstrate how we are working together to fulfill the Department of Port Control's Mission, Vision, and Values, including our RESPECT Model and Strategic Priorities.

CLE enjoy going places

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