



Issue 17 | June 2025

CLE100 Anniversary Event: June 30th - July 2nd, 2025

Cleveland Hopkins International Airport (CLE) is celebrating its 100th Anniversary on July 1st, 2025. An airport with a rich history and industry milestones, CLE has set the bar from the beginning. As we embark on a CLEvolution, we are looking to set the bar again. This week we'll look back at our past while also looking towards the future. The airport and our valued partners have curated unforgettable experiences for our guests and employees alike.

[View Event Agenda](#)

CLE100 ANNIVERSARY EVENT

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MONDAY, JUNE 30TH:

9:30AM: Raffle with Spinning Wheel

- Fraport Spinning Wheel promotion includes discounts at various locations throughout the airport, for example \$8000 50% off items with purchase, \$8000 free items with purchase and 20% off at some of the specialty retail locations.

11AM-2PM: Jazz Musicians

- Food Court

1:30PM: Raffle with Spinning Wheel

- Fraport Spinning Wheel promotion includes discounts at various locations throughout the airport, for example \$8000 50% off items with purchase, \$8000 free items with purchase and 20% off at some of the specialty retail locations.

Merchant Specials

- Full Service Restaurants will be offering Specialty Cocktails celebrating CLE100 which will be offered June 30th through July 6th.

TUESDAY, JULY 1ST:

10:30AM: C47 Fly by

- Quads can view the fly by out any westside facing windows or staged at Gate B1 between 11am-12:30pm.

11AM-2PM: Classic Rock Musicians

- Food Court

12:30PM: Slider Appearance

WEDNESDAY, JULY 2ND:

9:30AM-11:30AM: Fraport Raffle with Spinning Wheel

- Fraport Spinning Wheel promotion includes discounts at various locations throughout the airport, for example \$8000 50% off items with purchase, \$8000 free items with purchase and 20% off at some of the specialty retail locations.

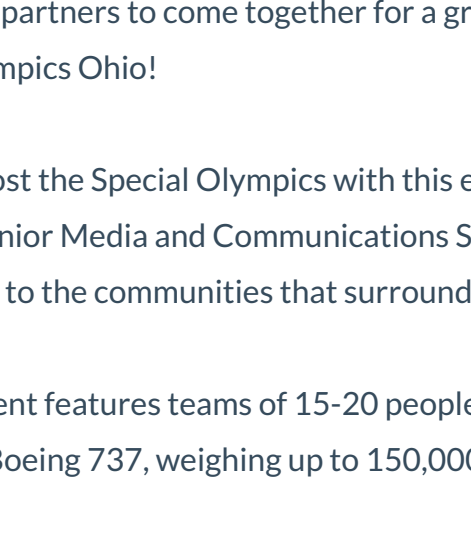
12PM-4PM: Rock Hall Street Team in the Main Terminal Food Court

12:30PM-2PM: CHOMPS Appearance

Merchant Specials

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Register Now: Annual Plane Pull to Support Special Olympics Ohio



Sign up now for this year's Annual Law Enforcement Torch Run Plane Pull to benefit the Special Olympics Ohio!

The Plane Pull is a thrilling day for athletes, friends, family, and corporate, public safety and community partners to come together for a great cause -- raising money for Special Olympics Ohio!

"We are so proud to host the Special Olympics with this extraordinary event," said Michele Dynia, Senior Media and Communications Specialist. "It is so important to give back to the communities that surround the airport."

This family friendly event features teams of 15-20 people working together to pull a United Airlines Boeing 737, weighing up to 150,000 pounds, 12 feet in the fastest time.

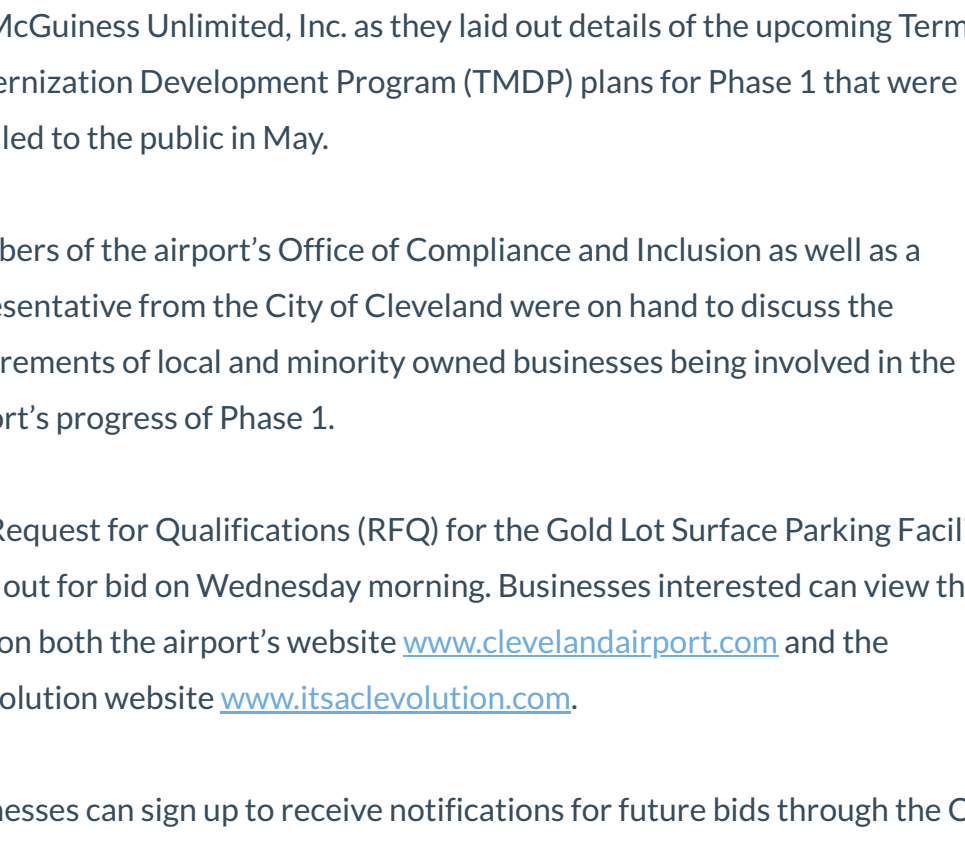
Awards will be given for the following: Top Fundraising Team, Top Fundraising Individual, and Fastest Pull Team in each Division.

SOOH provides year-round sports training and competition opportunities for adults and children with intellectual disabilities, giving them opportunities to develop physical fitness, demonstrate courage and experience joy as they participate in the sharing of gifts and friendship with their own families, their peers and the community.

Last year's event raised over \$80,000!

[Sign up your team today!](#)

Cleveland Hopkins International Airport Welcomes Hundreds to Industry Day Event



[Watch the Recap](#)

Nearly 600 contractors and consultants from around the world converged in Cleveland on Tuesday for a chance to be a part of the CLEvolution at Cleveland Hopkins International Airport.

"I was impressed with the balance of local and global attendees that took the time to come to the event yesterday," said Bryant L. Francis, C.M., Director of Port Control. "Everyone on hand was as excited as we are to build a world-class airport for the City of Cleveland."

The event featured speakers from CLE, the City of Cleveland, the Paslay Group and McGuinness Unlimited, Inc. as they laid out details of the upcoming Terminal Modernization Development Program (TMDP) plans for Phase 1 that were unveiled to the public in May.

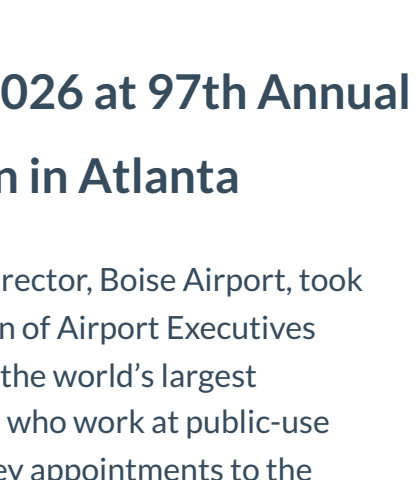
Members of the airport's Office of Compliance and Inclusion as well as a representative from the City of Cleveland were on hand to discuss the requirements of local and minority owned businesses being involved in the Airport's progress of Phase 1.

The Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for the Gold Lot Surface Parking Facility went out for bid on Wednesday morning. Businesses interested can view the RFQ on both the airport's website www.clevelandairport.com and the CLEvolution website www.itsaclevolution.com.

Businesses can sign up to receive notifications for future bids through the Open Gov website.

Frank D. Williams Appointed as Assistant Director of Airport Operations and Public Safety

We are pleased to announce the appointment of Frank D. Williams as the new Assistant Director of Airport Operations and Public Safety. With a wealth of experience in public works management and a deep commitment to ensuring the safety and efficiency of our operations, Frank brings a unique blend of expertise and dedication to this role.



"The addition of Frank signifies a further strengthening of the Executive Management Team to oversee our growing enterprise," said Bryant L. Francis, C.M., Director of Port Control. "Numerous facets of his previous role with the City will be valuable to our organization, and I am happy to have him onboard."

Throughout Frank's career, he has demonstrated an unwavering passion for public service. His extensive background includes overseeing various aspects of public works operations, from infrastructure management and emergency response to customer service and staff management. Frank is known for his ability to lead with a heart for staff, colleagues, and the public, ensuring a safe and welcoming environment for all.

Frank has a distinguished work history, including serving as the Director of Public Works for the City of Cleveland. In this role, he oversaw 10 divisions and more than 1,200 employees, managing core services such as street repair, waste collection, snow and ice control, traffic and engineering, property management, parking, and motor vehicle maintenance. His leadership in these areas has been instrumental in driving significant improvements and efficiencies.

Prior to his position in Cleveland, Frank served as the Administrator of Infrastructure Management for the City of Columbus. In this role, he oversaw Street Maintenance, Long Range Infrastructure Planning, Permitting, and GIS Services. His leadership in these areas has been instrumental in driving significant improvements and efficiencies.

In addition to his professional achievements, Frank holds a Master's in Public Administration (MPA) and is currently pursuing a Doctor of Education (EdD) in Organizational Leadership from Franklin University. He is excited to begin gaining specific airport operations certifications, further enhancing his expertise and contributing to the continued success of our airport.

In his new role, Frank will continue to prioritize the well-being of both employees and passengers, fostering a culture of safety, collaboration, and excellence. His vision for the future includes implementing innovative strategies to enhance operational efficiency and improve the overall airport experience.

Please join us in welcoming Frank D. Williams to his new position and supporting him as he embarks on this exciting journey.

AAAE Elects Leaders for 2025-2026 at 97th Annual Conference & Exposition in Atlanta

Alexandria, Va. — Rebecca Hupp, A.A.E., Airport Director, Boise Airport, took office June 10 as Chair of the American Association of Airport Executives (AAAE) for 2025-2026. Founded in 1928, AAAE is the world's largest professional organization representing individuals who work at public-use commercial and general aviation airports. Other key appointments to the Association's Executive Committee, Board of Directors, and Policy Review Council were also finalized during the 97th Annual AAAE Conference & Exposition in Atlanta, held June 8-10 and hosted by Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport.

"AAAE is fortunate to have a group of exceptional airport executives who have pledged their time, energy, and talent to help guide the Association forward," said AAAE President and CEO Todd Hauptli. "The AAAE team is grateful for their commitment to our organization and the airport industry, and we look forward to working with these talented leaders in the important year ahead."

Hupp was one of six Executive Committee members elected by the AAAE membership. She succeeds Rick Crider, A.A.E., Airport Director, Prescott Regional Airport/Ernest A. Love Field, who becomes First Past Chair. The Second Past Chair is Perry Miller, Ph.D., A.A.E., IAP, President & Chief Executive Officer, Richmond International Airport. Other Executive Committee members elected by the AAAE membership are First Vice Chair Marshall Stevens, A.A.E., Vice President, Operations & Chief Operating Officer, Memphis International Airport; Second Vice Chair Patrick Wilson, A.A.E., ACE, President and CEO, Metropolitan Knoxville Airport Authority; and Kevin R. Bumen, A.A.E., CAE, Chief Finance and Commercial Officer, San Francisco International Airport as Secretary/Treasurer.

Members of the AAAE Board of Directors are:

- Devon Brubaker, A.A.E., Airport Director, Southwest Wyoming Regional Airport
- Melissa Cooper, A.A.E., Director of Aviation, Kansas City Aviation Department
- Mark Crosby, A.A.E., Vice President, Aviation, McCarthy Building Companies
- Sarah Demory, A.A.E., ACE, Assistant Aviation Director - Chief Operating Officer, Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport
- Daren Griffin, A.A.E., President & Chief Executive Officer, Reno-Tahoe Airport Authority
- Lance Lamkin, A.A.E., Airport Director, University of Oklahoma Max Westheimer Airport
- Jane Lucero, A.A.E., AICP, Airport Development Administrator, New Mexico Department of Transportation Aviation Division
- Chad Makovsky, A.A.E., IACE, Aviation Director, City of Phoenix Aviation Department
- Andrew Martz, A.A.E., Assistant Airport Director, Eugene Airport
- Tyler Miller, A.A.E., ACE, Chief Operating Officer, Blue Grass Airport
- Melinda Montgomery, A.A.E., Vice President & Chief Operating Officer, Norfolk International Airport
- Steven Picou, A.A.E., ACE, Executive Director, Lafayette Regional Airport
- John Reed, A.A.E., Executive Director, Rochester International Airport
- Alicia Robertson, President & Chief Executive Officer, PSM Squared, Inc.
- Lenard Robinson, A.A.E., Assistant Executive Director, Savannah Airport Commission
- Atif Saeed, A.A.E., IAP, Chief Executive Officer, Philadelphia International Airport
- Marc Sethna, A.A.E., Director, Terminal & Facilities, Columbus Regional Airport Authority
- Zach Sundquist, A.A.E., IACE, Assistant Airport Director, Portland International Jetport
- Megan Atkins Thoburn, A.A.E., Vice President, Operations & Customer Engagement, Louisville Regional Airport Authority
- Mark Witsoe, A.A.E., CAE, Airport Manager, Napa County Airport

Members of the AAAE Policy Review Council are:

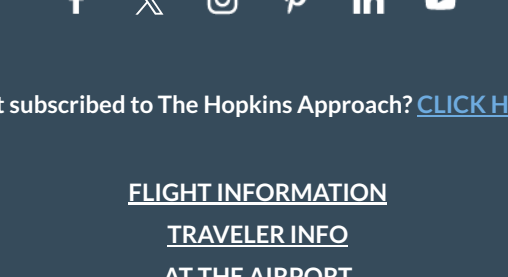
- John Ackerman, Chief Executive Officer, Los Angeles World Airports
- Iftekhar Ahmad, P.E., President & Chief Executive Officer, Rhode Island Airport Corp.
- Jeff Bilyeu, A.A.E., Aviation Director, Texas Gulf Coast Regional Airport
- Kelly Campbell, A.A.E., Executive Director, Aviation, Lubbock Preston Smith International Airport
- Kevin Dolielle, Director of Aviation, Louis Armstrong New Orleans International Airport
- Jim Elwood, A.A.E., Executive Director, Jackson Hole Airport
- Bryant Francis, C.M., Director of Airports, Cleveland Hopkins International Airport
- Carol Gaddis, Director, IT and Innovation, Richmond International Airport
- Mark Gale, A.A.E., Chief Executive Officer & Director of Aviation, Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport
- Courtney Johnson, C.M., Airport Director, San Luis Obispo County Regional Airport
- Larry Krauter, A.A.E., AICP, FRAES, Chief Executive Officer, Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky International Airport
- Doug Kreulen, A.A.E., President & Chief Executive Officer, Metropolitan Nashville Airport Authority
- Lance Lamkin, A.A.E., Airport Director, University of Oklahoma Max Westheimer Airport
- Mike Landguth, A.A.E., President & Chief Executive Officer, Raleigh-Durham Airport Authority
- Lance Lyttle, IAP, Chief Executive Officer, Greater Orlando Aviation Authority
- Derek Martin, A.A.E., ACE, Executive Director, Erie Regional Airport Authority
- Andrew Martz, A.A.E., Assistant Airport Director, Eugene Airport
- Ron Mathieu, C.M., President & Chief Executive Officer, Birmingham-Shuttlesworth International Airport
- Scott McMahon, A.A.E., Executive Director, Morristown Airport
- Jeff Mulder, A.A.E., Airports Director, OKC Will Rogers International Airport
- Chad Newton, A.A.E., Chief Executive Officer, Wayne County Airport Authority
- Chloe Patel, C.M., Director of Aviation, San Jose Mineta International Airport
- Markie Reynolds, C.M., Airport Director, John Wayne Airport - Orange County
- Tory Richardson, A.A.E., President & Chief Executive Officer, Gerald R. Ford International Airport
- Ann Richart, A.A.E., Aviation Director, Washington State Department of Transportation
- Jesus Saenz, Jr., IAP, Director of Airports, San Antonio Airport System
- Katie Scherer, A.A.E., ACE, Operations Manager, Fort Wayne-Allen County Airport Authority
- Ricky Smith, General Manager, Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport
- Cathryn Stephens, A.A.E., Airport Director, Eugene Airport
- Mark VanLoth, A.A.E., Chief Executive Officer, Jacksonville Aviation Authority
- Phillip Washington, Chief Executive Officer, Denver International Airport
- Craig Williams, A.A.E., Airport Director, Kalamazoo Battle Creek International Airport

ABOUT AAAE: Founded in 1928, [American Association of Airport Executives \(AAAE\)](#) is the world's largest professional organization representing the individuals who work at public-use commercial and general aviation airports. AAAE's 11,000 members represent more than 960 airports as well as hundreds of companies and organizations that support the airport industry. Headquartered in Alexandria, Va., AAAE serves its membership through results-oriented representation in Washington, D.C., and delivers a wide range of industry services and professional development opportunities, including training, conferences, and a highly respected accreditation program.

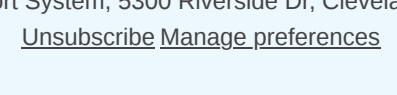
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[View Full AAAE Press Release](#)

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.



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