



# City of Naples Airport Authority 2014 Annual Report



**CITY OF NAPLES AIRPORT AUTHORITY**  
**160 AVIATION DRIVE NORTH • NAPLES, FLORIDA 34104-3568**

ADMINISTRATION (239) 643-0733/ FAX 643-4084  
OPERATIONS 643-0404/FAX 643-1791, E-MAIL [administration@flynaples.com](mailto:administration@flynaples.com)

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On behalf of the Board of Commissioners and staff of the City of Naples Airport Authority, I am happy to report on the activities and accomplishments of the 2013-14 fiscal year. It was a year of milestones.

In late December, the new Taxiway A extension was completed, making it easier for aircraft to use the full length of the airport's main runway for takeoff. Departing from the end of the runway allow planes to reach higher altitudes before leaving airport property, lessening sound on the ground. The extension is part of an \$8 million water-management system improvement project, with 95 percent of the funding provided by the Federal Aviation Administration and Florida Department of Transportation. The project is designed to improve runoff and stormwater collection; water filtration; and distribution of clean water into Rock Creek and the Gordon River.

The Florida Airports Council honored the airport with the 2013 Community Affairs Award in recognition of successful efforts to increase awareness of the airport and strengthen our position as a good corporate citizen and neighbor. Providing accurate, timely information is an ongoing effort, so it was gratifying to earn this acknowledgement. Communication and community outreach remain among our top priorities.

I celebrated my 20th anniversary as executive director of the Airport Authority in April. This year presented challenges but also some pleasant surprises with awards from the Florida Wing of the Civil Air Patrol and the Florida Department of Transportation. I share these honors with the Board of Commissioners and our outstanding staff.

And finally, 2014 marked the 45th anniversary of the City of Naples Airport Authority. On July 3, 1969, the Florida Legislature created the authority at the request of the Naples City Council, and management of Naples Municipal Airport was transferred to the Naples Airport Authority under a 99-year lease. At that time, the City of Naples was spending more than \$200,000 a year to support the operation of the airport, which opened in 1943.

Since the Airport Authority was created, all funds used for airport operation, maintenance and improvements have been generated from activities at the airport or from federal and state grants, with no property-tax-dollar support. The Florida Department of Transportation recently updated its data and now values the airport's economic impact to the community at more than \$283.5 million annually.

I expect 2015 to also bring milestones and surprises. The water-management system improvement project, which has the potential to serve a national model for handling water on airports, will continue. We will launch a commercial air service study to determine if the community wants commercial airline service at Naples Municipal Airport, how much market support we can expect for flights, and what it would cost the Airport Authority to attract and support that service. It is time to take a fresh look at this issue and decide if commercial air carrier service is a practical, worthwhile goal.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Theodore D. Soliday". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Theodore D. Soliday, CM, Executive Director

**Airport Authority Board of Commissioners**

John Allen, Chairman → Cormac Giblin, Vice Chairman → Dick Evans → John Nocera → Jim Rideoutte

## Distinctions

- ➔ The Florida Department of Transportation honored Executive Director Theodore D. Soliday as 2014 Florida Aviation Professional of the Year. Soliday was nominated for his dedication to the Naples community, his commitment to aviation and his work in making Naples Municipal 'The Best Little Airport in the Country.'
- ➔ The Florida Wing of the Civil Airport Patrol honored Soliday with the Frank G. Brewer, Sr. Civil Air Patrol Memorial Aerospace Award. The Brewer Award, established in 1959, serves as a memorial to Brewer and his lifelong interest in aviation, youth and education. Nominees are evaluated on CAP-program support, significance of accomplishments, community involvement and support of aerospace education.
- ➔ Florida Airports Council honored Naples Municipal Airport with the 2013 Community Affairs Award.
- ➔ The American Association of Airport Executives designated Sheila Dugan, deputy executive director of the Airport Authority, an Accredited Airport Executive. Roughly two-dozen professionals achieve accreditation in North America each year. Dugan joined the Airport Authority in 1990 and assumed her current responsibilities in 2011.
- ➔ The Government Finance Officers Association recognized the Airport Authority and Director of Finance Sheila Etelamaki with their ninth consecutive Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting. Commissioner John Nocera (shown at right in the photo below) congratulates Etelamaki (holding the certificate) and her staff (from left) Brett Naidenoff, Ann Donovan, Andrea Browne, Deborah Rudy, Jan Lanning and Susan Hart.



## Of Note

- ➔ Executive Director Ted Soliday (pictured above right) thanked outgoing Airport Authority Board of Commissioners Chair John Allen, who served since 2006, and Vice Chair Cormac Giblin, who joined the board in 2008. Richard P. Evans and James T. Rideoutte joined the board of commissioners last winter, replacing Linda Flewelling and Ernest Linneman, whose terms expired, and Donna Messer and Raymond Stricklen joined the board in September.
- ➔ Naples Municipal Airport became one of 17 locations in Southwest Florida to host an NBC2 WebCam, which provides real-time look at the weather. Mounted on the air traffic control tower, the WebCam provides live video at [www.nbc-2.com/weather](http://www.nbc-2.com/weather), along with the temperature, dew point, humidity, wind speed and direction, and rain totals.
- ➔ The Airport Authority celebrates the 70th anniversary of Naples Municipal Airport with several observances throughout 2103.

## Statistics

- ➔ Total aircraft operations in 2014: 95,120, an increase of 3.8% compared to the previous year.
- ➔ Total number of aircraft clearings through U.S. Customs: 788, a more than 40% increase over the previous year. Naples was the destination for nearly 97% of those aircraft.
- ➔ The Museum of Military Memorabilia hosted more than 22,000 visitors last year in space provided inside the Commercial Airline Terminal.



## Acknowledgements

We thank the following, along with many others, who contributed to the Authority's accomplishments:

### Noise Compatibility Committee Members:

Chair M. Richard Mellon • Vice Chair Scottie Yeager • William Barnett • William Cox  
Robert Erbstein • William Goddard • William T. Hummel • Ernest Linneman • Robert Tweedie

### Naples Airport Authority staff, including

Theodore D. Soliday, Executive Director • Sheila A. Dugan, Deputy Executive Director  
Kerry Keith, Director of Airport Development and Facilities  
Sheila Etelamaki, Director of Finance and Administration • Ryan Frost, Director of Airport Operations  
Ron Jefferson, Assistant Director of Airport Development and Facilities • and others

### City of Naples Airport Authority Chairs

1969-70	Potter Smith	1997-98	Joseph A. Bawduniak
1970-71	Robert L. Hill, Jr.	1998	Ronald M. Pennington
1971-72	William H. Creason	1999	Leonard H. Thornton
1972-74	Byron E. Harding	2000	Ronald M. Pennington
1974-78	John M. Miller	2001	Eric West
1979	Robert E. Lee Hall	2002	Peter L. Manion
1979	John M. Miller	2003	Peter G. Eschauzier
1980-82	Edwin J. Putzell, Jr.	2004	Alice J. Carlson
1983-84	Robert N. Tiffany	2005	Peter L. Manion
1985-86	Edward J. Kant	2006-07	Ernest W. Linneman
1987-88	William R. Blaikie	2008-09	John N. Allen
1988-90	Toivo Tammerk	2010	Robert J. Sullivan II
1991-92	Raymond E. Carroll	2011-12	Cormac J. Giblin
1992-94	Eugene J. Schmidt	2013	Ernest W. Linneman
1994-97	Edwin J. Putzell, Jr.	2014	John N. Allen



Celebrating the Airport Authority's 45th anniversary (pictured left): Noise Compatibility Committee Vice Chair Scottie Yeager, Airport Authority Commissioner Jim Rideoutte, Committee Member Ernie Linneman and Executive Director Ted Soliday.

We invite you to attend Airport Authority board meetings, or watch them on the Internet at [www.naplesgov.com](http://www.naplesgov.com).

Learn more about the airport, or subscribe to electronic news updates at [www.FlyNaples.com](http://www.FlyNaples.com).