

Provided by Charlotte Douglas International Airport DESTINATION CLT PROJECTS REACH MILESTONES

harlotte Douglas International Airport is in the midst of wrapping up two major phases of Destination CLT, the Airport's \$2.5 billion capital investment program to renovate the concourses and expand CLT's roadways, curb front, airfield and terminal.

The upper level of the Elevated Roadway and Terminal Curb Front will undergo a traffic shift in March, signaling a big milestone. Vehicles will reroute from the current roadway to the new constructed roadway, marking the completion of Phase II. Lower level traffic will remain the same. Crews will then move quickly to Phase III, the final stage of the project. It involves tearing down the existing entrance and exit ramps to complete the west and east sides of the roadway by fall 2019.

Inside, Concourse B renovations will conclude in early April. Construction plans call for Concourses A, B and C to receive new ceiling tiles, LED lighting, wayfinding signage, carpet in the gate areas, wall panels and fresh coats of paint. Terrazzo flooring also will be placed in the center walkway of the concourses to better

accommodate rolling luggage. HVAC, electrical, fire alarm and sprinkler systems will be upgraded as well.

"Both projects will have lasting impacts for decades," said CLT Aviation Director/CEO Brent Cagle. "Passengers will be very pleased with all the enhancements Destination CLT will provide. We are essentially renovating and building a completely new Airport that will elevate the traveling experience in Charlotte."

ELEVATED ROADWAY AND TERMINAL CURB FRONT

CLT's Elevated Roadway and Terminal Curb Front will open in fall 2019, adding eight lanes on both the upper and lower level roadway to help meet local passenger demand. Upon its debut, traffic flow will be reconfigured. Commercial vehicles will shift to the three inside lanes near the terminal and personal vehicles will use the five outside lanes near the Hourly Deck.

"It is a needed and welcome change for the Airport," Cagle added. "Drivers will have additional lanes for picking up and droping off



family and friends. The whole process of driving to the Airport will be easier and faster."

Currently, the \$42 million project is 80 percent complete. CLT's original roadway, which still exists today, debuted in 1982 with five lanes on each level.

Crews are currently finishing Phase II, the upper level traffic shift. Pre-cast girders to support the upper roadway bridge are being installed and construction of the commercial vehicle lanes is underway. Four temporary pedestrian bridges are being built to allow public access to and from the new roadway and terminal without crossing traffic.

Once the Elevated Roadway and Curb Front opens, construction of the Terminal Lobby Expansion can begin. The final design plan is scheduled for approval in coming months. Construction will take four to five years to complete. The expansion will create additional space for security lanes, ticketing, baggage claim and passenger circulation in the terminal lobby.

TERMINAL RENOVATIONS

Concourse B is the first concourse to undergo the transformation, which began in September 2017. Currently, ceiling work is nearing completion and new finishes and terrazzo flooring have been installed. A new air handling unit was connected last summer to increase air conditioning capacity. Both sets of restrooms are now open. Crews have placed chairs equipped with power outlets and wireless charging units on alternate armrests throughout the majority of the concourse. Permanent signage installation is also underway.

"The chairs are already a big hit," Cagle said. "Our passengers are excited they can charge their electronic devices without having to leave their seats. It's enhancements such as this, along with the terrazzo flooring, LED lighting and improved signage, that raise the bar for us in terms of customer service."

In other areas of the terminal, renovations on the existing Concourse A began September 10 and will run through early 2020. Currently, the north side of the concourse is closed to allow crews to work uninterrupted. Once the north side is complete, crews will move to the south side of the concourse.

Concourse C renovations began on January 14 and will finish in spring 2020. The Airport's Atrium will also undergo a refresh. The project is still in the planning stages. Ticketing and Baggage Claim will receive an overhaul during the terminal lobby expansion, which is scheduled to begin in spring 2019.

Each concourse renovation project will take a year to 18 months to complete. CLT's terminal building opened in spring 1982. The \$70 million project will bring new life to the 36-year-old building and serve as the most extensive renovation initiative in the terminal's history.



Elevated Roadway and Terminal Curb Front



Concourse B Renovations

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~ Brent Cagle - Aviation Director/CEO



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