

# GLOBAL AIRPORT DEVELOPMENT NEWS

## Top Stories

Vertiports from page 14

## Europe

### UNITED KINGDOM

#### **Belfast City Airport (Northern Ireland) has published its final master plan outlining development proposals through to 2040 following a public consultation process.**

The plan includes extensions to terminal and airfield infrastructure, improvements to public access and passenger facilities, and additional commercial developments such as hotels and electric vehicle charging infrastructure.

It sets out a capacity target of 7 million passengers per year and identifies potential for up to GBP 200 million (USD 255 million) in private investment, alongside projections of increased employment and wider economic contribution. #1265.DEV1

#### **Bristol Airport has submitted a planning application to increase its annual passenger capacity to 15 million.**

The proposal, filed with North Somerset Council, includes terminal expansion, enlarged immigration and baggage facilities, additional retail space, increased car parking and public transport improvements. Airfield changes include runway enhancements and installation of landing lights on Felton Common to support long-haul operations, with potential new routes to North America and the Middle East.

The plan would raise permitted capacity from 12 million to 15 million passengers annually, with demand projected to reach this level in the late 2030s. The number of permitted night flights would also increase from 4,000 to 5,000 per year. The investment is valued at GBP 500 million (USD 635 million).

The proposal has received objections from local groups, while the application is expected to be published for public consultation before a planning decision later in 2026. #1265.DEV2

#### **Blackpool Airport has received planning approval for a commercial development comprising eight new buildings within its enterprise zone.**

The project, approved by Blackpool Council, will deliver facilities for business, industrial storage and retail across multiple plots of land near Amy Johnson Way and Common Edge Road. The development is expected to generate employment during both construction and operational phases.

Blackpool Airport currently functions as a base for corporate aviation, offshore helicopter operations and general aviation services, with previous commercial passenger operations having ceased prior to the demolition of its terminal in 2016. #1265.DEV3

#### **London Manston Airport near Ramsgate is entering a third consultation phase on plans to reopen the airport as an air freight hub.**

The consultation, led by RiverOak Strategic Partners, a US-based infrastructure investment firm that acquired the site in 2019, will focus on proposed flight paths and airspace design and will run until 22 June 2026.

The airport has been closed since May 2014, when operations ceased, and around 150 jobs were lost, although it has since been used as a lorry park. Previous approvals include a Development Consent Order granted in 2020 and updated in 2022 to support the proposed reopening. #1265.DEV4

## **THE NETHERLANDS**

### **Groningen Airport Eelde has submitted a development application to the municipality of Tynaarlo to advance expansion plans for its airport site and surrounding infrastructure.**

Located near the cities of Groningen and Assen in the northern Netherlands, the airport serves a regional role with a mix of scheduled leisure flights, business aviation, pilot training and maintenance activities. It features a single runway, terminal facilities for passenger handling, and hosts aviation training institutions, making it an important centre for both connectivity and aviation education in the region. The development proposal focuses on improving accessibility through the redesign of the forecourt, including a new roundabout and public transport hub, while expanding the Airport Campus to strengthen links between education and industry. It also includes the Business Park Bravo project, aimed at attracting aviation-related companies and supporting broader economic activity around the airport. #1265.DEV5

## **BELGIUM**

**A new parking tower has been inaugurated at Brussels Airport, located opposite the drop-off zone and within walking distance of the terminal.** The eight-storey facility provides more than 2,500 parking spaces for car hire companies and airport staff, covering 90,000 m<sup>2</sup>. It will enter into use on 29 March 2026, with car rental vehicles relocated from Parking 2 and associated service desks and offices moved from the arrivals hall to the new building.

The structure incorporates 6,000 m<sup>2</sup> of rooftop solar panels producing approximately 1,150 MWh annually, along with 650 electric vehicle charging points. Materials from the previous parking area were largely recovered or reused following selective demolition.

The relocation of car hire services frees space within the terminal for future arrivals hall expansion and the development of an intermodal transport hub, while a pedestrian bridge linking the car park to the terminal is planned in a subsequent phase. #1265.DEV6

## **GERMANY**

**Lufthansa Group and Munich Airport have agreed to extend their partnership and expand Terminal 2 at Munich Airport through a new pier development.** The agreement, announced on 23 March 2026, includes the construction of a new eastward extension to the Terminal 2 satellite building, known as the T-Pier. This pier will connect at a right angle to the existing structure and is scheduled to open in 2035. The expansion will increase Terminal 2's capacity by an additional 10 million passengers per year.

The project follows earlier capacity constraints at Terminal 2, which reached its initial limit of 25 million passengers annually and later exceeded 32 million passengers in 2025. The existing satellite building, opened in 2016, was also approaching its 11 million passenger capacity within three years of operation. The new agreement enables the start of detailed planning for the T-Pier and extends the joint venture between Lufthansa Group, a German airline group, and Flughafen München GmbH, the airport operator, until 2056. #1265.DEV7

## **PORTUGAL**

**The planned new Lisbon Airport at Alcochete is facing proposals to adjust runway locations as its opening timeline shifts to 2037.** Local residents and parish authorities in Santo Estevão have proposed relocating the runways by 5 to 7 kilometres within the Alcochete military site to reduce noise and environmental impacts on nearby communities. The alternative location would place the runways further west, closer to the Tagus River, compared to the current government-approved layout near the eastern boundary of the site.

The proposal has been submitted to national authorities and is being requested for evaluation within the ongoing environmental impact assessment. However, the Portuguese government and the airport

concessionaire have confirmed support for the existing location, citing potential delays and environmental implications of any change.

The project, intended to replace Lisbon's main airport, is undergoing environmental and planning assessments, with final decisions on runway placement to be determined within the approved site. #1265.DEV8

#### **SLOVENIA**

**Ljubljana Airport has launched a new phase of apron redevelopment alongside investments to accelerate the electrification of ground operations.** The project includes renewal of 40,000 m<sup>2</sup> of apron pavement, installation of upgraded lighting, additional aircraft stands and infrastructure for electric ground power, with completion planned by October 2026. The works follow a previous taxiway upgrade and are intended to increase capacity, improve layout efficiency and accommodate a wider range of aircraft types at Slovenia's main international gateway.

Operator Fraport Slovenija is also progressing its EUR 2.34 million (USD 2.5 million) e-FUTURE programme, co-financed by the European Union, which includes new charging infrastructure, a transformer station and battery-powered ground equipment to support zero-emission aircraft handling as part of its long-term decarbonisation strategy. #1265.DEV9

#### **TÜRKİYE (TURKEY)**

**Istanbul Airport is progressing with the construction of a new east–west runway that will increase total runway capacity to six.** The airport, one of the world's largest global hubs operated by IGA Istanbul Airport, currently has five runways and serves extensive long-haul and transfer traffic. The new runway, located east of the existing airfield, is designed to improve operational flexibility, particularly during adverse wind conditions.

Once completed, the additional runway will enhance capacity and resilience, supporting Istanbul Airport's long-term expansion strategy and positioning it among airports with the highest runway capacity worldwide. #1265.DEV10

#### **ROMANIA**

**Iasi International Airport is preparing a new phase of infrastructure investment centred on the construction of an eight-level integrated control tower to support growing air traffic.** The new tower will provide 360-degree visibility and house air traffic control, meteorological and operational functions, forming a key part of the airport's safety and coordination systems. The airport, which serves as the main aviation hub for the Moldova region of Romania, has expanded rapidly in recent years following the opening of Terminal T4 in 2024 and runway lighting upgrades in 2025.

Additional projects include modernisation of Terminal T3, reconfiguration of passenger flows and implementation of the EU Entry/Exit System, development of public transport facilities, and conversion of Terminal T2 into a cargo and logistics facility, alongside plans for further solar energy capacity and operational upgrades to enhance efficiency and sustainability. #1265.DEV11

#### **Russia & C.I.S.**

##### **RUSSIA**

**Salekhard Airport will begin construction of a new passenger terminal in summer 2026 under a concession agreement aimed at expanding capacity and modernising infrastructure.**

Located above the Arctic Circle, the airport serves the city of Salekhard and the wider Yamalo-Nenets region, a key centre for Russia's oil and gas industry. It provides essential year-round connectivity in a remote area with limited alternative transport options, handling domestic passenger services and supporting cargo and operational flights linked to energy developments.

The project, led by Novaport-Project, involves investment of more than RUB 19 billion (USD 210 million) and will triple terminal space from 4,500 m<sup>2</sup> to 13,000 m<sup>2</sup>, increasing capacity to 600 passengers per hour and introducing jet bridges. Completion is planned for 2028, with additional upgrades to airside and landside infrastructure to improve efficiency and expand the airport's operational capabilities. #1265.DEV12

**Kazan International Airport (Tatarstan) has received approval for a new passenger terminal project from Russia's state construction authority Glavgosexpertiza.** The project was developed by Aeroproject, a state design institute under the Federal Air Transport Agency (Rosaviatsiya), with participation from Kazan Giproniaviaprom. The planned terminal will have a total area exceeding 38,000 m<sup>2</sup>, with three above-ground floors and one underground level, and is designed to handle 1,500 passengers per hour and more than 5.7 million passengers annually.

Kazan International Airport is among the ten busiest airports in Russia, handling 5.3 million passengers in 2025. The new terminal will expand capacity for domestic services, which account for the majority of traffic at the airport.

Regional authorities have indicated that the terminal is planned to open in 2026, with a target date aligned with Republic Day on 30 August 2026. #1265.DEV13

## **KAZAKHSTAN**

**Authorities in Astana have begun early-stage planning for a potential second airport to support future aviation demand in the capital.** A working group led by the city administration is evaluating site options, including a location along the Karaganda highway, with technical studies underway to assess feasibility. The proposal reflects long-term planning trends in major capitals, where multiple airports are used to manage traffic growth and operational capacity.

The project remains in the preliminary study phase, with no final location or timeline confirmed, as authorities continue to assess technical, environmental and infrastructure requirements.

Plans for the existing Astana airport include a second runway, new passenger and cargo terminals and a special economic zone. #1265.DEV14

## **North America**

### **CANADA**

**Québec City Jean Lesage International Airport (Québec) has launched a project to reorganise domestic arrivals with an investment of CAD 47.8 million (USD 35.3 million).**

Aéroport de Québec Inc., the airport operator, will begin works in April 2026 under the NICE programme, with completion planned for 2028. The project will expand the domestic arrivals area, which currently reaches capacity several times per week, adding 4,500 m<sup>2</sup> across two levels. Upgrades include a third baggage carousel, reconstruction of gates 28 and 29, a new baggage and cargo unloading area, and reconfigured baggage claim and passenger facilities.

The development is designed to accommodate growing traffic and larger aircraft, with capacity for domestic arrivals expected to double. The Government of Canada is contributing CAD 12.5 million (USD 9.2 million) through the National Trade Corridors Fund.

Québec City Jean Lesage International Airport is operated by Aéroport de Québec Inc. and serves destinations across North America, the Caribbean and Europe, acting as a regional gateway for eastern Canada. #1265.DEV15

**Montréal Metropolitan Airport (Québec), located in Longueuil around 15 km from central Montréal, will open a new passenger terminal on 15 June 2026, introducing scheduled commercial operations as a secondary airport serving Greater Montréal.** The 21,000 m<sup>2</sup> terminal, developed and operated by YHU Infrastructure Partners, will initially accommodate Porter

Airlines and Pascan Aviation, with capacity for 30–40 daily flights and up to four million passengers annually.

The facility includes nine boarding bridges, 28 check-in counters, 10 self-service kiosks, two baggage carousels, and seating for 900 passengers, designed to support efficient passenger processing, and is fully electric, incorporating sustainability measures such as electric ground vehicles and de-icing fluid recovery systems.

Porter Airlines will launch 12 domestic routes in the first week of operations, including services to Calgary, Edmonton, Vancouver, Toronto and Halifax, using De Havilland Dash 8-400 and Embraer E195-E2 aircraft, while continuing operations at Montréal-Trudeau International Airport.

The airport will be supported by road access, a dedicated shuttle service, 2,600 parking spaces and a 500-metre drop-off area, reinforcing its role as an additional gateway for the Montréal region.

**Expansion plans** include expanding the terminal to 34,000 m<sup>2</sup>, increasing contact stands from eight to 13 alongside eight remote stands, enabling international operations and raising capacity to 7.5 million passengers annually, with the expansion estimated at USD 100 million. #1265.DEV16

**The Government of Ontario plans to introduce legislation to take control of land at Billy Bishop Toronto City Airport from the City of Toronto to enable airport expansion.** The proposal would transfer ownership of approximately 20% of airport land currently held by the city and replace the municipality in the existing tripartite agreement with the federal government and the Toronto Port Authority. This agreement, in place since 1983, governs airport operations and land use.

The planned expansion includes extending the runway to accommodate jet aircraft, upgrading the terminal and improving access to the waterfront. The province also intends to designate the airport as a Special Economic Zone to accelerate approvals while maintaining regulatory requirements.

The legislation is expected to be introduced during the spring 2026 parliamentary session, with construction subject to consultation and further approvals. #1265.DEV17

## **UNITED STATES**

**The Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority plans to appoint advisory firms to oversee major development projects at Washington Dulles International Airport (Virginia), as part of a large-scale airport transformation programme.** The initiative relates to more than USD 20 billion in planned infrastructure projects, with advisory contracts valued at up to USD 50 million over an eight-year period.

The authority will launch a formal procurement process to appoint both an owner's representative and strategic advisers, who will support programme planning, procurement and delivery of multiple large-scale projects, with the possibility of awarding contracts to multiple firms.

This step represents a preparatory phase ahead of major capital works, which could include new terminal development and upgraded passenger transport systems, although the timeline for the solicitation has not yet been confirmed. Airlines operating at the airport have already committed around USD 7 billion in capital investment through 2039 under the existing master plan, with further contributions dependent on project scope and federal funding.

Washington Dulles International Airport, the busiest airport in the Washington region, handled more than 29 million passengers in 2025, reflecting continued growth in demand. #1265.DEV18

**The Atlanta City Council has approved USD 182 million in funding for future projects at Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport (Georgia), the world's busiest airport by passenger traffic.** The funding will support a range of development activities, including concourse works, non-terminal facilities, design and consulting services, and other operational improvements, although specific projects have not yet been disclosed.

Separately, approval was also granted for a five-year agreement valued at nearly USD 33 million to operate and maintain the airport's Plane Train automated people mover system. The investment forms part of broader plans to expand capacity and improve operations at the airport. #1265.DEV19

**Clearwater Executive Airport (Florida) is advancing plans for a new terminal project valued at USD 13.66 million following higher-than-expected construction bids.** The Clearwater City Council is considering awarding a construction contract to Bandes Construction Company for a new terminal and fixed-base operator facility, alongside a redesigned entrance, parking area and taxiway improvements. The airport serves general aviation traffic, including business and training flights. Additional funding of USD 2.4 million from the Florida Department of Transportation is under consideration, increasing total state support to USD 3.9 million and the overall grant programme to USD 7.8 million. The project requires a 50% local match, which will be reimbursed by FlyUSA, the airport's private operator, up to USD 3.9 million. FlyUSA PVT, a joint venture between FlyUSA and Paradise Ventures, manages the airport under contract with the city, with council approval required to proceed to construction. #1265.DEV20

**Louisville Muhammad Ali International Airport (Kentucky) is planning further terminal, concessions and landside developments as part of a long-term expansion programme.** Future works include new dining and concession areas currently in design, as well as planned upgrades to ticketing, international arrivals facilities and road infrastructure, with construction activity expected to continue for four to five years. In parallel, a USD 45 million concourse renovation that began in January 2026 is underway with phased gate closures to limit disruption and is scheduled for completion in 2027. The ongoing works include upgraded hold rooms, higher ceilings, new lighting, refurbished restrooms, additional seating and charging facilities, supported in part by a geothermal HVAC system, while the security checkpoint expansion is approximately halfway complete. #1265.DEV21

**New Orleans' Louis Armstrong New Orleans International Airport has published a master plan including a second terminal, additional gates and expanded landside infrastructure.** The plan includes construction of 10 to 15 new gates, a new parking garage, roadway upgrades and reconfiguration of access systems to accommodate the projected demand of 8.6 to 9.7 million departing passengers within the next decade. The airport currently handles approximately 12.5 million passengers annually. The South Campus will be redeveloped through demolition of parts of the former terminal and conversion into facilities for cargo operations, aircraft maintenance and hangars. The master plan was developed over two years with input from airlines, public authorities and regional stakeholders. The airport has submitted the plan to the Federal Aviation Administration for approval, while ongoing projects include a USD 84.5 million connector road, USD 27.1 million runway rehabilitation and construction of 400 additional parking spaces. #1265.DEV22

**Cleveland Burke Lakefront Airport (Ohio) is under review for potential closure as authorities advance redevelopment concepts for the 182-hectare waterfront site.** A recent study outlines alternative uses centred on public and recreational development, including more than 130 hectares of green space, a marina, hotels, sports facilities and either a large parkland area or an 18-hole golf course, with an estimated investment of USD 480.1 million to USD 843.9 million. The proposals are projected to generate up to USD 2.7 million in annual tax revenues and around 170 jobs, compared with approximately USD 0.5 million currently attributed to airport operations.

The airport remains operational during the review process and currently supports general aviation, corporate flights, medical transport and approximately 55,000 to 65,000 annual aircraft movements, as well as events such as the Cleveland National Air Show.

Stakeholders, including aviation businesses and industry groups, have raised concerns about the impact of a potential closure, noting that relocation to other regional airports may not be viable for certain activities, particularly time-sensitive medical services and aviation training.

Cleveland Burke Lakefront Airport functions as a general aviation facility complementing Cleveland Hopkins International Airport, which handles the region's commercial airline traffic, with any redevelopment expected to take several years, subject to regulatory approvals and consultation.

#1265.DEV23

**St. Louis Lambert International Airport (Missouri) is advancing plans for a new single-terminal facility as part of a long-term modernisation programme.** The proposed terminal would include 64 gates, with design work expected to reach 30% completion in early April 2026 and 60% by early autumn, ahead of final design and potential construction starting in 2027. The project is being developed jointly by the City of St. Louis and St. Louis County.

Additional works underway or planned include a new airfield maintenance and snow removal facility, a west deicing pad, demolition of vacant buildings and replacement of the central utility plant. These projects are intended to support operational requirements irrespective of the terminal development.

Funding arrangements have not yet been finalised, with the project expected to be financed through airport revenues, airline agreements and federal support, subject to airline review and bond approval.

#1265.DEV24

**Salt Lake City International Airport (Utah), a key Mountain West passenger and cargo gateway, is progressing a new cargo facility through a public-private partnership.** The airport has selected Aviation Facilities Company (AFCO), a United States-based airport real estate developer and operator, to design, build, lease and manage a multi-tenant cargo facility under a long-term ground lease with the Salt Lake City Department of Airports. The project is valued at over USD 50 million and will cover approximately 150,000 ft<sup>2</sup> (13,935 m<sup>2</sup>), supporting both airside and landside cargo operations.

The facility will accommodate e-commerce logistics, general freight and temperature-controlled handling for pharmaceuticals and perishable goods, with direct airfield access and dedicated aircraft parking positions to improve efficiency.

Airport officials aim to consolidate cargo activity on-site and capture freight flows currently routed via coastal hubs before inland distribution, strengthening the airport's role as a regional logistics centre.

AFCO was selected through a competitive procurement process and will lease space to multiple tenants on five- to ten-year agreements, with detailed planning continuing through 2026 ahead of further development stages. #1265.DEV25

**Renton Municipal Airport (Washington) is undertaking infrastructure upgrades, including an FAA-funded taxiway reconstruction project valued at USD 18 million.** The Taxiway Alpha project, scheduled to begin on 11 May 2026, will replace 20-year-old pavement and upgrade runway end identification lighting systems dating from the 1970s. Additional works include USD 2 million in new aircraft parking pavement, installation of electric aircraft charging infrastructure supported by a USD 40,000 grant, and replacement of security gates. A fibre optic network is also being deployed to support 53 surveillance cameras across the airport and seaplane base.

Operational improvements include the implementation of an Automatic Dependent Surveillance–Broadcast (ADS-B) system providing real-time flight tracking and audio monitoring, alongside full staffing for the first time in five years. Plans also include demolition of vacant buildings, emergency dredging at the seaplane base, and a proposed USD 19 million air traffic control tower replacement.

The airport handles between 100,000 and 140,000 annual operations, primarily general aviation, and is preparing for potential increases in regional traffic during the 2026 FIFA World Cup. #1265.DEV26

## Latin America & The Caribbean

### CAYMAN ISLANDS

**The Cayman Islands Airports Authority has launched procurement for environmental impact assessments for runway expansion projects at Owen Roberts International Airport (Grand Cayman) and Charles Kirkconnell International Airport (Cayman Brac).** Requests for proposals have been issued for environmental studies covering planned infrastructure works, with submissions due by 29 April 2026.

At Owen Roberts International Airport, plans include a 340-metre runway extension with an additional 240-metre safety area extending into the North Sound, alongside proposals for a new general aviation terminal and airside improvements.

At Charles Kirkconnell International Airport, works include widening the runway strip to 75 metres and adding runway end safety areas, requiring partial modification of adjacent land and water areas.

The projects form part of the Cayman Islands Airports Authority's 2041 Master Plan, which outlines approximately USD 76 million in airport development projects across the territory.

Environmental assessments will evaluate and mitigate impacts associated with the runway extensions, which are intended to support long-haul operations and increased passenger capacity. #1265.DEV27

### MEXICO

**Mexico's airport network requires expansion of existing infrastructure as passenger traffic is projected to more than double by 2044, according to Grupo Aeroportuario Centro Norte.**

Grupo Aeroportuario Centro Norte, a Mexican airport operator managing 13 airports, stated that traffic is forecast to rise from 103.5 million passengers in 2025 to 215.6 million by 2044, based on Airbus projections. The operator indicated that expanding existing airports is the priority to address capacity constraints, rather than building new terminals, although new facilities may be considered where capacity is insufficient.

Airports including Monterrey Airport (Nuevo León, Mexico), Tijuana Airport (Baja California, Mexico), Ciudad Juárez Airport (Chihuahua, Mexico), Culiacán Airport (Sinaloa, Mexico) and Chihuahua Airport (Chihuahua, Mexico) are undergoing expansion projects. Additional proposals for new or expanded airports have been submitted in locations including San Miguel de Allende, Ensenada and Xpujil, subject to feasibility assessments.

Grupo Aeroportuario Centro Norte reported revenue of MXN 15.96 billion (USD 939 million) in 2025, with continued investment planned for 2026–2030 at levels similar to the previous cycle, including more than MXN 11 billion (USD 646 million), with around half allocated to Monterrey Airport. #1265.DEV28

### COLOMBIA

**Colombia's government has announced an airport investment programme totalling COP 167 billion (USD 42 million), including funding support for expansion works at José María Córdova International Airport in Medellín.** The programme includes upgrades at José María Córdova Airport, where capacity is expected to reach approximately 17 million passengers annually, alongside modernisation works at Olaya Herrera Airport in Medellín (Antioquia) and airports in Montería, Quibdó, Carepa and Corozal.

Planned works include improvements to check-in, baggage handling, security screening and boarding areas, as well as construction of new aircraft aprons and a connections centre. At Rionegro, these investments contribute to a wider infrastructure programme valued at COP 397.7 billion (USD 107 million), which remains subject to approval of a contract addendum by the National Infrastructure Agency. The works include apron expansion, enlarged passenger areas and upgrades to processing and circulation zones to address capacity constraints.

A long-term master plan updated in 2025 outlines phased development over 30 years, including a new terminal, second runway, control tower and cargo expansion, with total investment estimated at COP 22 trillion (USD 5.6 billion). #1265.DEV29

## **ECUADOR**

**Corporación Quiport, the concessionaire of Quito's Mariscal Sucre International Airport, has announced plans to expand the airport's cargo terminal and apron facilities.**

The project will add 5,000 m<sup>2</sup> of space to the international cargo terminal, which currently handles around 90% of Ecuador's air exports. It also includes the construction of a new dedicated cargo aircraft stand and a reconfiguration of truck waiting areas to improve landside logistics and cargo flow.

The expansion forms part of the airport's master plan and is intended to be operational by 2030. Quiport is currently undertaking technical planning to define project phases, investment value and delivery model. #1265.DEV30

**Guayaquil's José Joaquín de Olmedo Airport (Guayas) is set to be replaced by a new airport in Taura, following a government decision to shift the project from the previously planned Daular site.**

The new airport, targeted for completion by 2031, will replace the existing facility, which faces capacity constraints due to its urban location. Earlier plans had focused on Daular, located 20–26 km west of the city, with proposals for multiple runways and a capacity of up to 16 million passengers annually. However, the government has selected Taura, around 24 km southeast of Guayaquil and currently home to a military air base, citing different connectivity and development considerations. Detailed specifications for the revised project have not yet been disclosed.

The change in location affects associated infrastructure planning, including a proposed USD 200 million highway intended to relieve congestion on the coastal road, which carries more than 23,000 vehicles per day in each direction. The road project, planned as a 24 km corridor, remains pending environmental approval and was scheduled to begin construction in 2027.

The Municipality of Guayaquil has already invested approximately USD 50 million in preparatory works linked to the Daular project, including road infrastructure and utilities. The shift to Taura introduces uncertainty for these investments and forms part of ongoing coordination and governance discussions between national and local authorities regarding airport development and infrastructure planning. #1265.DEV31

## **BRAZIL**

**The State of São Paulo is assessing a long-term transport strategy that includes a potential fourth major airport, building on earlier federal proposals.** The airport forms part of the PLI 2050 (Logistics and Investment Plan), led by the state's Secretariat for Environment, Infrastructure and Logistics, which is defining priorities across aviation, roads, rail and ports. The plan is currently in a simulation phase, with final project selection expected by the end of 2026. Each proposal, including the airport, will be evaluated for economic, environmental and social viability, with delivery options including concessions, public-private partnerships or direct state operation.

The proposal follows earlier discussions announced in March 2024 by Brazil's Ministry of Ports and Airports, when Minister Silvio Costa Filho confirmed studies into a new airport between Cajamar and Caieiras. The site involves land largely controlled by CCR S.A., an infrastructure company that has since rebranded as Motiva and is in the process of exiting the airport sector.

Earlier project concepts included a 340,000 m<sup>2</sup> terminal, two parallel 3,500 metre runways and a capacity of 48 million passengers per year, although subsequent discussions indicated a possible focus on cargo and executive aviation. Studies on feasibility and demand were scheduled for completion in the first half of 2024, with construction previously estimated to take five to seven years. #1265.DEV32

**Regional de Maringá Airport (Paraná) will undergo expansion and modernisation with an investment of BRL 129.1 million (USD 26 million) under the federal infrastructure programme.**

The airport serves the northern region of Paraná and handled approximately 868,000 passengers in 2025, with capacity expected to increase to around 1.3 million passengers annually following the upgrade. It currently operates a single terminal with limited capacity and supports domestic commercial and general aviation operations.

The project includes expansion of the passenger terminal from 4,000 m<sup>2</sup> to approximately 8,500 m<sup>2</sup>, installation of boarding bridges, self-service kiosks and common-use systems, as well as new commercial areas, accessibility features and specialised passenger facilities. Additional works include modernisation of the control tower, renewal of utility systems and upgrades to airside and landside infrastructure.

The programme will be delivered in four phases to maintain operations, with funding of BRL 100.4 million (USD 20 million) from the federal government and BRL 29.1 million (USD 6 million) from state and municipal authorities, with completion expected by 2030. #1265.DEV33

**Tancredo Thomas de Faria Airport in Guarapuava (Paraná) will undergo expansion as part of a wider state investment package totalling BRL 190 million (USD 38 million).**

The airport serves the central-southern region of Paraná, supporting regional connectivity for business, agriculture and public services, with operations including general aviation and limited commercial traffic. It currently operates a single runway and basic passenger facilities, which constrain aircraft size and service frequency.

The airport component includes BRL 117.3 million (USD 23.5 million) for a new passenger terminal, runway extension from 1,621 m to 1,800 m, and apron expansion from 12,800 m<sup>2</sup> to 35,800 m<sup>2</sup>. The upgraded apron will accommodate up to six large aircraft simultaneously, alongside improvements to airfield lighting, safety systems and supporting infrastructure.

The new terminal will cover 4,160 m<sup>2</sup>, approximately six times larger than the existing facility, with 12 check-in counters, two boarding gates and capacity for three airlines operating simultaneously. #1265.DEV34

**Jorge Amado Airport in Ilhéus (Bahia) will receive BRL 70 million (USD 14 million) in federal funding for the installation of an Engineered Material Arresting System (EMAS).**

The airport serves southern Bahia and supports regional tourism and economic activity, handling 669,734 passengers in 2024, with traffic projected to exceed 1 million passengers annually by 2031. The site is constrained by surrounding terrain and urban development, limiting runway extension options.

The EMAS system is designed to improve runway safety by decelerating aircraft in the event of overruns, allowing continued operations within existing spatial constraints. The project forms part of a broader national programme to enhance regional aviation infrastructure and safety standards.

The investment will be funded through the federal PAC programme, with technical studies ongoing prior to construction. #1265.DEV35

## **CHILE**

**Chile's Ministry of Public Works will launch a new tender to study the expansion of Santiago's Arturo Merino Benítez Airport, as part of updated long-term capacity planning.**

The revised process follows the cancellation of an earlier tender in which only one compliant bid exceeded the official budget by CLP 2.78 billion (approximately USD 3.0 million), or 21%, prompting a reset to update demand forecasts, align with budget constraints and attract broader international participation. The expansion is based on a master plan updated between 2021 and 2023, which identifies the need for capacity upgrades and infrastructure investment to meet projected traffic growth through to 2060.

The new tender will include mechanisms to increase competition, including international consortium participation, with the objective of delivering a technically viable project aligned with long-term demand at Chile's main international gateway. #1265.DEV36

## Africa

### ETHIOPIA

**Ethiopian Airlines, the national carrier of Ethiopia, has expanded the domestic terminal at Addis Ababa Bole International Airport to support growing domestic traffic.** The upgrade is intended to improve passenger processing and accommodate increasing demand driven by economic growth, tourism and domestic air travel expansion. The airline also announced the development of three new domestic airports in Negele Borena, Gore Metu and Debre Markos, which are expected to begin passenger operations by mid-April 2026 and increase the domestic network to 26 destinations. These developments form part of Ethiopian Airlines' Vision 2040 strategy, which targets significant growth in traffic, fleet and network scale. The plan includes increasing annual passenger numbers from 19 million to 63.9 million, cargo volumes from 754,000 tonnes to 1.9 million tonnes, and fleet size from 145 to 303 aircraft. It also targets expansion of the international network from 144 to 243 destinations and annual revenue growth to USD 29 billion from USD 7.6 billion in the 2024/25 financial year. In parallel, Ethiopia is planning a new airport in Bishoftu designed to handle up to 100 million passengers annually, supporting long-term aviation capacity expansion in the country. #1265.DEV37

### CAMEROON

**Douala International Airport has relaunched the contractor selection process for passenger terminal works as part of its ongoing modernisation programme.** Aéroports du Cameroun (ADC), the state-owned airport operator, issued a new prequalification notice on 23 March 2026 after a previous tender launched in December 2025 was declared unsuccessful. The process is open to domestic and international construction firms, with submissions due by 23 April 2026 and a subsequent tender planned in the second quarter of 2026 for works expected to last 24 months. The project includes a 25,000 m<sup>2</sup> terminal extension to accommodate baggage handling systems, check-in areas, passenger and cabin baggage screening, and a new central boarding hall. Additional works cover refurbishment of piers A and B, baggage reclaim areas, arrival control zones, airside offices and VIP lounges, alongside related equipment and aircraft parking infrastructure. The programme has a budget of XAF 95 billion (USD 156 million), financed by the Agence Française de Développement, ADC and the Government of Cameroon, and forms part of a wider upgrade of the airport platform. #1265.DEV38

## Middle East

### SAUDI ARABIA

**Saudi Arabia's Cluster2 Company, a subsidiary of the state-owned airport holding company Matarat Holding, extended the bid deadline for expansion works at Hail Airport to 29 March 2026.** The tender was originally issued in early January 2026 with an initial submission deadline of 1 March 2026. The project covers the upgrade and expansion of terminal infrastructure, including arrivals and departures areas, baggage handling systems and associated airport facilities. The works include the construction of a new 5,600 m<sup>2</sup> terminal building as part of a southern expansion connected to the existing terminal structure. The development is intended to increase the airport's annual passenger handling capacity to approximately 1.7 million passengers by 2030. Cluster2 Company, established in 2022 to manage a network of domestic and international airports across Saudi Arabia, currently operates and manages 22 airports within the country. #1265.DEV39

### UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

**Dubai Airports confirmed it will continue major expansion programmes, including phase two of Al Maktoum International Airport, despite ongoing regional airspace disruption.** The

expansion phase represents an investment of AED 128 billion (USD 35 billion) to develop a new large-scale airport facility as part of Dubai's long-term aviation strategy.

At Dubai International Airport, operations have been affected by regional tensions, with flight movements temporarily reduced to around 40–45% of normal levels following airspace restrictions.

Dubai Airports indicated that operations are being maintained through coordinated efforts between airlines, air traffic control and ground handlers, using designated safe flight corridors.

The operator expects a rapid recovery in traffic once conditions stabilise, supported by Dubai's strategic geographic position, with the airport typically handling around 320,000 passengers per day and close to 100 million annually. #1265.DEV40

## Asia Pacific

### INDIA

**India has opened a second international airport serving New Delhi, with Noida International Airport commencing operations to expand capacity in one of the world's fastest-growing aviation markets.** Located approximately 75 km from the capital, the greenfield airport is designed to operate alongside Indira Gandhi International Airport as part of a multi-airport system to relieve congestion and support regional economic growth across the Delhi National Capital Region.

The initial phase, developed across 1,334 hectares, includes a passenger terminal, one runway, cargo facilities, aircraft stands and supporting infrastructure, with capacity for 12 million passengers annually and more than 250,000 tonnes of cargo. The terminal features 48 check-in counters, boarding-bridge-equipped gates, lounges, and modern baggage systems, serving both passenger and logistics demand in Noida, Greater Noida, and western Uttar Pradesh.

Future expansion is structured in three additional phases linked to demand. **Phase 2 will increase capacity to 30 million passengers annually and add a second runway alongside terminal expansion**, followed by Phase 3 in 2034, introducing a second terminal and raising capacity to around 50 million passengers per year.

Phase 4, planned for 2036, will further expand passenger and cargo infrastructure to reach approximately 70 million passengers annually, with the airport ultimately covering around 4,752 hectares and significantly strengthening capacity in northern India. #1265.DEV41

**India's Bengaluru is advancing plans for a second international airport, with the state government launching a tender to appoint a consultant for feasibility and strategy studies.**

Three potential sites on the city's outskirts—two near Harohalli on Kanakapura Road and one near Nelamangala on Kunigal Road—have been shortlisted, with the Airports Authority of India already conducting preliminary inspections and identifying terrain and planning constraints requiring further analysis. Three to four firms are participating in the bidding process, and the selected consultant will assess technical, environmental and operational feasibility, with the study expected to take three to four months or longer.

The project is progressing in coordination with the central government, with the Ministry of Civil Aviation India indicating that approvals will be expedited once a final site and feasibility report are submitted. The study will also examine financial viability and passenger demand, while addressing regulatory constraints such as building height restrictions linked to existing aviation infrastructure, including Kempegowda International Airport, HAL Airport and Yelahanka Air Force base.

A final site selection and project decision will be taken by the state cabinet following completion of the feasibility study. #1265.DEV42

**India's government has approved a modified regional connectivity scheme to expand aviation access across underserved areas, with a total budget of INR 288.40 billion (USD 3.5 billion).** The scheme extends for 10 years and includes the development of 100 airports at existing unserved airstrips, with INR 121.59 billion (USD 1.5 billion) allocated. In addition, 200 helipads will be

constructed in hilly, remote, island and aspirational regions, each supported by INR 150 million (USD 1.8 million). A viability gap funding allocation of INR 100.43 billion (USD 1.2 billion) has been set aside for airline operators on regional routes.

Operational support is also included, with maintenance funding capped at INR 30 million (USD 0.36 million) per airport annually and INR 9 million (USD 0.11 million) per heliport or water aerodrome, totalling INR 25.77 billion (USD 0.31 billion) for approximately 441 facilities over three years. The plan also includes the procurement of two HAL Dhruv helicopters for Pawan Hans and two Dornier aircraft for Alliance Air.

Since its introduction, the UDAN scheme has added 663 routes and 95 airports, heliports and water aerodromes, with approximately 16 million passengers carried. The updated programme includes plans to add a further 100 airports and 200 helipads. #1265.DEV43

## **VIETNAM**

**Phu Quoc International Airport (Kien Giang) expansion works valued at VND 22 trillion (USD 836 million) are progressing on or ahead of schedule ahead of the APEC 2027 summit.** The project, led by Sun Airport JSC, a subsidiary of Sun Group, includes construction of a second runway, a new Terminal 2 and a VIP terminal, covering more than 1,050 hectares. The 3,300 m runway is being built to ICAO 4E standards to accommodate widebody aircraft, while structural works on the international terminal are approximately 85% complete, and the VIP terminal roof is around 60% complete. The expansion will increase airport capacity to 24 million passengers annually, with long-term plans to reach 50 million. Singapore-based Changi Airports International, part of Changi Airport Group, has been appointed to support operations, route development and commercial services. #1265.DEV44

**Vietnam's Thanh Son Airport is being planned for phased expansion to support civil-military operations and regional economic development through to 2050.** Under plans submitted by the Civil Aviation Authority of Vietnam, the airport will reach a capacity of 1.5 million passengers per year by 2030, with infrastructure upgrades including a new 3,050 m runway, parallel taxiway, additional rapid exits, expanded apron connectivity and a new air traffic control tower. A passenger terminal complex will be developed on a 135,600 m<sup>2</sup> site, designed to handle both passengers and cargo.

By 2050, capacity is planned to increase to 3 million passengers annually, with further runway extension to 3,500 m, expanded taxiway systems, up to 16 aircraft stands and a dedicated cargo terminal with a capacity of 15,000 tonnes per year. The airport will retain its dual-use role, supporting both civilian aviation and military operations within a total land area of approximately 2,100 hectares. #1265.DEV45

## **THAILAND**

**Thailand is advancing plans to expand airport capacity in the Chiang Mai region as passenger demand exceeds current limits at Chiang Mai International Airport.** The Civil Aviation Authority of Thailand has outlined a two-phase strategy to support northern Thailand's growing tourism and economic activity. In the short term, the existing airport will be expanded from 8 million to 16.5 million passengers per year through a THB 24 billion (USD ~670 million) programme, including a new international terminal, refurbishment of the existing terminal for domestic use, expanded apron capacity to 16 stands and new parking facilities, with construction planned from 2027 and completion by 2032-2033.

In parallel, a new Lanna Airport is proposed on a 6.7 km<sup>2</sup> site to the east of the city, designed as a secondary international gateway with capacity for up to 24 million passengers annually. The project includes a 3,800 m runway, parallel taxiways, an 860,000 m<sup>2</sup> apron and a 156,000 m<sup>2</sup> passenger terminal, with long-term plans to transfer all commercial flights from the existing airport.

The current airport is expected to be repurposed for military and general aviation use, alongside redevelopment into a mixed-use MICE (meetings, incentives, conferences and exhibitions) and

commercial complex. The new airport project remains in the planning stage, with feasibility studies, environmental assessments and land acquisition scheduled through the early 2030s before construction begins. #1265.DEV46

#### **P.R.C.**

**Construction has commenced on the Pearl River Delta Hub Airport in Foshan (Guangdong, China), planned as Guangzhou's second airport within the Greater Bay Area aviation network.** The airport is located in Gaoming District of Foshan, positioned between Foshan, Zhaoqing, Jiangmen and Yunfu, and is expected to serve a population of more than 20 million. The project has a total investment of CNY 41.81 billion (USD 6.07 billion) and forms part of a wider aviation capacity expansion across southern China.

Planned infrastructure includes two parallel runways, a terminal building of approximately 260,000 m<sup>2</sup> and 94 aircraft stands. The airport is designed to handle more than 30 million passengers annually, alongside cargo and mail throughput of 500,000 tonnes and 260,000 aircraft movements.

Long-term plans envisage a third runway and a final capacity of up to 80 million passengers and 2.2 million tonnes of cargo.

The development is intended to complement Guangzhou Baiyun International Airport and support capacity distribution across the Greater Bay Area. The regional airport system handled 237 million passengers in 2025, with long-term projections indicating continued growth in demand. #1265.DEV47

### **Vertiports**

**The Ohio-Kentucky-Indiana Regional Council of Governments has approved a USD 35.1 million infrastructure plan to prepare six airports in the Cincinnati region (Ohio/Kentucky/Indiana, United States) for advanced air mobility operations.**

The programme outlines upgrades to the electrical infrastructure to support electric, hybrid and autonomous vertical take-off and landing aircraft. The plans cover Butler County Regional Airport, Lunken Airport, Clermont County Airport, Miami University Airport, Middletown Regional Airport and Warren County Airport, assessing power capacity, future energy demand and potential for on-site renewable energy and storage.

Estimated investment includes USD 9.6 million for Lunken Airport, USD 8.6 million for Miami University Airport and USD 7.6 million for Butler County Regional Airport, with smaller allocations for the remaining airports. The roadmap also supports a transition to fully electric airport operations by 2050, with implementation timelines to be determined by each airport. #1265.DEV48

**For late-breaking stories, visit our LinkedIn page by clicking on the logo. **

**WORLDWIDE AIRPORT TENDERS (WAT)** portal with daily project alerts, the exclusive, customizable business opportunities portal dedicated to the airport industry by **Momberger Airport Information**. **FREE trial** for 7 days - [follow this link](#) for more information and to sign up for your free trial.