# JFK REDEVELOPMENT NEWSLETTER

#### PORT AUTHORITY NY & NJ

# January 2024 | Sixth Edition

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# **JFK Pulse**

As construction moves along, we continue to urge our airport community and employees to stay updated with the latest information as changes happen regularly.

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# A Message from our Leaders



#### Teresa Rizzuto, General Manager, JFK Airport

As the holiday season comes to a close, the JFK Airport Community and its employees are gearing up in preparation for any type of winter weather event that may impact the airport. As usual, our Airport Community will handle any adverse weather conditions efficiently while mitigating the impact those conditions may have on our operations. At this time, I would like to take a moment to thank the Airport Team

and the Community for all your contributions in 2023. JFK is more than just a hub for travel: it is a vibrant community of dedicated individuals who contribute to the smooth and efficient functioning of our operations day in and day out. In the last year, we have seen tremendous change across the airport while at the same time handling an increase in passengers who use JFK as a destination for their travel needs as the year brought more customers than we saw in 2019 (pre-pandemic levels). Today, thanks to our disciplined approach, we have seen old, outdated terminals torn down and caught the first glimpse of the new buildings that are replacing them. As we move forward with our ambitious plans for the New JFK, we continue to focus on the road ahead and approach the improvements that need to be made with a sense of urgency. We do so, however, with our number one priority being the health and safety of yourselves, and your loved ones as we continue to put safety in the workplace first. Together we have achieved significant milestones, implemented improvements, and continued to provide a safe and efficient environment for all who pass through our doors. To our most hardworking and dedicated employees, I wish you all the success in meeting the upcoming challenges that 2024 may bring while wishing all our employees and their families a very happy and healthy New Year.

As we kick off the new year, we are reminded that keeping this airport redevelopment project on track during some of its busiest days takes a village, and I want to express my gratitude for your hard work. 2023 saw some significant milestones for the Redevelopment program across the airport and the picture of the JFK's future is starting to emerge from the underground work to the structures of the new terminals. We've awarded contracts, completed projects, and even kicked off operations of our Construction Support facility. Achieving these feats requires all your diverse skills and dedication.

### Jessica Forse, Program Executive, JFK Redevelopment

2024 will bring about more transformative work and we can look forward to advancing projects that are not only transformative to the airport but the region as a whole. We'll be kicking off construction on the project in Long-Term Parking Lot 9, which will supply solar electricity to AirTrain JFK and discounted clean energy to residents in the surrounding communities. Construction will commence on the RUGTC project and will substantially complete Central Substation 2. These two projects represent the Port Authority's commitment to build infrastructure that supports our new Terminals.

To reach our long-term goals as quickly and efficiently as possible, improvements need to be made one on top of another.



I encourage everyone to celebrate daily milestones with your colleagues, and day by day we will draw a little closer to our vision of a brand-new JFK International Airport worthy of New York City. Looking ahead to the coming year, I am confident that our continued collaboration will lead to even greater achievements.



# **Around the Airport**

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# **Port Authority Names Snow Patrol Road After Employee**

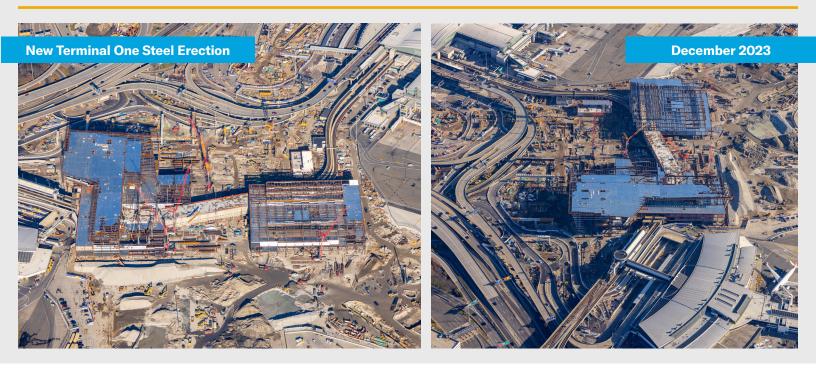


L-R: Tom Jovanovic (Airside Project Manager), Sam Erickson (Airside Manager), Yi Chen (Airside Project Manager), Oscar Rich (Infrastructure Program Manager)

Port Authority Operations decided to rename our recently completed Snow Patrol Road as Erickson Way. The purpose of the Snow Patrol Road is to improve airfield operational efficiency at the airport during snow removal and deicing operations. Currently, Taxiway Q is the only access route for aircraft to enter and exit the Hangar 19 apron

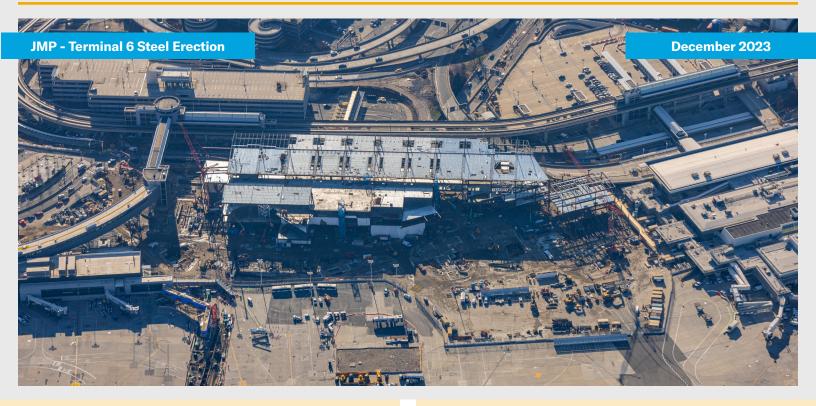
area. During snow removal and deicing operations, snow removal equipment must also use Taxiway Q to access the airfield snow removal operations. This configuration has resulted in congestion and delays for aircraft and delays in snow and deicing operations. The purpose of this project was to alleviate congestion at Taxiway Q by providing an alternate route. The Snow Patrol Road is 2,160 feet long by 40 feet wide to accommodate snow removal equipment (i.e. plows, sweepers) up to 26-feet in width. Overall, the area directly impacted by this project totals approximately 4.3 acres. This project took 11 months from inception to completion.

# **Terminal Construction Updates**



# **Terminal Construction Updates, continued**

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# **Terminal 1**

 Work has already begun on the baggage handling system

• By the end of January, the temporary AirTrain shuttle from T8 to T1 will end and full service of the AirTrain to all terminals will resume

• In February, New Terminal One will be placing headhouse slab on grade in their southern headhouse zone

# **Terminal 6**

• Work on the steel header installation for the baggage handling system is underway

• Late January, concrete substructure work for the elevated roadway system begins

• In February, T6 begins concrete pours in the new terminal area

For more information on how to get to JFK and important airport advisories, visit: **JFK Travel Tips** 



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## **Community Outreach**

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### **JFK Redevelopment Girls in Aviation**



L-R: Lorna Christian, Natasha Turner, Akshar Patel, Hersh Parekh, Teresa Rizzuto, Bridgitte Allen, Carl Lewis, Edferson Gernier, Stephanie Baldwin, Mary Katherine Aaronson, Kristin Coral, Rachelle Antoine

Organized by the JFK Redevelopment Community Outreach Team, the daylong program featured speakers from the Port Authority, Delta, JetBlue, American Airlines, the FAA, airport terminal operators and representatives from York College, Vaughn College, Aviation High School and August Martin High School. Working to find opportunities to introduce girls and young women to careers in aviation is an ongoing commitment for the Port Authority. Sixty-five young ladies participated in various breakout workshops such as; building a model aircraft, sponsored by The New

Terminal One; drone coding, sponsored by the Cradle of Aviation Museum; and a static aircraft display walk through, sponsored by JetBlue. Students also had the opportunity to hear from women in aviation from various career paths, such as pilots, flight attendants, aircraft mechanics and ground operation roles. In addition to all these activities, a tour of the JFK Operations Center at Building 111 was provided to showcase how every aspect of airport operations are monitored at one of the busiest airports in the country. Girls in Aviation Day was launched in 2015 by the non-profit organization Women in

Aviation International. According to the organization,

#### only 7 percent of commercial pilots are women and just 2.6 percent are aviation mechanics —

careers that in the past were not traditionally focused on women candidates. In contrast, 79.2 percent of flight attendants are women. United Airlines has participated in Girls in Aviation Day since 2016 with more than 1,000 girls having taken part in the program, with 2022 being its biggest year yet, hosting over 500 girls at 22 different events around the nation.

# **Advisory Council Meeting**

In early November, the JFK Redevelopment Outreach Team hosted the JFK Redevelopment Community Advisory Council Meeting at Challenge Charter High School in Far Rockaway. Updates were given by the Port Authority regarding the construction support services, Building 111 (JFK Redevelopment Headquarters) local and MWBE success stories, Building 111 cafeteria operator awarded, central taxi hold restaurant opportunity, and the Central Terminal Area: Roadway, Utilities and Ground Transportation Center.

The JFK Redevelopment compliance consultants discussed the successes in M/WBE and LBE participation and local workforce hiring. The council was reminded of the four community development initiatives that were announced back in 2019; the Council for Airport Opportunity Rockaway Career Center, Office of Second Chance Employment, Institute of Concessions and the Aviation & Aeronautics Academy.



# Advisory Council Member Spotlight | Kevin Alexander

No stranger to Southeast Queens, Kevin Alexander focuses on pursuing job opportunities for those residents in Far Rockaway. Currently the President & CEO of the Rockaway Development and Revitalization Corporation (RDRC), Kevin prides himself on being an important resource to the local community when assisting local businesses and entrepreneurs grow their business, providing job placement, skill training and vocational skills certification for those looking to further their careers.

Kevin grew up in South Jamaica next to Dr. Charles R. Drew Park located just off the Van Wyck Expressway. "My family ties to Southeast Queens goes back four generations and we still consider Jamaica, Queens our home," says Kevin. The Rockaways have been part of Kevin's life since he can remember. He recalls packing up the car with his seven family members and heading to Rockaway Playland and beach to enjoy all the neighborhood had to offer. As a youth, Kevin would ride his bike with friends from Linden Boulevard and the Van

Wyck Expressway all the way to the Rockaways via the Rockaway Blvd route into Downtown Far Rockaway. And on occasion, without parents' permission, Kevin and his friends would do what they called "the Southeast Queens bike tour."

"We would ride down Linden Blvd, cut across Springfield Blvd and ride down Snake Road. Imagine thatno cell phones or social media posts to catch us!" he said. Snake road is famous for the way it meanders through the Idlewild Park Preserve with twists and turns. After serving as Chief Financial Officer of Harlem Congregations for Community Improvement and Harlem Dowling Westside Center for Children & Family Services for a combined 10 years, Kevin felt it was time to shift gears into a new role with a myriad of responsibilities. "I felt the RDRC opportunity to put my economic development passion to use in one of the most neglected areas in all of NYC, my hometown area of Southeast Queens," said Kevin.

Since 2006 Kevin has dedicated his life to help the community utilize resources made available to them. Through the RDRC Kevin has been able to put his community economic development passion to use in one of the most neglected areas in NYC.

The JFK Redevelopment Project created a tremendous opportunity for RDRC to expand its workforce and business development services beyond the Rockaways. There are a number of elected officials who appointed Kevin to serve as Career & Workforce Committee Co-Chair with NYS Senator Leroy Comrie. Kevin's appointment has elevated RDRC from its ability to create new workforce partnerships and

collaboration with the implementation of the Council for Airport Opportunity (CAO). The Rockaway CAO office was established to focus on employment and career opportunities for Rockaway residents that are most impacted by the JFK expansion. Additionally, RDRC has successfully leverage its parentship with CAO and Port Authority of NY & NJ to attract public and private investments to help develop skills and expand certified training opportunities which can lead to career pathways, not just jobs.

Over the last 17 years of Kevin's tenure at RDRC he has seen several economic challenges arise, from the great recession of 2008, Superstorm Sandy in 2012, and most recently the COVID-19 pandemic. However, the Rockaways have always prevailed and can now boast about several major developments either completed or in construction; Arverne By The Sea, The Downtown Far Rockaway Redevelopment Project, Edgemere Commons, and Arvene East Development Project, and the JFK Redevelopment Project, to name a few. Kevin. earned his BA in Public Administration from St. John's University, MS in Public Finance & Management from the Robert F. Wagner School of Public Service at New York University, and advanced Certificate in Management & Leadership Development from the John F. Kennedy Graduate School of Public Service at Harvard University.

Kevin has over five years experience as a licensed real estate broker with large scale commercial-retail experience, and as a certified foreclosure counseling specialist successfully negotiating loan modifications, work-out plans and short sales.



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## **Community Outreach**

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# Institute of Concessions Graduation 2023

The Institute of Concessions is a specialized training program offering extensive training and mentoring to small, local, and diverse businesses and is intended to increase the number of local and diverse airport concessionaires at JFK.

The program is approximately 13-weeks long with in-person training designed to deliver focused business insights that help prepare Food and Beverage and Retail businesses to operate in an airport setting. Here, businesses learn about scaling their business, the availability of financial resources in the concessions industry, developing bids, and the nuances of operating in the airport among many other topics.



### JFK Redevelopment **Community Information Center**

144-33 Jamaica Ave. Jamaica, NY Phone: 718-244-3834

Hours of Operation		
Tuesday	9 am – 5 pm	
Wednesday	9 am – 5 pm	
Thursday	9 am – 5 pm	

\*Mondays and Fridays are virtual work days for the Community Information Center staff

www.anewjfk.com jfkredevelopment@panynj.gov

# JFK Redevelopment Watch & Learn Series Part III



In December, the JFK Redevelopment Outreach Team hosted their Holiday Watch & Learn Series in collaboration with the New York Metro Chapter of the Black Pilots Association and the Claude B. Goven Chapter of the Tuskegee Airmen. The featured presentation was Disney Prep & Landing that detailed aviation operations such as, preflight checks, air traffic controller operations, pilot duties, ramps agent duties and more.



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# **York College STEM Program**

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Congratulations to the graduates from the first session of the York College and JFK Redevelopment science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) program. A few years ago, prior to the Covid-19 pandemic, the JFK Redevelopment outreach team recognized the need to increase the number of women and minorities in the aviation industry, especially those from the communities closest to JFK. Last fall, in partnership with York College, the JFKR Aviation & Aeronautics Academy provided approximately 500 students with aviation-related educational opportunities.

The program intends to introduce students to career opportunities in aviation, airport management and aerospace technology.

York College, strategically located between the two busiest airports in the country JFK and LaGuardia Airports, has the unique ability to bring STEM outreach and aviation-industry related awareness to the community's children and youth. The academy is an aviationfocused weekend and summer education program hosted at York College, strategically located in southeast Queens. This new free STEM Program will fulfill several of the most important community needs to educate, train, retain local children and youths in aviation and ensure future workforce development. Classes are offered three times a year, Fall, Spring, and Summer.



L-R: Dr. Derrick Brazil, Dawn Hewitt, Akshar Patel, Dr. Nazrul Khandaker, Assemblywoman Alicia L. Hyndman, Vernon Taylor, Nathaniel Hezekiah, Philana Potter, Luis Flores, Rachelle Antoine, Dr. Earl G. Simmons, Hersh Parekh

# **Upcoming Events**

Wednesday, January 24, 4PM-7PM

Learn about unionized apprenticeships and pathways into the unionized construction industry at the New Terminal One, and Terminal 6 projects.

For more information, contact our community outreach office. Want more events? Visit our community outreach public events calendar



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