

GEU PARTNERS NEWS

Keeping the Glendale Municipal Airport Community Informed



Kirby Houben *Airport Service Worker*

Meet Your Airport Staff has been a regular feature of the Airport Newsletter since we began publishing it. This quarter, we want to feature and introduce you to Kirby Houben. Kirby is an Airport Service Worker and the longest tenured member of the airport staff. His employment with

the City of Glendale began in November 1990 when he began performing general maintenance work at Saguaro Ranch Park.

Kirby says a lot of work goes into maintaining and operating a park. He performed various task while there including ball field maintenance, mowing, flood irrigation, citrus grove tractor work, and playground maintenance. In addition, he was involved with the City-wide irrigation programming and repair. Many of the skills he acquired during that time have been useful working at the airport.

Speaking of the airport, Kirby started here in 2010. When asked what he enjoys most about working at the airport, he replies "I enjoy meeting and getting to know people". Those include co-workers and citizens. He says some have become life-long friends.

The task he enjoys most is the early morning runway inspection. This was not always the case, in fact when he first started it was the most stressful part of his job! If you have ever had occasion to listen to him on the radio, you can tell he is relaxed and in his element.

Kirby has a dry sense of humor and when asked what he would do if he was king for the day, he replies " I am not a big fan of the monarchy, so I would try to make everyone as equally involved, informed, and respected as reasonably possible".

You can tell from his photograph; Kirby is an avid lover of dogs. His current companion is an Australia Shepard by the name of Whiskey. When Kirby leaves the Airport, he hurries home quickly to Whiskey before he does anything else. He loves other animals as well and is often seen feeding Meja, the airport cat.

So, there you have it. Kirby Houben a valued and treasured member of the Glendale Municipal Airport staff. Be sure to give him a wave the next time he drives by!



MEET YOUR... **AIR TRAFFIC** **CONTROLLER**

Meet Your Air Traffic Controller is a feature of the next several issues of the Airport Newsletter.

This quarter we feature

Mr. Mark Darden. Mark is our newest Air Traffic Controller. He just arrived here from Lewiston Idaho. He is an experienced controller and has been with Serco, the tower contractor, for the past several years.

Mark got his start in the Air Traffic Control business while in the U.S. Army. In fact, he is a graduate of the Army ATC school. He controlled aircraft for five years while in the military prior to getting out and joining civilian life.

As was mentioned earlier, Mark is the newest hire at GEU, having started in May. He says the most challenging part of his job is learning the unique operations of each airport. His advice for pilots is get to know the airport, follow instructions, and look out for fellow pilots. If he were king for a day, he would extend the Glendale Airspace three miles to the west and add a parallel runway to separate inbound and pattern traffic.

I am sure you will all join me and welcome Mark to the Glendale Municipal Airport family!



GLENDALE AVENUE RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT

Reconstruction of South Side of Glendale Avenue Continues

Work continues for reconstruction of Glendale Avenue from 99th Avenue to El Mirage Road. The segment of roadway from, and including, the 99th Avenue intersection to just east of the Agua Fria Bridge will be concrete, with the segment west of the Agua Fria Bridge to El Mirage Road remaining asphalt. The project includes drainage improvements, concrete work, asphalt sidewalk, and street lighting. Project completion is expected in Spring 2022.

Crews are currently working to conduct removals, install storm drain, and reconstruct the concrete roadway on the **SOUTH** side of Glendale Avenue from the Agua Fria Bridge to 99th Avenue. To accommodate this work, access is being maintained to driveways and side streets; however, traffic is shifted away from the work zone as follows:

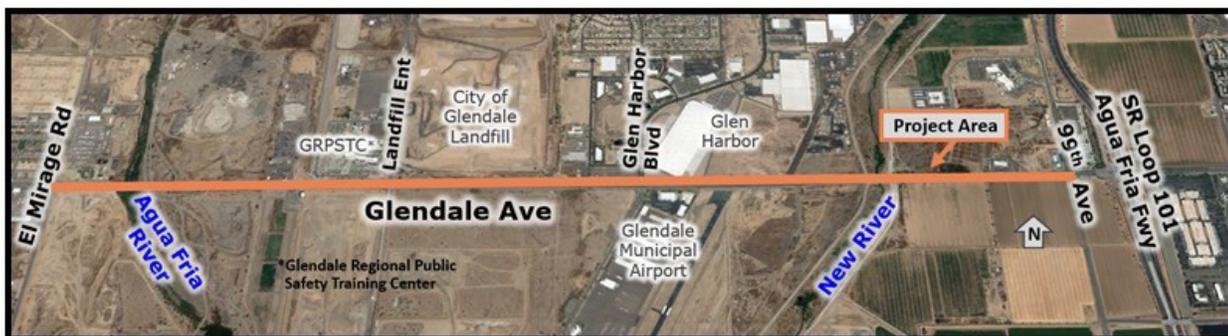
- *Glendale Avenue traffic from El Mirage Road to the Agua Fria Bridge is reduced to one lane in each direction, shifted to the south side of Glendale Avenue.*
- *Glendale Avenue traffic from the Agua Fria Bridge to Glen Harbor Boulevard is reduced to one lane in each direction, shifted to the north side of Glendale Avenue.*
- *Glendale Avenue traffic between Glen Harbor Boulevard to east of 99th Avenue is reduced to one lane only in the WESTBOUND direction (no eastbound traffic is permitted between Glen Harbor Boulevard and 99th Avenue).*
- *Eastbound Glendale Avenue traffic wanting to access 99th Avenue or the Loop 101 is being directed NORTH at Glen Harbor Boulevard to Northern Avenue.*
- *99th Avenue north of Glendale Avenue, headed southbound, currently has no access to the Loop 101 and is being directed WESTBOUND on Glendale Avenue.*
- *99th Avenue south of Glendale Avenue to Maryland Avenue is currently closed to traffic.*

Scheduled to begin Tuesday night, **MAY 25**, pouring of concrete will take place for the roadway, beginning at the **99th Avenue intersection and moving in a westerly direction**. Crews recently completed application of the cement-treated-base to the subsurface of the future roadway to prepare for the concrete. This work is scheduled to take place during night hours, Monday through Friday nights, excluding Memorial Day, to provide a quality end product due to the higher daytime temperatures.

Access to businesses and facilities is being maintained and detour signage is in place to direct travelers around the restrictions. Please allow extra time for travel during this work.

Crews are also currently working in Glendale Avenue on the south side of the Landfill Entrance to reconstruct the driveway, with work taking place one-half the driveway at a time and access being maintained.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR PATIENCE DURING THIS WORK!



PROJECT INFORMATION: 602.532.6250 | WWW.GLENDALEAZ.COM

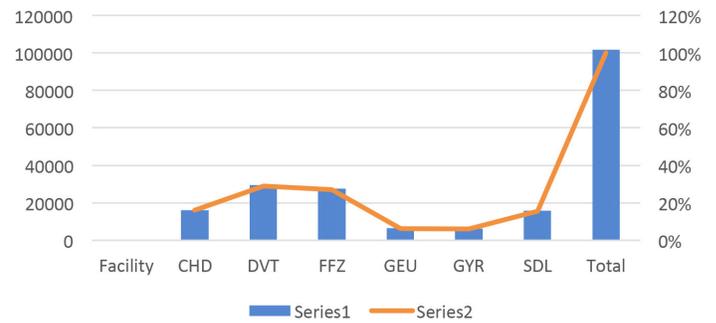
WWW.GLENDALEAZ.COM/AIRPORT

AIRCRAFT OPERATIONS UPDATE

April 2021 Aircraft Operations were 8,046 which is approximately 19% above April 2020. April 2020 Aircraft Operations were 6,773.

Aircraft operations for calendar year 2021 are 30,286 compared to 33,016 for calendar year 2020 an approximately 8% decrease. This is good news considering January and February this year saw significant decreases in operations, in fact January 2021 saw operations dip 34% below January 2020.

Valley GA Traffic



AIRPORT PROJECTS

The Taxiway Alpha design is complete, and the project was advertised for bid March 18, 2021. Bids were accepted April 21, 2021. The low bidder was Combs Construction. The contract with Combs will not be executed until the City of Glendale receives and accepts an FAA grant for the project. The FAA will fund 100% of the project with no local match required.

The Automated Weather Observation System design is complete, and the project was advertised for bid March 25, 2021. Bids were accepted April 28, 2021. The low bidder on the project was Rural Electric. The contract with Rural Electric will not be executed until the City of Glendale receives and accepts an FAA grant for the project. The FAA will fund 100% of the project with no local match required.

The Glendale Municipal Airport has intermittent problems with three systems on the airfield: The Precision Approach Path Indicator lights (PAPIs), the blast fence lighting, and the Runway End Identifiers Lights (REILs). We have contracted Rural Electric to replace the wiring from the main electrical vault to the PAPIs and the blast fence. The firm will also replace the wire nuts on the connections for the REILs. Work began Tuesday May 18th and is expected to take 8 working days. To complete the work, the runway was required to be closed several days from 6:30 AM to 2 PM.

In addition, several mandatory signs are faded and in poor condition. Last year at about this time several sign faces were replaced but not all of them. In June, the airport staff will work with Rural Electric to replace the remaining faded signs. The work may also require runway closures. The airport staff will endeavor to give everyone plenty of notice before a closure occurs.

On May 12, 2021, the Air Traffic Control Tower Manager and Airport staff conducted a Runway Safety Action Team meeting. The FAA requires the meetings take place annually. We had good participation with 14 total participants representing flight schools, hangar tenants, the FBO manager, Luke Air Force Base, and various FAA team members. The meeting went well, and no pressing issues were identified.

Scottsdale Airport will be closed beginning July 6th for approximately 45 days. As a result, the Glendale Municipal Airport has been contacted by several flight training schools searching for a temporary home. We have been able to accommodate request for aircraft parking. Most have been able to partner with others on the field for office space. Sierra Charlie Aviation requested the use of the restaurant during the shut-down.

FAA & ADOT GRANT ACTIONS

Glendale Municipal Airport applied for an Airport Coronavirus Response Grant Program (ACRGP) in the amount of \$57,162.00. The grant will be used to support the tower and other airport expenses once it is awarded.

AIRPORT ISSUES & EVENTS

There were two noise complaints received in April. While our goal is zero complaints, two is not bad. Please continue to "fly friendly" by following the noise abatement procedures outlined in the Airport Rules and Regulations.