

COVID-19: Survival and Revival

Call-in Forum for Airport Concessions Industry – No. 30

November 18, 2020, 4:00 PM EST

Phone Number 408-418-9388; Access Code 791-700-478#

About this Session: **FAA Associate Administrator for Airports Kirk Shaffer** returns to our Forum to provide an update on the FAA's efforts to manage through the pandemic, administer billions of dollars in airport CARES Act and Airport Improvement Program (AIP) grants, and help the aviation industry recover. He will be joined by **Assistant Administrator John Benison, FAA's Office of Civil Rights**, who will discuss the ACDBE program—past, present and future--and how COVID-19 is impacting opportunities for small, minority and women-owned businesses in airport concessions and contracting.

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D. Kirk Shaffer, FAA Associate Administrator for Airports

Mr. Shaffer, a native of Bay City, Texas, was reappointed by President Donald Trump and Secretary Elaine Chao as Associate Administrator for Airports on December 17, 2018. He served in this role previously between 2007-2009. Kirk has more than 30 years experience as an entrepreneurial airport executive, advocate, and regulator. He leads more than 500 employees, manages an annual budget of \$3.35 billion (which includes an operating budget of about \$112 million), and is responsible for the Airport Improvement Program grants, which total around \$7 billion annually, as well as two major research programs. He is also responsible for overseeing national airport safety and standards, planning, engineering, environmental processing, financial assistance and compliance programs for more than 3,320 public-use airports nationwide.

John Benison, FAA Assistant Administrator, Office of Civil Rights



Mr. Benison is responsible for assuring affirmative implementation of civil rights, equal opportunity and diversity precepts within the FAA for over 47,000 employees and recipients of federal assistance. Mr. Benison is the principal advisor to the Administrator concerning civil rights, equal opportunity, and diversity matters. As the FAA Equal Opportunity Officer, Mr. Benison directs the civil rights, equal opportunity and diversity program consistent with the Department of Transportation Office of Civil Rights, The Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) Commission, the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) and the Departments of Labor and Justice policies. Mr. Benison has been a Federal Equal Employment Opportunity leader since 1999 holding key leadership positions with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Personnel Management.