

COVID-19: Survival and Revival

Call-in Forum for Airport Concessions Industry – No. 34

January 6, 2021, 4:00 PM EST

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

About this Session: *To kick-off the New Year, representatives of our concessions and airports coalition will discuss the just-enacted federal COVID-19 relief bill and what it means for airports and concessionaires. Our panel will feature Annie Russo, ACI-NA's Senior Vice President for Government & Political Affairs, Joel Bacon, AAAE's Executive Vice President for Government & Public Affairs and Sam Whitehorn, Co-founder and Principal of Elevate Government Relations, ARRA's Washington representative. The three panelists will provide insight into the long legislative path and political ups and downs that led to the final measure. They will also offer their expectations for the incoming Biden administration and new Congress, the outlook for additional relief and other legislative initiatives affecting airports and concessionaires, and the priorities for airports and concessionaires.*

For more information about ARRA programs or membership please visit us at www.arra-airports.com or contact us at info@arra-airports.com.



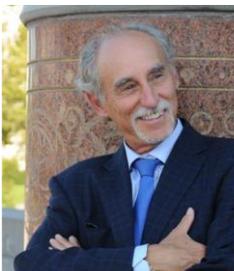
Annie Russo, Senior Vice President, Government and Political Affairs, ACI-NA

Annie leads ACI-NA's advocacy strategies on the many pressing legislative challenges facing the industry. Prior to ACI-NA, Russo served as Legislative Director for Rep. Albio Sires (D-N.J.), directing legislative policy and handling the congressman's Transportation and Infrastructure Committee and Financial Services Committee assignments. Prior to joining Rep. Sires' staff, she served as Senior Legislative Assistant to Rep. Steven Rothman (D-N.J.), assisting with his work on the Transportation Subcommittee of Appropriations and working closely with local airports on issues surrounding safety, noise reduction and airspace redesign. Russo spent her first three years on Capitol Hill working for Rep. John Olver (D-Mass.) who represents her hometown of South Deerfield, Mass.



Joel Bacon, Executive Vice President, Government and Public Affairs, AAAE

Joel leads AAAE's advocacy and public affairs operations with oversight of legislative and regulatory affairs, transportation security policy, communications, press, public relations, and *Airport Magazine*. Prior to joining AAAE, he served as senior manager of legislative affairs with the National Business Aviation Association. Joel began his professional career in the office of Kansas Senator Nancy Landon Kassebaum where he held positions as legislative assistant and press secretary. He also worked for the Senate Labor and Human Resources Committee during Senator Kassebaum's term as Chairman. He served as the first district director for then-Representative Jerry Moran, who now serves in the United States Senate.



Sam Whitehorn, Co-founder and Principal, Elevate Government Affairs

Sam has spent his more than 30-year career addressing tough legal and policy issues. He has been deeply involved in infrastructure, transportation and technology sectors and their intersection for years. Sam has held key positions on the U.S. Senate Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee (Senior Counsel to the Aviation Subcommittee, Deputy Staff Director and General Counsel, and briefly, Staff Director) under Chairmen Hollings (D-SC), Rockefeller (D-WV) and Inouye (D-HI). Prior to his time on Capitol Hill, Sam was Senior Attorney at the U.S. Department of Transportation General Counsel's office, focusing on motor carrier safety and aviation issues.