

Executive Director's Membership Update

Dear ARRA Members,

The work of ARRA looks much different than anticipated when we announced in March I'd be serving as ARRA Executive Director. As we've seen the COVID-19 Virus impact our businesses and country, I've worked with a great many of you and am inspired by your passion for your employees, passengers and the businesses you have built. I want to thank you for your support during these hectic weeks. This first Executive Director's Membership Update is meant to offer you a summary of ARRA's work on your behalf.

I hope you will reach out to me any time to offer me suggestions and input on not only this Update, but our overall initiatives and efforts.

Sincerely,



Rob Wigington
Executive Director

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Congress, President Approve Additional Coronavirus Relief Package

Following Senate passage, the House of Representatives approved on April 23 and the President signed the Paycheck Protection Program Increase Act of 2020 which provides \$484 billion in additional federal relief, including an additional \$321 billion for the small business Payroll Protection Program (PPP). Those funds will supplement the original \$349 billion that was provided in the CARES Act but was quickly exhausted. \$60 billion of the PPP funds were set-aside for small banks, lending institutions and credit unions in rural and disadvantaged communities.

The Small Business Administration's Disaster Loans Program received \$50 billion, funding for Economic Injury Disaster Emergency Advance Loans (EIDL) was increased from \$10-\$20 billion. Agricultural enterprises with less than 500 employees were made eligible for

EIDL funds. Hospitals and healthcare providers will receive \$75 billion, and \$25 billion was provided for coronavirus testing and research. Funding Democrats sought to assist state and local governments was not included in the package.

ARRA Endorses Joint AMAC Legislative Proposal for \$5B for Airport Concessions

On the recommendation of the ARRA Government Affairs Committee, the ARRA Board of Directors voted to support the legislative proposal and jointly lobby for its passage with AMAC. The proposal would create a new grant program dedicated to airport concessions and administered by the FAA, and loans available through minority banks and depository institutions. Of the \$5B total, 70% would be allocated to each airport based on that airport's passenger enplanements; the airport's food, beverage, retail and other concessionaires could apply for grants that could be used for operational expenses, debt payments and capital projects. Loans would comprise 30% of the total for the same eligible purposes.

Grant recipients would be required to rehire 25% of the workforce that existed on February 15, 2020 within 12 months of receiving the grants. Loans would be fully or partially forgiven if the concessionaire meets higher thresholds for rehiring employees.

AMAC and ARRA are working together with Senate and House leaders and the Administration to gain support for the proposal. We will provide more information and guidance to our members in the days ahead to enlist your help building support with your U.S. representatives.

The legislative proposal will be discussed on the April 27 Members Only call.

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FAA Clarifies Guidance to Airports for Concessions Rent Waivers and Deferrals

During a phone call with FAA Associate Administrator for Airports Kirk Shaffer and a high-level DOT official, ARRA Government Affairs Committee Chair Nick Crews, ARRA Chair Pat Murray, AMAC Chair John Clark and I received further confirmation and clarification on FAA's Guidance to airports (*Information for Airport Sponsors Considering COVID-19 Restrictions or Accommodations* issued April 4) regarding waiving or deferring rents. The document is available on the ARRA website.

Associate Administrator Shaffer confirmed the FAA's guidance gives airports clear authority to waive or abate rents or fees and does not violate airport grant assurances. He explained the CARES Act replaces lost revenue to airports such as concessions rent. He is working to make sure all of FAA's Regional offices and Airport District Offices (ADO) understand the guidance and are clear and consistent in their interpretation. He noted that since the nearly \$10 billion in CARES Act grants for airports are different than the Airport

Improvement Program (AIP) grants FAA is used to administering, and do not have the same eligibility restrictions or rules, it is more of a challenge. He emphasized that all the parties need to recognize the unprecedented situation we're in and Congress and the FAA are giving airports much more latitude. He also asked for ARRA and AMAC's help in getting the message to airports.

Shaffer clarified that while airports cannot provide CARES grant monies directly to concessionaires, they can provide rent waivers and deferrals, much like FAA allows airports to waive landing fees and rental charges to airlines as an incentive and to support new service for a temporary period. We also expressed concern that some airports may take actions against concessionaires for non-payment. While FAA does not have authority over airport contracts and agreements, he expressed his hope that airports would not take actions to impose penalties or default concessionaires and FAA monitor that.

Members-only Call

Each Monday

5:00 pm EST

Dial-in: (757) 266-5008

Access Code: 663 711 419#

COVID-19: Survival and Revival Conference Call

About the 04/29/20 Call: Industry experts will take a detailed look at the impact of the Covid-19 crisis on the P&L's of both multiple and single location restaurant and retail operators. A presentation deck will be provided to call participants.

Each Wednesday

4:00 pm EST

Dial-in: (408) 418-9388

Access Code: 791 700 478#

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Join an ARRA Committee

Committees have been formed and the chairs and members have begun regular meetings and are actively developing the work of the committees. Below is the Committee list and chairs. Please sign up for one or more of the committees and help them tackle the vital issues and initiatives of the association. Please contact the committee chair to sign up or if you have any questions.

Committee	Chair	Contact Information
Membership	Kirk Weiss Concessions International	kweiss@cintl.com (305) 318-6747
Government Affairs	Nick Crews Crews Co.	ncrews@crews1972.com (310) 880-9607
Topics	Mike Mullaney Hudson Group	mmullaney@hudsongroup.com (201) 835-4078
Airport Affairs	Andy Weddig Paradies Lagardere	andrew.weddig@paradies-na.com (312) 405-0024
Public Relations and Marketing	Bryan Loden HMS Host	bryan.loden@hmshost.com (443) 745-4988
Legal Committee	James Wilson Delaware North	jwilson2@delawarenorth.com (716) 253-7458
Non-Profit	Winston Burns Newburns Management	wburns44@aol.com (504) 259-7414

Past Week Media Mention

Airport Experience News, [Directors Map Way Forward in ARRA/AMAC Call](#), April 23, 2020:

Four airport directors outlined how they see the industry evolving during a panel discussion convened by conference call yesterday. Hosted by the Airports Restaurant & Retail Association (ARRA) and the Airport Minority Advisory Council (AMAC), the call offered industry executives a glimpse into how some airport leaders see the industry evolving from what everyone hopes is a low point in passenger traffic due to the COVID-19 outbreak.....<https://airportxnews.com/directors-map-way-forward-arra-amac-call/>