

THE TRANSFORMED PITTSBURGH INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

August 21, 2025

Pittsburgh International Airport (PIT) is a bold industry disruptor redefining the role of an airport in its community—a mission only furthered by its airport-wide modernization. PIT is transforming air travel through its ambitious Terminal Modernization Program (TMP), designed to better meet the needs of the region’s travelers by reflecting, connecting and serving its community. The project includes a new, state-of-the-art landside terminal, parking structure that features over 3,200 public spaces and airside renovation project that ensures the new terminal’s design matches existing airport facilities.

As the Pittsburgh region continues to reinvent itself, the Allegheny County Airport Authority (ACAA) is transforming PIT to meet the challenges of tomorrow, better serve the community and advance the region’s role as a world leader. An airport modernized for today and designed for tomorrow also reduces its operational costs. The transformed PIT bolsters the Western Pennsylvania economy, with an estimated \$2.5 billion in economic impact that directly supports regional growth and prosperity – and no local tax dollars were used to fund the project. PIT’s modernization has also created approximately 14,300 direct and indirect jobs, contributing to the region’s flourishing workforce and creating a new world of opportunity at the airport – Pittsburgh’s front door to the world.

INFORMATION

Total Cost:	\$1.7 billion
Size:	811,000 sq. ft. new PIT terminal 1,143,868 sq. ft. new parking structure
Location:	Built adjacent to existing PIT airside terminal
Groundbreaking:	October 2021
Scheduled Completion:	Fall 2025
Extending Life Expectancy:	40 years
Jobs Created:	Over 14,300 jobs within the Pittsburgh region <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Over 7,800 direct jobs ○ Over 6,500 indirect jobs
Economic Impact:	Over \$2.5 billion in regional economic activity
Direct Labor Income:	\$1 billion
Local Labor and Supplies:	Over 90 percent
Future Capacity:	Designed to handle 13–15 million passengers annually
Taxes:	No local tax dollars were used to fund this project
Gross Regional Product/Value:	\$700 million
Tax Revenue:	More than \$27 million
Environmental Responsibility:	New PIT terminal tracking toward LEED Gold certification New MMC tracking toward Parksmart certification

PASSENGER EXPERIENCE

- Built to reflect, connect and serve the Pittsburgh region
- Designed to provide a sense of place, a reflection of Pittsburgh
- Expanded, more open main security checkpoint augmented by intuitive design and featuring a spacious post-security recompose area
- Reduces the time it takes to get from curbside to airside by 50 percent
- Expanded concessions program that adds 15 new retail and dining options balanced between showcasing local brands with the availability of unique and respected national and international brands
- Outdoor areas and public spaces pre- and post-security – rare among U.S. airports
- Focus on universal access – designed to meet or exceed standards, with inclusive restrooms, companion care spaces, quiet rooms and sensory-friendly zones
- Reduces the time it takes to get from international arrivals to curbside by 67 percent
- A dedicated ground transportation center
- A Welcome Point for friends and family to meet and greet arriving travelers
- Only one level change from departure curb to gates
- Streamlined check-in and baggage handling systems
- Large gate areas with enhanced seating, charging ports and natural light
- Art and cultural installations throughout the terminal, over 80 percent of which come from local artists

UNIVERSAL ACCESS

- Built to be welcoming to all passengers, regardless of age or ability
- Clearly marked and intuitive wayfinding
- High-visibility signage and information displays
- Accessible-height ticketing counters
- Quiet rooms
- Nursing rooms
- Adult changing tables
- Additional rest areas
- Presley's Place – pioneering sensory-friendly suite designed to support travelers with autism and sensory sensitivities

PARKING

- Quick access to terminal and rental cars
- Over 6,000 additional public parking spaces provided through the new surface lots (over 2,800 spaces) and parking structure (over 3,200 spaces), tripling the amount of covered parking available
- Electric vehicle charging stations
- State-of-the-art space-finder system
- Advanced, eco-friendly snow-melt technology

SECURITY

- 12 security lanes in a singular location
- State-of-the-art screening equipment
- Updated electronic information displays
- Expanded, more open space augmented by intuitive design features
- Post-security recompose space

BAGGAGE CLAIM

- State-of-the-art baggage handling system
- Decreases baggage claim conveyor belt system length from eight to three miles, resulting in shorter luggage travel time from plane to baggage claim
- Eight new, larger baggage claim carousels
- Modernized electronic information displays
- More open waiting spaces designed to be more welcoming to all visitors
- Quick access from baggage claim to parking, rental cars, public transportation and ridesharing options

INSPIRED BY PITTSBURGH

- The transformed PIT has been built for Pittsburgh, by Pittsburgh
- The transformed PIT's design philosophy was inspired by the natural environment, innovative spirit and community values of the region – PIT is designed to reflect, connect, and serve the Pittsburgh region:
 - Design elements echo the region's rolling hills, night sky and forests:
 - Materials from the Region: The terminal features locally sourced wood, stone and steel, echoing the natural resources found across Western PA
 - Daylight and Views: Expansive windows allow natural light to flood the space, offering scenic views of the rolling hills, airfield and landscape
 - Outdoor Spaces: Terraces and gardens provide fresh-air areas for all travelers—rare in airport design
 - Biophilic Design: Incorporation of greenery and organic forms encourages calm and connection with nature inside a bustling travel hub
 - Inspired by Pittsburgh's innovation economy (robotics, AI, etc.):
 - Smart Infrastructure: The terminal is designed with flexible systems that support biometric boarding, autonomous cleaning robots and integrated digital signage
 - Microgrid Power System: PIT is the first airport in the world to be powered entirely by its own solar- and natural gas-powered microgrid, a major innovation in airport resiliency
 - Future-Ready Design: Built for adaptability to emerging mobility and aviation technology, including electric aircraft and advanced ground transportation
 - Digital Wayfinding and Accessibility: Features such as real-time navigation tools and assistive technology enhance the experience for all travelers
 - Spaces are designed to be welcoming and reflect local culture and community values of the Pittsburgh region:
 - Welcoming to All: With a design guided by universal access, the terminal reflects the city's values of hospitality, inclusion and innovation
 - Local Art and Culture: Rotating exhibitions, murals and installations from regional artists and schools tell the story of Pittsburgh
 - Pittsburgh Brands: Food, beverage, retail and design choices reflect the flavors and character of the city and its neighborhoods
 - Built by Pittsburgh: Over 90 percent of construction labor and materials was sourced locally. Community input played a key design role
- The modernized airside center core is nearly the same square footage as Pittsburgh's Market Square – a popular meeting, dining and entertainment area of the city
- Skybridge: The connection between airport terminals, guiding passengers intuitively from security checkpoint to concessions and gates – a design that reflects Pittsburgh's entryway, the Fort Pitt Bridge and Tunnel

- Welcome Point: A space built for the Pittsburgh region's distinct "meeter-greeter" phenomenon, where locals park and wait inside PIT to receive colleagues, friends and family arriving in Pittsburgh. The space is designed to be more open, welcoming and comfortable, featuring concessions, green terrace access and seating
- Airport directional signage pays homage to the colors of the City of Pittsburgh – and the color of the city's sports teams:
 - Outdoor signs have a white background with black lettering matching the away jerseys of the city's professional sports team
 - Inside signs are black with gold lettering matching the home jerseys of the city's professional sports teams
- Columns are tree-like structures, inspired by the forests of Western Pennsylvania and feature a branching canopy design, creating a warm and open atmosphere in the new terminal – no two are alike
- Undulating roofline inspired by the Pittsburgh region's rolling hills:
 - Incorporates sustainable building materials and is designed to contribute to the project's LEED Gold certification goal
 - Its geometric design supports rainwater systems that are integrated throughout the building

ROADWAYS & BRIDGES

- Approximately four miles of new roadway were constructed to connect Interstate 376 with the new terminal via a network of ramps and smaller bridges
- Approximately 27 lane-miles of updated/new roadway – covering surface streets, access roads and the main terminal bridges
- A 1,300-ft dual-level terminal bridge stands as the centerpiece:
 - Contains departure, arrival and ground transportation levels
 - Built on 10 pier sets with 68 tub girders
 - Incorporates 8 million pounds of structural steel
- Supporting infrastructure:
 - 2 retaining walls and culverts (ramp E-AD)
 - 17,000 feet of drainage piping
 - Eight overhead signage structures

TEAM

Owner

- Allegheny County Airport Authority

Architects & Engineers

- Terminal: Gensler + HDR in association with luis vidal + architects
- Terminal Garage and Customer Service Building: Michael Baker International

Executive Management

- Paslay Group

Program Management

- Jacobs

Construction Management

- PJ Dick/Hunt and Turner Construction