



# LAX PECTIONS™

Capital Improvement Projects Update | SPRING 2009

## \$28-million Project to Enhance Passenger Experience At Tom Bradley International Terminal



Gin Wong Associates

*Architectural rendering shows arriving passengers and visitors in the newly redesigned "Meet and Greet" Arrivals Lobby at Tom Bradley International Terminal.*

A new enhancements project that will inform and entertain passengers and visitors with multi-media displays and modern-looking, color-splashed concession storefronts will further revitalize the Tom Bradley International Terminal (TBIT).

The new \$27.9-million project approved by the Los Angeles Board of Airport Commissioners in January will enhance three critical areas at TBIT: baggage claim in the Customs Arrivals Hall, meet-and-greet lobby, and new and current concessions areas on the mezzanine, airline check-in and Lower/Arrivals levels. New, curved LED (light-emitting-diode) media and entertainment display audio zones in baggage claim will

provide passengers a warm Los Angeles welcome and information about the latest happenings and what to do and see in the City. Walls of large flat-screen displays in the Arrivals Lobby will provide meeters-and-greeters flight status and entertainment.

New media installations and colorful storefronts also will be part of a major spruce-up of the concessions areas in the arrivals and airline check-in lobbies, as well as mezzanine food court. The new enhancements are expected to be completed in 2010 when the current TBIT renovations are expected to be completed. The new enhancements will tie in closely with the look of the Bradley West project to be completed in 2013.

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**Much-needed upgrades to TBIT air-conditioning already being felt, literally...**

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**LAX**  
Los Angeles World Airports

## TBIT Renovation Reaches Milestones That Ease Travel Through LAX

### ■ Wayfinding Changed in Meet-and-Greet Area

The current renovation program in the Tom Bradley International Terminal (TBIT) has moved into the Arrivals Level meet-and-greet lobby. The passenger flow has been significantly altered to accommodate the temporary closures of the main meet-and-greet area and one of the two ramps exiting cus-

toms and immigration. Travelers and visitors are advised to follow posted wayfinding signs or talk to one of the many friendly LAX Ambassadors on duty. More Ambassadors are on scene to help minimize any confusion and inconvenience passengers and visitors may experience.

### ■ TBIT Gets Cooler with Less Energy

Along with the renovations visible to the public, many other changes are taking place behind the scenes during the TBIT make-over. Much-needed upgrades to the 25-year-old air-conditioning system are already being felt, literally, with passengers and employees reporting a consistent and much improved environmental temperature in those parts of the terminal where the work has already been completed. New water chillers, pumps and other equipment are being in-

stalled to make the building's air-conditioning and ventilation system more energy-efficient and less expensive to operate. TBIT uses more cooling than heating year-round because of the enormous amounts of heat generated by the nearly 10 million travelers plus hundreds of thousands of visitors and employees who pass through the terminal annually, and by the ever-increasing number of computers and other heat-generating electronic equipment.

### ■ No SIG Alerts on TBIT Information Super Highway



*Passenger processing is now easier and more efficient thanks to upgraded airline check-in systems and modern displays.*

A vast range of information courses through TBIT on a daily basis. And to keep it flowing quickly so that passengers can travel unhindered as much as possible while at TBIT, several information technology upgrades are underway or have been completed. The U.S. Customs and Border Protection installed more electronic technology so their agents can more quickly process arriving passengers. The recent installation of WiFi technology throughout the terminal now allows passengers to access the Internet from all of the public areas. Airlines also are using new video displays installed behind their check-in counters to provide more up-to-the-minute flight status. A refurbished communications center allows the many federal, local and airport law enforcement agencies operating at TBIT to coordinate with greater ease.

### ■ Last Two Boarding Gates Undergoing Makeover

The last two boarding gates at TBIT -- Gates 120 and 121 on the north concourse -- are undergoing renovation to the seating areas, restrooms, flooring, lighting and ventilation. New ceiling and wall treatments, moving walkways and passenger-to-aircraft boarding bridges are being installed. The

two gates are scheduled for completion this spring. Extensive construction barricade walls are not resulting in any pedestrian detours. However, travelers may experience some dust in the corridors, as well as hear occasional loud noises from construction equipment.

## ■ Modern Passenger Boarding Bridges More Accesible



Albert Rodriguez

*Passengers will experience better lighting, safety and accessibility due to of newly installed passenger boarding bridges.*

After reaching the end of their 25-year life expectancy, the passenger boarding bridges (PBBs) that connect aircraft to the gates at TBIT are being replaced. Nearly 12 of the 19 passenger boarding bridges have already been replaced with brighter and more easily accessible modern units.

Passengers will immediately notice better lighting levels in the boarding bridge “tunnels” and cabs. The carpeting in the previous bridges required significant maintenance. The new boarding bridges have flooring made of a more durable material in brighter colors. Integrated fans also keep temperatures pleasant and constant in the bridges.

Safety features make it easier and safer to board and deplane. Lengthened ramps minimize the slope and handrails are built into both sides of the “tunnels.”

The new passenger boarding bridges are also configured to accommodate newer generation aircraft, allowing passengers to board and deplane from these larger aircraft conveniently and safely. Aircraft ramps were also upgraded. Installation was carefully phased in order to minimize impacts to flight schedules and airport operations.

## LAX’s New Design Vision Garners Architectural Distinction

*California Home and Design Magazine* announced LAX’s new architectural design vision for the upcoming Bradley West and Midfield Concourse projects among the Top 10 most promising future projects of California architecture. The magazine covers emerging styles and trendsetting ideas within the architectural and interior design world. It is considered influential among affluent homeowners, design enthusiasts and industry leaders with a combined circulation of 365,000.

*California Home and Design’s* senior editors bestowed the special distinction after reviewing many projects, choosing projects they felt would become landmark architectural entities having a significant impact upon California’s architectural landscape. Included in the list are museums, the Google headquarters, trade centers, and residential projects with innovative “green-living” features.

The design by Denver-based Fentress Architects honors the parabolic arches of the iconic Theme Building, which ushered in the Jet Age at LAX when built in 1961. The design concepts incorporate two arched bridges that increase in



Fentress Architects

*Architectural model shows pedestrian bridge that will connect TBIT to the new Midfield Concourse.*

size toward the West, just as planes take off and gain altitude over the Pacific Ocean. The ocean inspires the roof tops flowing as rhythmic waves breaking on the shore with flat-seam stainless steel stretches over column-free structures.

The Bradley West project is expected to be completed by 2013, while the Midfield Concourse, arched bridges and new passenger processing center are to be scheduled later.

## Gladstone's Brings Unique SoCal Taste to LAX Visitors and Travelers



Jay Berkowitz

*Chef Fabio Montijo proudly displays some of Gladstone's menu favorites.*

Construction at LAX is not limited to infrastructure. Gladstone's 4 Fish seafood restaurant, a Southern California culinary landmark in Malibu, opened its first-ever airport location in Terminal 3 in January.

The restaurant's décor reflects its Malibu Beach original, so lo-

cals and tourists can experience Gladstone's laid-back ambience and enjoy many of the restaurant's menu and bar favorites while at LAX.

Gladstone's joins an already impressive line-up of well-known local restaurants that have opened LAX sites during recent months under partnership with HMSHost Corporation, which is committed to bringing "the flavor of L.A." to the airport. La Brea Bakery, known for fresh-baked artisan breads, opened its first airport locations in Terminals 1, 2 and 7. Baja Fresh, which offers quick, casual Mexican dishes, also opened in Terminal 7. On the Border Mexican Grill and Cantina, offering mesquite-grilled specialties and traditional Mexican favorites, opened in Terminal 4.

## Project Beautifies and Improves Safety at Terminal 1 Curbside

*Story by Jennifer Robinson*

Pedestrians and motorists will have safer trips through LAX with roadway and sidewalk improvements that were completed in early March on the east side of Terminal 1 at the northwest corner of Sky Way and World Way North. LAX Construction & Maintenance workers trimmed tree roots and replaced concrete sidewalk that had been raised due to overgrown roots. Designs of crushed colored glass now surround the trees to add visual appeal. New, large decorative cement planters also were installed to enhance safety and security for travelers by preventing speeding vehicles from jumping the curb and ending up the sidewalk.



Albert Rodriguez

*Airport workers installed cement planters, removed tree roots, and levelled the sidewalk in front of Terminal 1 to improve pedestrian safety.*



*The beauty and shade of trees at Terminal 1 were preserved when upgrades were performed to provide a pleasant area for travelers and visitors.*

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