

## Highlights

- [Construction Updates.....2](#)
- [Community Outreach.....4](#)
- [T8 Concessions Announcement..5](#)
- [Advisory Council Spotlight.....6](#)

## JFK Pulse

As construction moves along, we continue to urge our airport community and employees to stay updated with the latest information as changes happen regularly.

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## A Message from our General Manager



*Teresa Rizzuto, JFK Airport*

Welcome to 2025! -- I want to take a moment to thank the incredible Airport team and the entire JFK community for all your remarkable contributions in 2024. It has been an extraordinary year, filled with growth and significant milestones despite the challenges posed by the ongoing Redevelopment Program.

Together we have achieved tremendous progress—implementing vital improvements, fostering innovation and creating a safe, efficient environment for everyone passing through our portal. In 2024 we proudly welcomed over 63.3 million passengers and that number stands as a testament to the dedication and resilience of our team.

Let us remain focused on the road ahead as we move into the new year. Our ambitious plans will be pursued with urgency while always prioritizing the health and safety of our customers, our teams, and their loved ones. At the same time, let's take a moment to reflect and celebrate the incredible journey we are on, finding joy in that journey while "Embracing Every Challenge" it presents, turning those challenges into opportunities for growth and transformation.

On behalf of all the JFK Port Authority employees I want to wish you and your families a happy, healthy, and prosperous 2025.

Bless you all. Let's make this year extraordinary.

## Construction Updates | Terminal 1 - South Terminal Development

T1 - Headhouse Interior



T1 - Pedestrian Bridge



- Roadway A, the at-grade approach road to Terminal 1, is undergoing various work including leveling of the roadway, installing drainage, conduits for power, and conducting foundation work
- Curtain wall at Terminal 1 continues with Headhouse N4 & East Pier
- Radiant heating work continues on the 2nd floor and the South Side Headhouse
- Hydrant fueling work is ongoing
- Gate 1 slab has been poured

## Construction Updates

[Go to Page 1](#)

### Terminal 6 - North Terminal Development



**T6 - Curtain Wall**

The attached picture shows ongoing frontage work such as metal wall panels and elevated roadway work.

- Demolition, excavation and hauling of existing soil
- Work on the Heating, ventilation, and air conditioning, and plumbing
- The baggage handling system conveyors are being installed
- Curtain wall and metal panel installation on exterior
- Roofing membrane installation
- Interior escalator installation

As far as the rest of 2025, Terminal 6 will continue with the work already mentioned, also include significant testing and commissioning of systems through the terminal. Operational Readiness, Activation, and Transition will begin at the end of 2025 and the Terminal 6 roadway frontage will be fully activated by the end of 2025.



**T6- Apron Concrete Placement**



**T6 - Elevator and Escalator Install**

#### **Terminal 4 - Ongoing Work:**

All work at Concourse A, B, Delta One Lounge, Beacon Bar, and Queens Beat Concessions have been completed

Work left to complete:

- Retail Halls will have been fully completed by early 2025
- Holdroom finishes and lighting upgrades
- Restroom sense of place art installations
- Wayfinding signage upgrades
- Capital One lounge fit-out
- Concessions fit-out

**Bridge J34 West Abutment (behind) & J34 Pier 4**



#### **Westbound Connector Project:**

The Westbound Connector Project is progressing well with the final stages of pier and abutment construction taking place. From February through April, the team will be installing the major steel girders from the Avis leasehold, across the Van Wyck and into the Federal Circle. There will be roadway changes during this time to enable this construction including lane shifts, temporary traffic holds and detours, which will be communicated to stakeholders and the public via the regular communications channels. The Westbound Connector is required to connect the JFK Expressway with the Van Wyck Expressway, providing a link to Terminals 1 and 4 when the CTA roads are bifurcated in 2026.

Construction Updates, continued

[Go to Page 1](#)

## Roads, Utilities & Ground Transportation Center - Ongoing Work

RUGTC - Early Stage Construction of Bridge J41



Ongoing work at Bridge J19

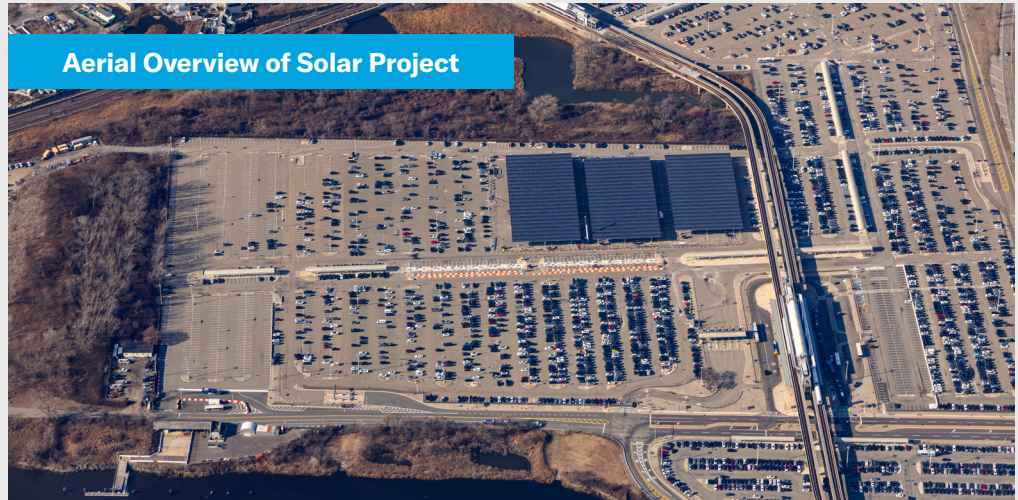


Later this year a new bridge connecting Terminal 4 Departures to the Van Wyck Expressway will open

## Lot 9 - Solar Project

Work on the solar canopies continues in the long-term lot on the western part of the airport. In 2025 the solar project will have completed the Behind-the-Meter (BTM) phase of the project, the solar electricity generated from the panels in this phase will help feed into the AirTrain Substation and offset airport onsite demands.

Aerial Overview of Solar Project



## Community Outreach

[Go to Page 1](#)



Pictured from Left to Right: Stacey Gilbert, Luis Flores, Natasha Turner, Akshar Patel, Rachele Antoine, Hersh Parekh, Bridgette Allen, and Carl Lewis

The JFK Redevelopment Program has assembled a Community Outreach Team that serves as a touchpoint for the community to be actively engaged in the redevelopment program as well as obtain project information and explore job and business opportunities. The Community Outreach Team meets regularly with the JFKR Community Advisory Council — made up of local elected officials, community boards, clergy, civic and business leaders — to enhance outreach to the local community. The Community Outreach Team, in partnership with the Community Advisory Council, created and oversees the JFKR Community Development Program — supported and jointly funded by the Port Authority, the New

Terminal One, JFKIAT, Delta Air Lines, JFK Millennium Partners, and American Airlines. **“The JFK Outreach Team is proud of our 2024 achievements in engaging with the communities surrounding JFK Airport as part of the \$19 billion JFK Redevelopment Program. These accomplishments reflect our commitment to fostering opportunity, empowerment, and growth through comprehensive outreach and collaboration. As we look ahead to 2025, we remain dedicated to building on this success and continuing to deliver meaningful impact through this historic redevelopment initiative.”** - Rachele Antoine & Akshar Patel, Manager of External Affairs and Community Outreach.

## 2024 Events Held

- Black History Month Celebration - The Tuskegee Airmen, February 2024
- Women’s History Month Celebration - The Women of JFK Redevelopment, March 2024
- M/WBE Participation Milestone Announcement, April 2024
- JFK Redevelopment Aviation & Aeronautics Academy, Spring, Summer & Fall 2024
- JFKR Watch & Learn Series with NY Metro Black Pilots Association, Quarterly 2024
- Institute of Concessions, Cohort II & Cohort III 2024
- JFK Redevelopment Aviation & Sustainability Mini Summer Camp, August 2024
- Office of Second Chance hiring events, September 2024
- JFKR Community Advisory Council Meetings, April & September 2024
- JFK Terminal 6 Steel Topping-Off Celebration, October 2024
- JFK Redevelopment Girls in Aviation Day, October 2024
- NYS MWBE Forum JFKR workshop, November 2024



## Community Outreach

[Go to Page 1](#)



In late December, the Port Authority announced six new minority- and women owned retail spaces opened at Terminal 8.

Photo Credits: Andres Otero

## Terminal 8 MWBE Concessions Unveiling

Port Authority, American Airlines, and Unibail-Rodamco-Westfield (URW) airports announced the opening of its first local diverse retail accelerator concessions at John F. Kennedy International Airport's Terminal 8 in late December 2024. The unveiling showcased six new retail spaces at JFK Terminal 8 (T8) operated by small, local, women- and minority-owned entrepreneurs. As part of the \$125 million commercial redevelopment program for T8, these shops were selected through URW's small business accelerator program and represent the program's commitment to providing opportunities for local businesses and entrepreneurs.

URW's small business retail accelerator is removing the barrier to entry for small local businesses by offering flexible deal terms and small format plug-and-play spaces that significantly reduce upfront and design costs. The project has developed six dedicated turnkey spaces – two inline stores and four retail kiosks – for founders or businesses from southeast Queens, greater Queens, or the New York City metropolitan area. The local businesses were selected based on their unique products, ability to scale, and business plans. The entrepreneurs offer a variety of

goods that were specifically chosen for the JFK Terminal 8 passenger. Products include jewelry, home decor, hand-drawn illustrations of iconic New York scenes, honey and honey-based products, vegan skincare, jams and preserves, tonics and health supplements.



**Beautiful Amore Skincare | Amerrah Danielson**, a Queens resident and graduate of the Institute of Concessions, began making skincare products 22 years ago driven by the desire to find solutions for sensitive skin. She combined her love of cooking and cosmetology to create Beautiful Amore Skincare, known for its plant-based ingredients. Her kiosk features her high-quality, vegan products including body and lip butters, lotions, oils, scrubs, hand sanitizers and hair care.



**alchemy.** | **Jennifer Spencer** founded alchemy., a Brooklyn-based lifestyle brand offering luxury in everyday living. With a passion for unique, functional products, she curates candles, perfumes, jewelry, and home decor. Handmade in small batches, alchemy. prioritizes sustainability and local craftsmanship.

**Natchie** | Brooklyn resident and singer/songwriter **Nadia Ackerman** is bringing natchie, her popular line of hand-drawn illustrations to the airport for the first time. Her art started with song lyric illustrations and then sketches of iconic New York. Her store features art, greeting cards, stationery, luggage tags, magnets, sustainable totes, and more.

### Terminal 8 MWBE Concessions Unveiling, continued



**Bevo's Kitchen** | Queens resident **Gracia Clery-Leonce's** zest for a healthy lifestyle led her to start cooking and encouraging healthy eating habits that inspired the creation of Bevo's Kitchen. As a clinical laboratory scientist and a healthy lifestyle coach, her mantra, "Because you are what you eat," drove her to start making everyday foods like jams and preserves launching her company in 2016. In 2020, Gracia added a savory line of vegan/vegetarian dishes to her packaged products. She brings her farmer's market favorites including jams and preserves, granolas, fruit chips, trail mix and snack balls to Terminal 8.



**HoneyGramz** | Queens resident **Ruth Harrigan** is the founder and Queen bee at HoneyGramz, a company based in Great Neck, N.Y., that is created by her passion for beekeeping. As an avid beekeeper and advocate, she aims to help save the bees by teaching the importance of pollination to customers and her community. She offers a collection of honey from New York and specializes in creamed honey. One of her bestsellers is her Gold Sofi award-

winning creamed New York elderberry honey. She also offers bee-themed tea towels, luggage tags, mugs, books and more at her kiosk.



**Mother Earth Juice Bar** | With a mission to help people live in optimal health and happiness, Jamaica resident **Dr. Lord-Marcelle** used her expertise in holistic medicine to open Mother Earth Juice Bar in 2017. The juice bar and wellness center specializing in natural health, is a go-to for supplements, tonics, herbal remedies, and naturopathic therapies. T8 passengers can find some of her top products at her kiosk.

### Advisory Council Member Spotlight | Brian Worthington



Brian Worthington, a Queens native, who from a young age was fascinated by flying, but didn't think becoming a pilot was within his reach. Still, Brian didn't let that stop him. After high school, in 1997, he took a job as an aircraft service technician at JFK Airport just to be around airplanes. The next year, he enrolled at The College of Aeronautics and Technology. Although he initially couldn't get into the flight operations program, he switched gears and signed up for the Aviation Maintenance

program instead. In 2003, he started flight lessons and eventually earned his Private Pilot certificate. Soon after, he obtained a Commercial Airplane Pilot Certificate. In 2004, he also began a new chapter as a New York City Police Officer. A few years later, in 2010, Brian went back to Vaughn College of Aeronautics and Technology to study Aeronautical Sciences. Fast forward to 2014, Brian co-founded the NY Metro Chapter of the Black Pilots of America, Inc (NYMBPA).

## Advisory Council Member Spotlight | Brian Worthington

[Back to the Top](#)



The organization focuses on inspiring and mentoring underrepresented groups, offering scholarships, and creating pathways into aviation careers. Brian is currently the president of NYMBPA and is a respected member of the JFK Redevelopment Community Advisory Council. Brian currently holds a seat on the Education Committee for the JFK Redevelopment Program.

He feels the most rewarding aspect of his role is fostering a supportive community for aspiring aviators, particularly those from underrepresented backgrounds. He says that this role provides a great opportunity to connect with students and the local community, offering his insight into aviation careers and encouraging them to envision a career in aviation. “This work isn’t just about infrastructure, it’s about creating pathways for diverse talent and leaving a lasting legacy,” said Brian. He brings his expertise in aviation and aerospace to children through the Watch & Learn

series held in partnership with the Port Authority’s JFK Redevelopment Program community outreach team. The NYMBPA is a non-profit organization that works to increase aviation opportunities for people of color and those from underprivileged communities. Launched in 2023, the Watch & Learn series leverages the power of cinema to ignite curiosity and passion among local students. The program showcased seven captivating films relating to aviation. Since its inception, the series has engaged over 175 grade-school students, offering them a unique blend of entertainment and education. When asked who his role models were when he was a kid, Brian said his father and brother, who both instilled values of hard work, perseverance, and curiosity. “They both showed me the importance of dreaming big and following through, no matter the challenges.” In 2016, he launched his own small business, Flight King NYC LLC, which provides

flight training, affordable aircraft rentals, and introductory flights to the public. That same year, after 14 years as a patrol officer, he joined the elite NYPD Aviation Unit as a helicopter pilot. Brian’s passion for teaching and giving back continues; in 2020, he became a team member at Aviation 4 Us Flight Academy, mentoring young people interested in aviation. And in 2023, he started volunteering as an Aviation Advisor at Valley Stream Central High School, where he teaches students using flight simulators. He also became the National President of Black Pilots of America, a nonprofit with over 20 chapters across the U.S. As Brian reflects on his career path, he feels it has taught him leadership, resilience, and the importance of continued learning no matter what age.

When asked if he’s got plans for the future, he said “there’s always more to achieve in aviation.” Brian wants to work on broader initiatives with increased diversity and representation in the industry. He also has plans to expand educational outreach programs by establishing an annual scholarship to support aspiring aviators from underserved communities. Today, Brian is an NYPD helicopter pilot, a commercial airplane and helicopter pilot, a remote pilot, an advanced ground instructor, an aircraft owner, a business owner, a United States Army veteran, president of the NY Metro Chapter of Black Pilots of America, and now National President of the organization.

### JFK Redevelopment Community Information Center

144-33 Jamaica Ave. Jamaica, NY  
Phone: 718-244-3834

Hours of Operation  
Tuesday - Thursday 9 am – 5 pm

\*Mondays and Fridays are virtual work days for the Community Information Center staff

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Redevelopment Broadcast

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