

# NACA

## Washington Wire

21 March 2022



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### **Breeze Joins NACA**

NACA is delighted to welcome Breeze Airways, Inc. as our 20th full airline member. Our continued growth demonstrates the strength of our advocacy on behalf of our members. We now provide a more unified voice in Washington, D.C., for the nation's low-cost and ultra-low-cost carriers, the fastest growing segment of the U.S. airline industry.

“The National Air Carrier Association provides their airline members with a valuable opportunity for discussions of consumer, economic, safety and security regulations with Members of Congress, and DOT, FAA, and TSA staff,” said Breeze CEO David Neeleman. “We look forward to working with NACA on addressing key issues facing the air transportation industry.”

### **NACA Urges Swift Nomination for FAA Administrator**

On March 10, NACA joined a coalition of aviation stakeholders urging President Biden to swiftly nominate a successor to FAA Administrator Steve Dickson. Our understanding is that ALPA President Captain Joe DePete, former NTSB Chair Deborah Hersman, retiring Teamsters Airline Division Director Capt. David Bourne, and former DOT General Counsel Katie Thomson are either being considered or have expressed interest in the post.

### **White House Extends Mask Mandate for Public Transportation Modes**

On March 10, the White House announced that it plans to extend the federal mask mandate for public transportation until April 18, while the CDC works with other government agencies on developing a revised policy framework for masking in the public transportation sector. Citing declining COVID cases and effective safety protocols, House and Senate Republican transportation leaders on Capitol Hill urged the administration to immediately repeal the federal mask mandate as well as the inbound COVID testing requirement for international passengers.

### **TSA Ready for Spring Break**

TSA recently communicated its spring break deployment plan to carriers. TSA is bolstering many areas with screeners from their National Deployment Office to be ready for the expected high volumes of passengers.

### **Cyber Security Concerns**

The Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) is closely engaged with industry on cyber threats considering the war in Ukraine. We continue to send the most up-to-date information to our new cyber security council – these issues will top the agenda when we meet.

### **US Government Seeks Input on Airspace Closure**

Prior to closing U.S. airspace to Russian carriers, TSA and DHS tried to determine possible impacts to American air carriers. NACA consulted with our members to provide timely information to the government as it considered its decision.

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## **NACA Security Council**

The NACA Security Council will meet at our office in Rosslyn, Va., on April 20. We are expecting robust participation from TSA, FAA Intelligence, the FBI and the Department of State's Overseas Security Advisory Council (OSAC) during our first in-person meeting since the pandemic began.

## **FAA Technical Matters**

*NACA Safety and Operations Council* meetings are set for April 5-6, from 8:30am until 2:30pm at NACA HQ. We're expecting strong attendance with only one FAA remote request so far. *Infoshare* is scheduled for April 26-28, but the 119 sessions with FAA management will occur Monday April 25 at 1:00pm. The *ASIAS Executive Board* (AEB) meeting is being held at 9:00am on Monday before the 119 sessions, where we expect NACA to receive formal approval to join the AEB. *David Boulter* will be AFX-1 (Executive Director of AFS), starting March 13, replacing Rick Domingo. NACA hopes to continue quarterly meetings with the new executive director.

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