2019 Annual Report

La Crosse Regional
AIRPORT

Table of Contents   **Page**

Letter from the Airport Director

March 16th, 2020

Chairwoman Richmond, Mayor Kabat, and Members of the Aviation Board,

To say that 2019 was a year of change for the La Crosse Regional Airport could be an understatement. The past year saw the departure of the Deputy Airport Director of Operations and Administration, Airport Director, two Airport Operations Coordinators, and the Airport Janitor. In the midst of this, an Interim Airport Director came and went prior to my arrival in September. Other large-scale changes occurred with the initiation of service to Detroit after nearly a decade of absence, the opening of a car wash, and the start of Aircraft Rescue and Firefighting services provided by the City of La Crosse Fire Department. This level of change could be disruptive, and in many ways was, to the airport. It is to the credit of the airport staff for an admirable performance throughout 2019, keeping the airport operating smoothly and adapting as events occurred.

The great achievements that occurred last year go beyond the Detroit service. The terminal apron was expanded to the south to keep the airport current with expected aircraft fleets, the much-anticipated car wash facility was opened in early December after nearly 8 months of construction, parking lots were resurfaced, buildings were removed to make way for future development, and land was acquired to protect the approaches to our runways. Most exciting was the presence the airport had in the community with an exceptional 100 Years of Aviation Celebration and the initiation of an Aviation Explorers program.

On a broader stage, 2019 saw continued challenges to those airports serving communities the size of La Crosse. Airlines continue to adapt to network constraints from the shortage of pilots and available aircraft. The grounding of the Boeing 737-MAX had a trickle-down effect where we have seen a reduction in the number of larger regional jets in our market, a challenge that will continue well into 2020. Decisions at the Federal level for funding infrastructure continue to make decisions at the local level more difficult, primarily the lack of movement to expand the Passenger Facility Charge. While traffic continues to grow from a national perspective, local passenger numbers were relatively flat. The following pages show how the airport performed in 2019 and remains on a solid footing for the future.

Despite a challenging environment, the La Crosse Regional Airport progressed. 2020 is poised to be another year of new beginnings as new staff adapt to their roles and more new staff come on board to carry the airport forward from the exceptional foundation laid by those before us. I'm excited to see what unfolds.

Respectfully,

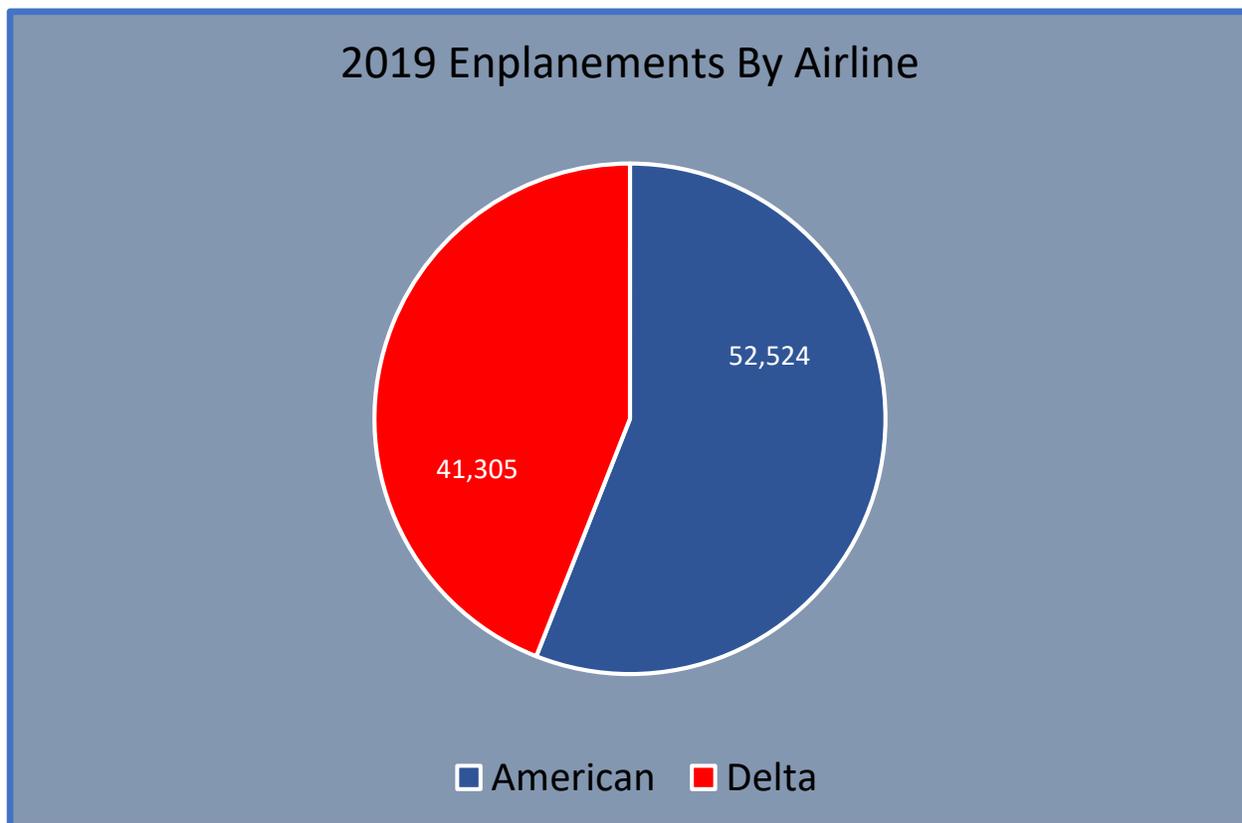
Ian A. Turner, C.M.
Airport Director

Enplanements	Change
2015 – 91,071	--
2016 – 90,051	-1.12%
2017 – 90,018	-0.04%
2018 – 98,744	+9.69%
2019 – 97,558	-1.20%

American Airlines

DELTA

Breakdown

2019 Enplanements By Airline

52,524

41,305

☐ American   ☐ Delta

NOTE. Prior to 2014, Delta was the larger carrier in the LSE market. Charter flights accounted for 2,253 of the total enplanements and are not included in this chart.

2019 Key Performance Statistics

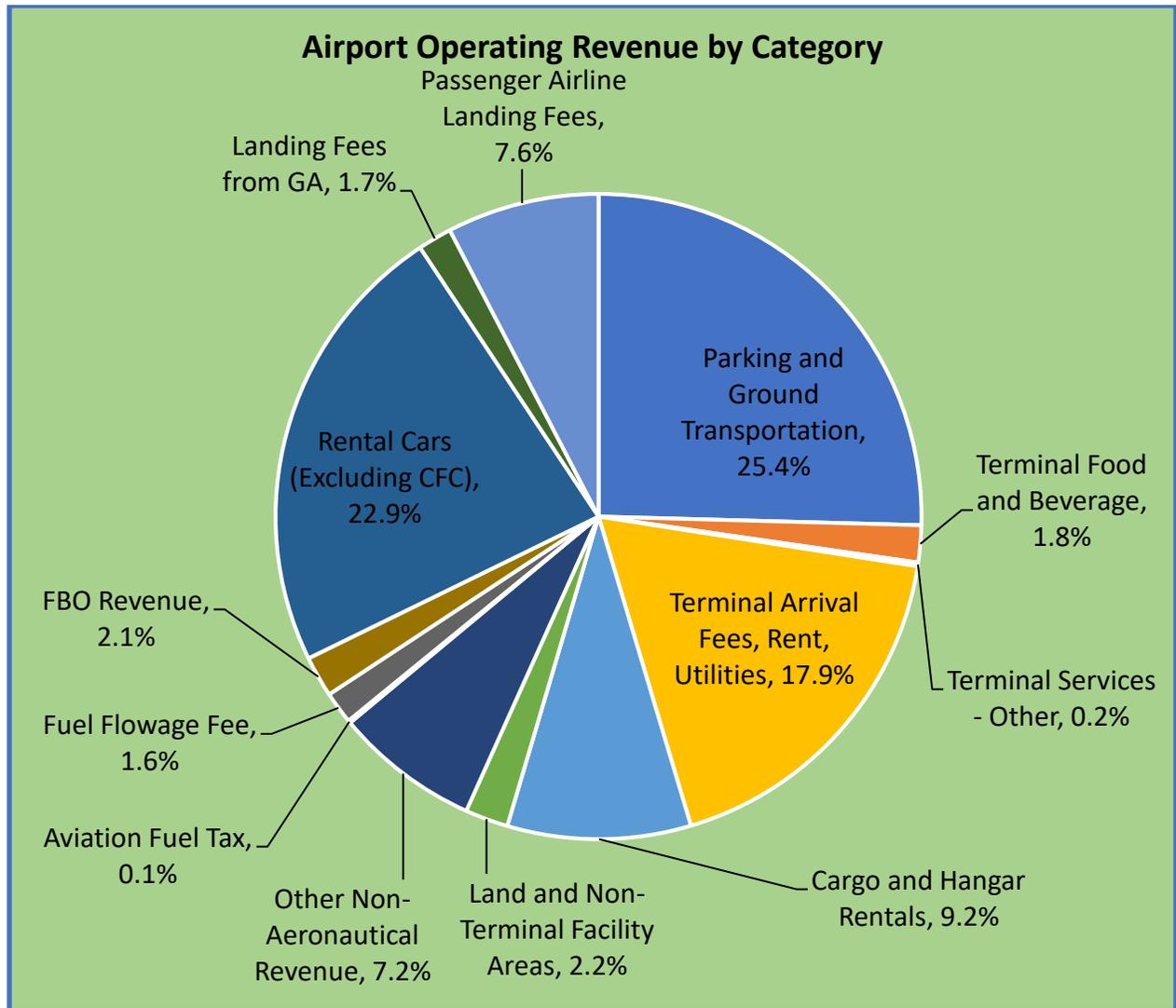|	
Enplanements -	97,558 (-1.2%)
Deplanements -	92,829 (-1.09%)
Average Load Factor -	80.23% (-1.52%)
Tower Operations -	20,039 (+3.28%)
Airline Landed Weight –	49.41 million lbs. (+3.56%)
Non-Airline Landed Weight -	11.42 million lbs. (-42.82%)
Civilian Charters –	16 (-2)
Military Charters -	29 (-10)
Car Rental Gross Sales -	$4,780,180.84 (+7.58%)
Car Rental Days -	95,603 (+13.49%)
CFC Revenues -	$384,424 (+27.8%)
PFC Revenue -	$394,638.73 (-2.0%)
Airline Fuel Flow -	506,659 gal (+14.60%)
Non-Airline Fuel Flow -	688,866 gal (+14.72%)
Parking Lot Revenue -	$757,242 (+6.6%)
Airport Operational Revenues -	$3,310,246
Airport Operational Expenses -	($3,020,290)
Gross Operational Gain/(Loss) -	$289,956

NOTE. Budgetary numbers are unaudited

Federal/State Grants Awarded - $3,084,001

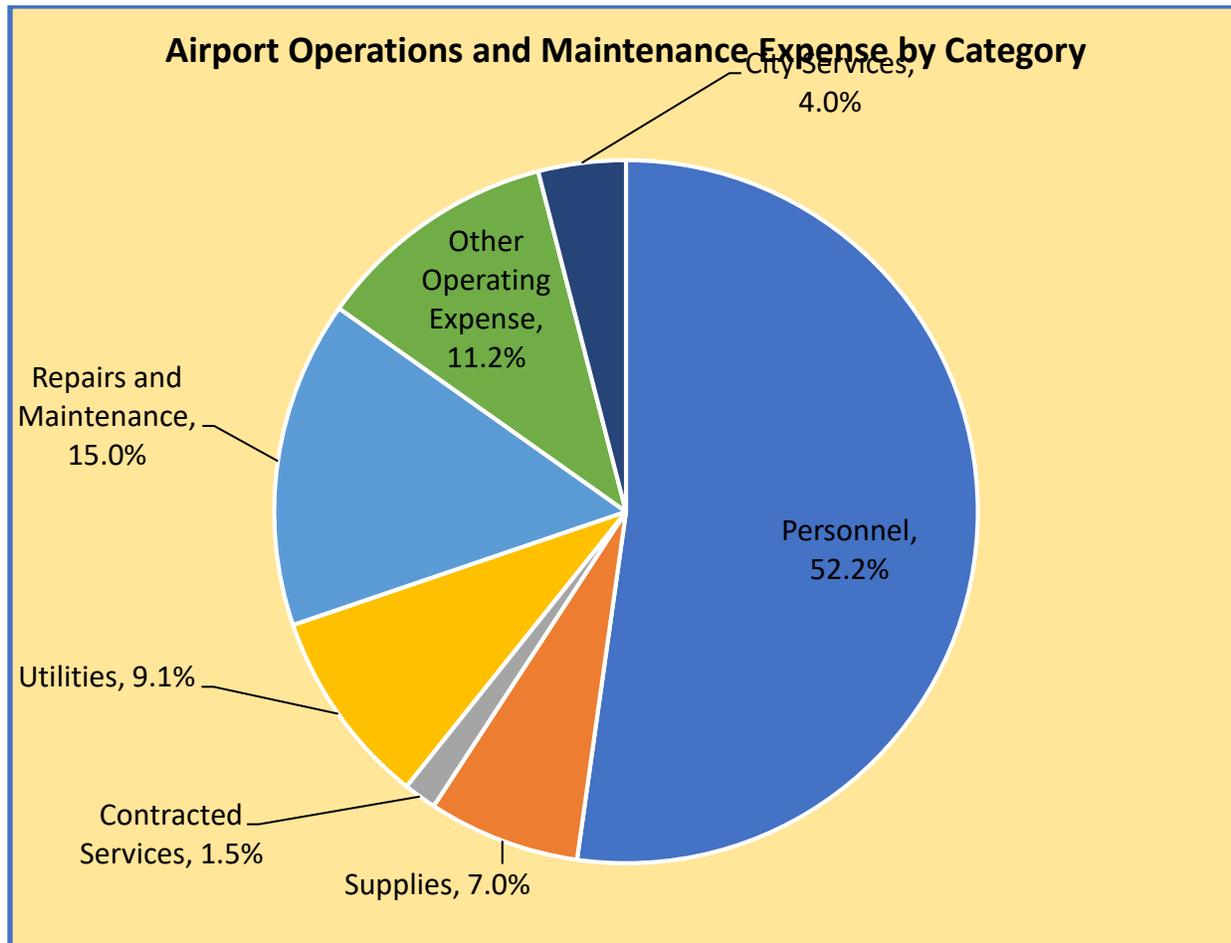NOTE. This is a multi-year grant covering 2019, 2020, and 2021

2019 Revenue by Category

Airport Operating Revenue by Category

NOTE. *Other Non-Aeronautical Revenue* is inflated by one-time revenue sources that occurred in 2019.

2019 Expenses by Category

Airport Operations and Maintenance Expense by Category

- City Services, 4.0%
- Other Operating Expense, 11.2%
- Repairs and Maintenance, 15.0%
- Personnel, 52.2%
- Utilities, 9.1%
- Contracted Services, 1.5%
- Supplies, 7.0%
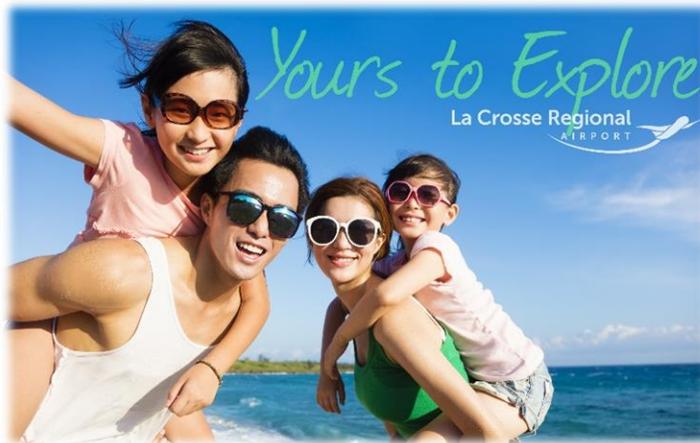
NOTE. ARFF services were included in the *Supplies* category according to the resolution approving the ARFF Service Memorandum of Understanding.

Key Achievements of 2019

1. Expanded the Terminal Apron to the South
   a. A 2020 project will expand the Terminal Apron to the East beginning in April.
2. Resurfacing of the ARFF Station Parking Lot and the Airport Maintenance Shop Parking Lot.
3. La Crosse Fire Department assumed ARFF responsibilities.
4. A new multi-purpose Snow Removal Equipment was acquired in early 2019, updating the airport's snow removal capabilities.
5. Demolished old t-hangars, old maintenance shop, and an old box hangar to make space for future development.
6. Replaced two maintenance trucks, and an airport administration SUV.
7. Commenced service to Detroit, Michigan through a Small Community Air Service Development Grant.
8. Held multiple events throughout the year to celebrate *A Century of Flight* in La Crosse.
9. Opened *Soaring Suds Car Wash* for improved car rental operations, and for the convenience of the public.
10. Acquired property on Lakeshore Drive to ensure the future safety of arriving and departing aircraft.
11. Hosted two TSA PreCheck events serving over 1,000 area passengers.

La Crosse Regional Airport

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