



CELEBRATING RECORD-BREAKING

**2.2 MILLION**

**PASSENGERS!**

**AVL FORWARD**

### THE NUMBERS ARE IN

*For the first time in history, more than 2 million utilized AVL in 2023*

Following the commencement of the largest construction project in Asheville Regional Airport's (AVL) history, the airport proudly marks yet another record-breaking year, showcasing continued and remarkable double-digit growth. In 2023, an impressive 2,246,411 passengers traveled to or from AVL, a 22.2% increase over 2022 figures, catapulting the airport's annual passenger count beyond the historic 2 million mark for the first time ever.

Lew Bleiweis, President and CEO, expressed his enthusiasm, stating, "The growth at our region's airport is not just significant; it's extraordinary. We extend our congratulations to our airline partners for their successes in western North Carolina and express our gratitude to our region's travelers for consistently choosing AVL for their journeys."

[READ MORE + SEE 6 YEAR PASSENGER TRENDS](#)

## PARKING GUIDANCE SYSTEM

*Now available in the parking garage*

If you have been in AVL's parking garage recently you may have noticed a series of lights on the ceiling. This is part of the high-tech new Automated Parking Guidance System (APGS) from the company TKH Security.

This camera-based parking guidance system uses the latest technology to identify open spaces and direct passengers to them. A series of green and red lights allows travelers to see open spaces at a glance. This cuts down on the time spent trying to search the garage for empty spaces, which can be difficult to see.

“The addition of a visual parking guidance system in our parking garage is an excellent enhancement for travelers,” said Lew Bleiweis, A.A.E., President and CEO of Asheville Regional Airport. “Our parking garage is often very full, and now our customers can easily identify open spaces with a quick glance, which makes the parking process much more efficient. The system works well, a definite improvement for our customers.”

The system monitors more than 1,000 spaces across the garage. By allowing passengers to quickly identify available spots the new system reduces parking time by up to 63% and helps to reduce traffic, thus allowing travelers to get to their gates faster. The system also includes wayfinding signage and increased security, with footage being captured 24/7 by the smart-sensors.

With record numbers of passengers, this parking system is another step AVL has taken to maximize efficiency and elevate the passenger experience at the airport.

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### Parking Lot Status



## NEW PASSENGER SERVICE

*Parking numbers now available on AVL's website*

Asheville Regional Airport is excited to announce another amenity that will help passengers better plan for parking at the airport: a live feed on the airport website showing status of available parking. Directly on the home page of the website, dynamic and easy-to-understand graphics show a live look at a percentage of utilized spaces for each of the airport's parking lots. A green bar on the graphic means there are an ample number of spaces available; a yellow bar means the lot is starting to fill; a red bar means that the lot is full or nearly full.

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# AVL FORWARD

## UPDATE



### FIRST VERTICAL STEEL PLACED!



SEE THE FUTURE AVL

**AVL Forward** is the biggest, most significant infrastructure project ever undertaken at AVL, which will result in a completely new airport passenger terminal for western North Carolina.

#### Here's what's happening now:

- A huge milestone took place last month: the first piece of **vertical steel** for the new terminal was raised on 1/3! Steelwork for the new north concourse is underway and the contractor has a total of 140 pieces set so far! The goal is to have all structural steel set by mid-February for metal decking to begin.
- The **demolition** of the two-story structure that included ticket lobby space, airline offices, and airport administration began last week. (Check out the bottom photo!)
- The demolition of the first section of roadway **canopy** is tentatively scheduled to be removed at night next week. This will require three lanes of Terminal Drive to be closed from 9pm-4:30am for approximately three nights.
- Work is taking place in the **baggage claim** area to prepare for a construction wall and the move of the rental car counters to the garage. This move is expected to take place in March.

**We thank you for your patience and continued support as we work hard to bring AVL Forward for you!**



## IF IT SNOWS, THE TEAM IS READY

*Snow removal and winter operations at AVL*

As children there was a sense of excitement surrounding winter weather and snow: it heralded days with no school spent playing outside in a winter wonderland. However, as adults winter weather and snow become an interruption to work and travel plans. When it comes to aviation and airport operations, snow and ice are definitely hurdles; safety is the number one priority. Fortunately, in our area, we don't get a lot of snow and winter weather. But when we do, AVL has systems in place to keep the runway clear and flights safely moving in spite of the snow.

[READ THE FULL ARTICLE](#)

## 6 AIRLINES. 27 NONSTOP DESTINATIONS. LET'S GO!



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