

2026 BUSINESS of AIRPORTS

June 22 - 24, 2026 // Salt Lake City, UT



Subject to Change (as of March 17, 2026)

All sessions and events will take place at the Hyatt Regency Salt Lake City.

MONDAY, JUNE 22, 2026

7:30 AM – 4:30 PM

Registration

7:30 AM – 9:00 AM

Networking Breakfast

9:00 AM – 10:30 AM

Business Diversity Committee Workshop

- Welcome and Introductions – **Mića Anderson**, *Chair, Business Diversity Committee and Senior Director, Airport Access & Business Opportunity, Denver International Airport*
- SLC Welcome – **Ava Cabey**, *DBE Liaison Officer, Airport DBE Program Principal Planner, Salt Lake City International Airport*
- Legislative Update – **Seth Cutter**, *Vice President, Industry Affairs, ACI-NA*
- ACI-NA Annual Concessions Benchmarking Results Summary – **Dafang Wu**, *Director, DWU Consulting LLC*

10:30 AM – 11:00 AM

Networking Break

11:00 AM – 12:15 PM

Business Diversity Committee Workshop (continued)

- Legal Update – **Leila Zahlan Lahbabi**, *Deputy General Counsel and Business Diversity Committee Co-Secretary, ACI-NA*
- Next Generation of Supplier Diversity Professionals Survey - **Dr. Rita Ohaya**, *Director of Social Impact, San Francisco International Airport*
- Title VI Roundtable Discussion

12:15 PM – 1:30 PM

Networking Lunch

1:30 PM – 2:45 PM	<p>Business Diversity Session: Resilience & Leadership Presence: Staying Effective During Regulatory Change</p> <p>In today's rapidly shifting federal and regulatory environment, airport professionals are expected to adapt quickly while maintaining compliance, productivity, and team morale. This interactive session equips midlevel managers and staff with practical tools to strengthen mental resilience, sharpen decision-making, and project steady leadership presence—even when priorities change.</p> <p>Participants will explore common stressors triggered by regulatory uncertainty, learn proven techniques to maintain focus and effectiveness, and practice communication strategies that reinforce clarity and credibility. The session emphasizes actionable approaches that can be applied immediately to sustain performance and team cohesion during periods of change.</p>
2:45 PM – 3:15 PM	Networking Break
3:15 PM – 4:30 PM 1.5 CPE Credits	<p>Finance Committee Meeting</p> <p>Brian Butler, <i>Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer</i>, Dallas Fort Worth International Airport; 2026 Chair, ACI-NA Finance Committee</p> <p><i>Procurement Working Group Update</i></p>
4:30 PM – 5:00 PM	<p>Finance Committee Steering Group Meeting</p> <p><i>Steering Group members only</i></p>
5:00 PM – 6:30 PM	Welcome Reception

TUESDAY, JUNE 23, 2026

8:00 AM – 4:00 PM	Registration
8:00 AM – 9:00 AM	Networking Breakfast
9:00 AM – 9:30 AM	Welcome and Opening Remarks
9:30 AM – 10:30 AM 1 CPE Credit	General Session 1
10:30 AM – 11:00 AM	Networking Break
11:00 AM – 12:00 PM 1 CPE Credit	<p>Session 2A/C: Getting Concessions Procurement Right: Balancing Financial Outcomes and Procurement Best Practices</p> <p><i>Joint session with CMC Committee</i></p> <p>This session will explore how airports can design and conduct concessions procurement processes that strike the right balance between maximizing financial performance and adhering to public procurement best practices. Participants will hear from airport leaders and industry experts about structuring competitive proposals, evaluating concessionaire bids, and integrating innovative rent and revenue models. Through case studies and practical insights, attendees will learn how effective procurement strategies strengthen revenue outcomes while ensuring fairness, transparency, and long-term partnerships within the airport concession ecosystem.</p>
12:00 PM – 2:00 PM	Networking Lunch
2:00 PM – 3:15 PM	<p>Business Diversity Session: Winning Hearts and Minds- Engaging Airport Management in Program Success</p> <p><i>Supplier opportunity programs succeed when airport management understands their strategic value. This session explores practical strategies for gaining buy-in from finance leaders, operations staff, and project managers by demonstrating how “opportunity for all” procurement strengthens financial performance, improves competition, mitigates risk, and enhances community trust. This session will help you better address common misconceptions and build internal champions that help position supplier opportunity efforts as an essential business strategy that benefits the airport, its partners, and the surrounding community.</i></p>

2:00 PM – 3:15 PM
1.5 CPE Credit

Session 3C: From Spreadsheets to Scale: Modernizing Airport Finance Operations

Airport finance teams are being asked to do more with less — managing billion-dollar capital programs, complex debt structures, and growing stakeholder demands, often with tools that haven't kept pace. This session brings together CFOs who are in various stages of modernizing their finance operations, from early automation pilots to full ERP overhauls. Peers will share candid lessons learned on implementing AI-assisted invoice processing, building dynamic financial dashboards, retiring legacy spreadsheet workflows, and scaling team capacity without proportionally scaling headcount. Whether you're just starting to evaluate new systems or navigating a live implementation, this session offers practical takeaways and honest peer perspective on what works — and what doesn't.

3:15 PM – 3:45 PM

Networking Break

3:45 PM – 5:00 PM
1.5 CPE Credit

Session 4C: Beyond the Bond: Exploring Alternative Financing Structures for Airport Capital Projects

As airports face growing capital demands against a backdrop of federal funding uncertainty, rising construction costs, and pressure to maintain competitive CPEs, traditional financing tools alone may not be enough. This session explores the expanding universe of alternative structures available to airport CFOs — from public-private partnerships (P3s) and design-build-finance arrangements to joint banking RFPs, green bonds, and creative land monetization strategies.

The session will also address the practical questions CFOs face when evaluating alternatives: How do you assess risk-sharing arrangements? What do rating agencies want to see? When does a P3 make sense — and when does it not? With nearly every respondent citing capital funding as a top pressure and several airports actively being approached by private developers for end-to-end project financing, the timing is right for a frank peer conversation about what's working, what's emerging, and what to watch out for as the financing landscape continues to evolve.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 24, 2026

8:00 AM – 4:00 PM

Registration

8:00 AM – 9:00 AM

Networking Breakfast

9:00 AM – 10:00 AM
1 CPE Credit

General Session 2

10:00 AM – 10:30 AM

Networking Break

10:30 AM – 11:30 AM

Joint Session: Business Diversity Committee and Procurement Working Group AI Without the Hype: Practical Tech Solutions for Supplier Programs

Artificial intelligence is generating enormous interest across industries, but many are asking a practical question: what technology solutions are actually working today? This session takes a realistic look at how airports and public agencies are using AI and other technology tools right now to improve procurement processes, strengthen compliance monitoring, and better understand supplier and small business capacity. Panelists will share examples of tools already being used in public procurement and supplier programs, highlighting where technology can streamline processes, improve data insights, and support program oversight.

12:30 PM – 1:30 PM

Networking Lunch

1:30 PM – 2:45 PM

Roundtable with Procurement Professionals

2:45 PM – 3:15 PM

Networking Break

3:15 PM – 4:30 PM
1.5 CPE Credit

Session 8C: CFO and HR Roundtable

Joint session with HR Committee

5:30 PM – 6:00 PM

Awards Gala Reception

6:00 PM – 9:00 PM

Awards Gala Dinner

