

Air-cargo facility at Lambert named in report of Trump-backed projects

By Leah Thorsen St. Louis Post-Dispatch 21 hrs ago (3)



A worker stands on the last section of copper to be placed on the roof of Terminal One on Monday afternoon, Oct. 27, 2014, at Lambert-St. Louis International Airport. Photo by J.B. Forbes, jforbes@post-dispatch.com



Plans for air-cargo terminal at Lambert move forward

Lease expected to bring in \$13.5 million in rent over its 20-year term

A list of 50 infrastructure projects totaling at least \$137.5 billion compiled by President Donald Trump's team includes an air-cargo facility at Lambert-St. Louis International Airport, according to a document cited by McClatchy's Kansas City Star and The News Tribune [in a report Tuesday](#).

It remained unclear late Tuesday whether that list was a draft or final version. White House spokesperson Lindsay Walters, without elaborating, said: "This is not a White House policy document."



How the Trump agenda could change the way St. Louis does business

Trade, taxes, Obamacare, environment to spark battles under Trump.

The project mentioned in the document is an international air-cargo facility that Bi-National Gateway Terminal LLC plans to build on 49 acres on the northern part of Lambert.

Bi-National has said it will build a terminal and invest \$77 million in the first phase, which includes constructing the new international air-cargo building.

The [airport commission in 2015 gave its support](#) to a a 20-year lease with two 10-year extension options. Lambert anticipated the lease would bring in \$13.5 million over its 20 years.

Jeff Lea, an airport spokesman, said the project's cost and job figures did not come from Lambert, and that the project is a private development being done with private money.


"We don't know the context of that document," Lea said.

St. Louis has for years tried to launch an [international cargo market to and from Lambert](#).

In September 2011, a China Cargo flight carrying 80 tons of manufactured products landed at Lambert and was greeted by dignitaries from across the region. But airport officials said that market disappeared amid a downturn in international cargo.

Business

Plans for air-cargo terminal at Lambert move forward

By Leah Thorsen St. Louis Post-Dispatch May 6, 2015  (10)



An American Airlines plane lands at Lambert-St. Louis International Airport in this Sept. 7, 2002 file photo. Photo by Chad Pilster



Lambert airport leaders to stress cargo, private partnerships in next five years

Airport will enlist support from the business community under plan presented Wednesday.

Plans to build an international air-cargo facility at Lambert-St. Louis International Airport moved forward Wednesday when the airport commission unanimously approved the project, which includes demolishing most of the original McDonnell-Douglas complex to build a new terminal with ramp space for freighter aircraft.

The commission gave its support to a 20-year lease with two 10-year extension options with Bi-National Gateway Terminal LLC for 49 acres on the northern part of the airport acquired a decade ago from Boeing Co.



Dual customs facility at Lambert gets key support

Brownsville International Air Cargo says project would allow direct cargo flights between Lambert and Mexico.

The project will be constructed in three phases and could mean cargo coming into the airport in as soon as 18 months, said Ricardo Nicolopoulos, president of Bi-National.

His company is building the terminal and investing \$77 million in the first phase, which includes constructing a new international air-cargo building. The initial development is expected to cover more than 32 acres.

“The airport is not paying a penny,” said Rhonda Hamm-Niebruegge, the airport’s director. She and others including Mayor Francis Slay went to Mexico last month to promote international cargo activity in St. Louis.



Lambert backs development of Mexican cargo facility

Texas firm interested in leasing up to 43,165 square feet of cargo space.

Lambert anticipates that the lease will bring in \$13.5 million over its 20-years, although Nicolopoulos said that number could be higher. No rent will assessed during the first 18 months while construction is under way.

Stay updated with St. Louis Post-Dispatch in your news feed.



Another Nicolopoulos-owned business, Brownsville International Air Cargo, has already won [local approval for a “dual-customs”](#) facility capable of clearing goods moving to and from Mexico. It would permit pre-clearance of cargo bound for Mexico as well as U.S. Customs inspection of cargo imported from Mexico. That project is awaiting approval by the Mexican government. “Our target is to compete with Miami,” Nicolopoulos said Wednesday.



Missouri Legislature gives up on tax credit bill after senator's blistering attack

He said that the proposal demonstrated that the Legislature was "dysfunctional" and too close to developers.



St. Louis airport backers take another stab at cargo hub tax credits

Proposing simpler, \$60 million bill. No more "Aerotropolis."



Expect booming summer travel season, including Memorial Day weekend

And a record number of Americans are expected to fly this summer.

That's a lofty goal. The Miami air-cargo hub brings in 75 percent of the perishable items that enter the United States, he said. That airport says it has more scheduled nonstop cargo flights to Latin America and the Caribbean than Orlando, Fla.; Houston; New Orleans; Atlanta; Tampa, Fla.; and New York's Kennedy airports combined.



What's going up: Read the Building Blocks blog



See how St. Louis stocks are faring



Meet the top midsized workplaces in St. Louis



Here are the best large places to work in St. Louis

"I believe in St. Louis," he told the commissioners. "St. Louis is the right location."

The lease agreement must be approved by the St. Louis Board of Aldermen before it's finalized, which will likely take another month. St. Louis has for several years tried to launch an [international cargo market to and from Lambert](#).

In September 2011, a China Cargo flight carrying 80 tons of manufactured products landed at Lambert and was greeted by dignitaries from across the region. But airport officials said that market disappeared amid a downturn in international cargo.