

# Santa Barbara Airport Celebrates Airline Terminal Groundbreaking

By Mark Whitehurst / CASA

**A FLIGHT TO THE FUTURE** has begun with the ground breaking for the \$32 million terminal project at the Santa Barbara Airport last Thursday at the construction site, off Moffet Place.

“We’ve completed the first step – of a sixteen month construction journey,” commented Mayor Marty Blum. “While our theme is *Flight to the Future*, we needed to keep that quaint charm and human scale of the original building.”

The Project, paid for by fees and not any city tax dollars, will include: Construction of a new two-story 67,000 sq ft Terminal of Spanish Colonial Revival architecture; Reconfiguration and landscaping of a new Short Term Parking



Goleta Mayor **Roger Aceves**; **Karen Ramsdell**, Airport Director; and **Helene Schneider**, SB City Council

Lot; Construction of a new Terminal loop road with a separate lane for public transportation vehicles; and Rehabilitation and relocation of the historic portion of the existing 1942 Terminal.

“This is an important project to residents and businesses in this area... and I can say the Airport Commission and the City Council’s support has been unwavering, making our job much easier,” stated Karen Ramsdell, Airport Director, as she address the crowd of about

50 supporters and individuals involved in the project.

Also addressing the audience were Third District Supervisor Doreen Farr, City of Goleta Mayor Roger Aceves; Project Manager Joe Grogan of HNTB; and Project Architect Fred Sweeney of Phillips Metsch Sweeney Moore Architects.

“The Airline Terminal Project has undergone extensive planning and design for a number of years. It is said that ‘timing is everything’ and so it has been with this project,” stated Ramsdell. “Construction coincided with a very competitive bidding climate resulting in very favorable bids and project bonds were sold at a time when interest rates were low.”

The groundbreaking event highlighted two important elements of the Terminal Project: Sustainable Design and a Public Art Program. The Airline Terminal Project is registered with the U.S. Green Building Council Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED), the nationally recognized benchmark for design, construction, and operation of high performance green buildings. The Airport Department has set the goal of “Silver” LEED certification and is on target for that goal.

As an important community gateway, with



*Fiesta* a mural painted by **Channing Peake** circa 1984 is one of the pieces of art slated to be installed at the new airport.

over 800,000 visitors per year, SBA has the opportunity to provide public art that enriches the visitor’s experience and reflects the history and culture of the region. The SBA Public Art Program will be launched with the opening of the new Airline Terminal complex in 2011. The Program has four major components:

- Existing Art: Inclusion and relocation of the *Good Time Clock* by George Rhoades and the *Albatross* by Dustin Shuler, courtesy of the Bermant Foundation.
- Commissioned Art: Various pieces sponsored the Airport, Santa Barbara Beautiful, and the Pierre Claeysens Museum.
- Long Term Loan Art: *Fiesta* mural by Channing Peake, on loan from the Santa Barbara County Arts Commission; and a large courthouse lantern on loan from the Santa Barbara Courthouse Legacy Foundation.
- Regional Art: Various media will be displayed on a rotating basis throughout the year.

For more information visit the airport online at [www.flysba.com](http://www.flysba.com).



Photo by Mark Whitehurst / CASA

Photo: Jesse Alexander – Courtesy the Channing Peake Estate