

# SAN DIEGO COUNTY REGIONAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY



PUBLIC & COMMUNITY RELATIONS  
P. O. BOX 82776, SAN DIEGO, CA 92138-2776  
619.400.2880 WWW.SAN.ORG

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Contact:** Sharie Shipley  
619.400.2882/sshipley@san.org

Steve Shultz  
619.400.2881/sshultz@san.org

## ***Popular “Terminals to Tarmac” Tours Continue at Airport***

*Summer tours offer an inside look at over  
136 Least Terns nests on east end of airport*

SAN DIEGO – July 10, 2008 – Did you ever wonder why endangered Least Tern seabirds would make their nests on an airfield? The summer is the perfect time to view the nesting season that is underway and will continue until mid-September. There are currently 136 Least Tern nests in the Nesting Ovals on the east side of the airfield, the second-highest number of nests in any one year at San Diego International Airport (SDIA).

Do you know what “spooky eyes” or a “blast fence” are for? Have you always wanted a ringside view of aircraft arriving and departing the runway? Now is your chance to learn fun facts about SDIA. The Airport Authority is offering public tours of SDIA – from the terminals to the tarmac.

The Airport Authority’s terminal and airfield bus tour offers an inside look at the airport and the airfield. Come and see firsthand how San Diego International Airport’s proposed airport improvements are planned for the years to come. The bus tour starts at the Commuter Terminal and continues on for a walking tour through Terminals 1 and 2, covering public art and animal rest areas. Then, participants board a bus for a driving tour that circles the entire runway. The tour guide will point out the elaborate baggage system, security, control tower, fire station, Least Terns habitat and other airfield highlights.

The airport tours also provide an opportunity to learn more about planned near-term airport improvements. These include a ten-gate build-out of Terminal 2, a dual-level roadway in front of Terminal 2 and various parking, roadway and airfield improvements.

“We are committed to involving the community in future planning efforts at the airport, from airport tours to community meetings and more,” said Thella Bowens, President/CEO. “We invite you to take a look behind the scenes of an operation that handles 50,000 arriving and departing passengers on 600 flights a day.”

Tours are available eight times per month, and run from 10 a.m. to noon or from 1 – 3 p.m. To make a tour reservation online, visit [www.sanplan.com](http://www.sanplan.com) and click “Get Involved,” or call 619-400-2880. For more information, go to [www.sanplan.com](http://www.sanplan.com).

*The San Diego County Regional Airport Authority was established by state law to operate San Diego International Airport and to address the region’s long-term air transportation needs. San Diego International Airport — funded through user fees and not local taxes — served some 18.3 million passengers in 2007.*

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