



MARK PESTRELLA, Director

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

AVIATION COMMISSION

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"

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MEMBER

LOS ANGELES COUNTY AVIATION COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes

August 27, 2025, 7 p.m.
Compton/Woodley Airport
901 West Alondra Boulevard
Compton, CA 90220-3528
(310) 631-8140

IN ATTENDANCE

Chair Dennis Lord
Secretary Jeff Mort
Commissioner Peter Amundson
Commissioner Charles Nelson
Commissioner Rohit J. Singh
Commissioner Rudy Villarreal

OFFICIALLY EXCUSED

Vice-Chair Harvey Holloway
Commissioner Monique Earl
Commissioner Jerilyn Lopez Mendoza
Commissioner Gabriel Perez

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES – DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS STAFF

Mr. Jason Morgan, Assistant Chief, Aviation Division
Ms. Van Tran, Staff Assistant

GUESTS

Mr. James Miller, Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association
Mr. Dave Kolstad, Experimental Aircraft Association
Mr. Gilbert Viramontes, San Gabriel Valley Airport Association
Mr. Dylan White, DC Flight Simulation
Mr. Xavier Marshall, Compton/Woodley Airport Tenant
Mr. Stephen Gerrald, Fly Compton
Mr. Clint Simmons, California Black Aviation Association
Dr. James Haney, San Gabriel Valley Airport Association
Mr. Lloyd Kasakoff, Compton – So Cal Aero Works
Ms. Elizabeth Kasakoff – Compton – So Cal Aero Works
Mr. Peris Meeks, Compton/Woodley Airport Tenant
Mr. Jon Smalldridge, San Gabriel Valley Airport Association

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Dennis Lord called the meeting to order at 7 p.m.

I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Lord led the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. MATTERS FOR AND ACTION BY THE COMMISSION

A. Minutes for the June 25, 2025, meeting

The minutes for the June 25, 2025, meeting were unanimously approved on a motion from Commissioner Jeff Mort and seconded by Commissioner Rudy Villarreal.

B. Los Angeles County Public Works Aviation Division – General Report

Mr. Morgan informed the Commission that the September 2025, Aviation Commission meeting is scheduled for an earlier meeting date due to the Jewish holiday Rosh Hashanah. The meetings are usually scheduled for the last Wednesday of the month.

Mr. Morgan mentioned to the Commission that the landing fees at Van Nuys Airport are delayed and provided a brief overview of Compton/Woodley Airport.

Aircraft Operations (Takeoffs and Landings) and Fuel Sales

The overall aircraft operations for all five County airports were up 34 percent in the months of June and July 2025, as compared to the same two months last year.

The overall fuel sales for all five County airports were down 13 percent in the months of June and July 2025, as compared to the same two months last year.

C. Los Angeles County Public Works Aviation Division – Airport Management Update

Airport Projects (including Grant Funding)

At Compton/Woodley Airport, design for the reconstruction of approximately 2 acres of north taxiway and rehabilitation of approximately 18 acres of south ramp/apron areas and taxi lanes are anticipated to begin later this year. Construction is expected to begin in 2027.

At Brackett Field Airport, the new sewer pump and force main have been installed and are now operational. The design project has been underway to reconstruct approximately 12.5 acres of pavement for the north runway and cross taxiway. The Federal Aviation Administration has recommended placing the new Airport Traffic Control Tower on the north side of the airport, east of the existing facility.

At General William J. Fox Airfield, design for the pavement reconstruction of the south taxi lanes and the east ramp area is projected to begin soon. Design phase to rehabilitate the remaining taxi lanes and ramp areas is scheduled to begin next year.

At San Gabriel Valley Airport, the design project is currently underway to rehabilitate 14 acres of runway and taxiway pavement and is expected to be completed by November 2025. Design is also currently underway to perform the crack sealing, patching, and slurry seal to preserve and extend the life of the southern end paved apron areas. Construction of the new Airport Traffic Control Tower may begin as soon as late 2026.

Mr. Morgan shared with the Commission that the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and United States Department of Transportation are aligning the federal grant programs with President Trump's and his administration's policy priorities and objectives. New conditions related to airport sponsor compliance with federal law are now included in FAA Airport Improvement Program (AIP) grants. Public Works has several FAA AIP grant offers now for airport projects that include the new conditions. The grant offers are currently being reviewed by County Counsel.

Airport Property Management

At Compton/Woodley Airport, the Automated Weather Observing System (AWOS) is being repaired. A new lease has been executed with So Cal Aero Works that will be providing aircraft painting and other aircraft services at the airport.

At Brackett Field Airport, a Notice to Air Missions (NOTAM) has been issued and repairs are being coordinated for the taxiway edge lights that are out on Runway 8R/26L. On July 21, 2025, a Vehicle/Pedestrian Deviation occurred on the north taxiway which was addressed with the FAA. On August 27, 2025, Caltrans conducted their annual airport inspection. The El Monte Police Department is investigating an aircraft theft. A Cessna 172 was stolen from Corona Airport, flown to Brackett Field Airport and then flown to San Gabriel Valley Airport where it remains locked down.

At General William J. Fox Airfield, the Assistant Airport Manager position will be filled soon. On August 17, 2025, Southern California Edison restored power following an outage without any impact to airport operations.

At San Gabriel Valley Airport, the Automated Weather Observing System (AWOS) has been repaired and is now functional. Repairs are being made to the Precision Approach Path Indicator (PAPI) lights. The Runway End Identified Lights (REILs) for Runway 19 are out of service and are being repaired. On August 4, 2025, a theft occurred at the construction site of the new development project which was reported to El Monte Police Department for investigation. On August 16, 2025, an aircraft landed on the runway without its landing gear deployed. No injuries were reported.

On July 11, 2025, a small brush fire occurred along Whiteman Airport's perimeter and no structures or nearby homes were damaged.

Augmented Cooling Centers were available at General William J. Fox Airfield, San Gabriel Valley Airport, and Whiteman Airport during August 21-24, 2025.

Airport Events and Activities

At Compton/Woodley Airport, the annual Kevin Bludso's "Smoking Out the Hub" Barbeque Competition and Festival has been cancelled. Fly Compton Foundation continues to host their "Solo Camp" youth program at the airport. On August 17, 2025, City of Compton Parks and Recreation Department, in partnership with University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA), hosted a backpack giveaway event at the airport. The El Dia Del Ranchero event is scheduled for September 28, 2025. The Annual Air Fair (Air and Space theme) is scheduled for November 1, 2025. Airport Management is working with Supervisorial District Two, Holly J. Mitchell's Office to implement a Community Engagement Program to inform and solicit input from the local community about plans for a new terminal building at the airport. Chair Lord provided comments on the proposed Community Engagement Program.

At Brackett Field Airport, the Aircraft Display Days are held on the third Sunday of each month. Brackett Airport Association continues to hold their monthly meetings on the first Thursday of each month.

A CH-47 Chinook helicopter is temporarily operating from San Gabriel Valley Airport to perform construction in the Altadena/Pasadena fire burn areas. The Aircraft Display Days are held on the fourth Sunday of each month. Chair Lord expressed his gratitude to the airport staff for assisting an aircraft issue that occurred near the airport.

At Whiteman Airport, the Aircraft Display Days are held on the second Sunday of each month. On the fourth Saturday of each month, the Experimental Aircraft Association Chapter 40 holds the Young Eagles events. The Experimental Aircraft Association Chapter 40 held a barbeque fundraiser at the airport on August 9, 2025, and will hold several events and meetings in the month of September.

D. Update on April 9, 2024, Board motion regarding "Re-envisioning Whiteman Airport: Expanding Economic Opportunities"

Mr. Morgan shared with the Commission that the consultants are concluding their individual meetings with each Commissioner and various stakeholders. The consultants are expecting to hold focus group meetings starting next month and will plan to hold various Open House events by early November.

E. Update from Aviation Commission Subcommittee on Airport Funding and Self-Sustainability

Chair Lord provided the Commission with an update on the subcommittee. The last meeting was held on July 31, 2025, and no meeting was held in the month of August. The subcommittee members identified near-term recommendations for achieving airport self-sustainability, identified actions and timing for obtaining input from airport tenants and stakeholders regarding near-term recommendations, and identified the

schedule for implementation of near-term recommendations. The subcommittee members will be hosting Zoom meetings with tenants from each airport the week of September 8-12, 2025, to solicit feedback regarding the 2025 Aeronautical Rent Studies and related potential adjustments to the monthly rental rates for use of County-owned aircraft storage hangars and tiedowns.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT – OPEN FORUM

Six speakers commented on the operation, maintenance, and activities at the airports.

IV. NEXT COMMISSION MEETING WILL BE ON:

**Wednesday, September 17, 2025, at 7 p.m.
at General William J. Fox Airfield
4725 William J. Barnes Avenue
Lancaster, CA 93536-8401**

Chair Lord provided a brief overview of the life of former Public Works employee Salvatore “Sal” Cirino and adjourned the meeting at 8:13 p.m. in his memory.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeff Mort, Secretary
Los Angeles County Aviation Commission

JM:vt