



MARK PESTRELLA, Director

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

AVIATION COMMISSION

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"

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LOS ANGELES COUNTY AVIATION COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes

May 28, 2025, 7 p.m.

San Gabriel Valley Airport

4233 Santa Anita Avenue

El Monte, CA 91731-1670

(626) 448-6129

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. Steve Burger, Deputy Director
Mr. Jason Morgan, Assistant Chief, Aviation Division
Mr. Samuel Maghakian, Facilities Project Manager I

GUESTS

Mr. Steve Argubright, Whiteman Airport
Mr. William Scaringe, San Gabriel Valley Airport Tenant
Dr. James Haney, San Gabriel Valley Airport Tenant
Dr. Duncan Thomas, San Gabriel Valley Airport Tenant
Mr. James Miller, Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association
Mr. Demetrius Harris, Fly Compton
Mr. Richard Mend, Mend Aviation
Mr. Don Brandon, San Gabriel Valley Airport Tenant
Mr. Tom Traeger, San Gabriel Valley Airport Tenant
Mr. Jasper Traeger, San Gabriel Valley Airport Tenant
Mr. Bruce Busch, San Gabriel Valley Airport Tenant
Mr. Robert Head, San Gabriel Valley Airport Tenant
Mr. Christopher D. Thomas, San Gabriel Valley Airport Tenant

CALL TO ORDER

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

I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Peter Amundson led the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. MATTERS FOR AND ACTION BY THE COMMISSION

A. Minutes for the April 30, 2025, meeting

The minutes for the April 30, 2025, meeting were unanimously approved on a motion from Commissioner Amundson and seconded by Commissioner Charles Nelson.

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

Mr. Morgan provided a brief overview of San Gabriel Valley Airport.

Chair Lord introduced new Commissioner Rohit J. Singh, representing Supervisorial District 1, to the Aviation Commission.

Aircraft Operations (Takeoffs and Landings) and Fuel Sales

The overall aircraft operations for all five County airports were up 40 percent in the month of April 2025, as compared to the same month last year.

The overall fuel sales for all five County airports were up 9 percent in the month of April 2025, as compared to the same month last year.

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

Airport Projects (including Grant Funding)

At San Gabriel Valley Airport, the project to rehabilitate 14 acres of runway and taxiway pavement has reached 30 percent design completion. An in-person stakeholder meeting is scheduled for June 10, 2025, from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. Design is currently underway to perform the crack sealing, patching, and slurry seal to preserve and extend the life of approximately 41 acres of apron area. Construction of the new Airport Traffic Control Tower for the airport may begin as soon as late 2026.

At Brackett Field Airport, the Sewer Pump and Force Main Replacement Project is in the final stage of installing the new sewer pump and force main and is expected to be operational soon. Design has been underway for the pavement reconstruction of approximately 12.5 acres of pavement for the north runway and cross taxiway and is estimated to be completed by the end of this year. An in-person stakeholder meeting will be scheduled soon for the project.

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.

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.

At Whiteman Airport, the updated Airport Layout Plan which consolidates the aircraft run-up areas into a single midfield run-up area is pending the Federal Aviation Administration's review and final approval.

Airport Property Management

San Gabriel Valley Airport is now fully staffed with the recent hire of an Airport Service Worker. The County's self-serve fuel dispenser has been repaired and is now fully operational. Billion Air Aviation continues to provide fueling services at the airport. Repairs are being made to the Precision Approach Path Indicator lights and the Automated Weather Observing System (AWOS).

At Brackett Field Airport, the Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning (HVAC) system and the service gate adjacent to the terminal building are being repaired.

At Compton/Woodley Airport, repairs are underway for the main vehicle access gate and the Wilmington gate entrance. The Federal Aviation Administration conducted flight testing of the new Precision Approach Path Indicator which is now certified and in operation at the airport.

The Assistant Airport Manager position at General William J. Fox Airfield was advertised, applications are being reviewed, and interviews should be scheduled soon.

At Whiteman Airport, Los Angeles Department of Water and Power will be repairing and restoring electricity to the north vehicle access gate for the Air Traffic Control Tower facility. Notices will be sent to hangar tenants regarding the fire extinguisher recertification program to be held in mid-June 2025.

Airport Events and Activities

The San Gabriel Valley Airport Pilots Association held their monthly meeting on May 21, 2025, and the Aircraft Display Day was held on May 25, 2025. The Porsche Club of America held their 3rd annual Coffee and Cars event on May 25, 2025. On June 11, 2025, from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m., the Federal Aviation Administration will host the annual Runway Safety Action Team (RSAT) meeting on Zoom.

At Brackett Field Airport, the Experimental Aircraft Association Chapter 92, based out of Chino Airport, held the Young Eagles event on May 17, 2025, and will be hosting another event in June 2025. On May 18, 2025, the Aircraft Display Day held their monthly meeting and San Gabriel Valley 99s held a fundraiser. Mount San Antonio College will be hosting a 5K run fundraiser outside the airport property on May 31, 2025.

The Fly Compton Foundation utilizes the terminal building at Compton/Woodley Airport for their bi-weekly youth program. On May 10, 2025, the Household Hazardous and Electronic Waste Collection event was held at the airport.

On May 28, 2025, the Federal Aviation Administration Safety Team (FAAST) will host an aviation safety seminar at General William J. Fox Airfield.

At Whiteman Airport, the Experimental Aircraft Association Chapter 40 held the "Flying Start" event on May 17, 2025, and held the Young Eagles event on May 24, 2025. The next Young Eagles event will be held on June 28, 2025.

Aviation Division Management in collaboration with Southern California Regional Energy Network (SoCalREN) and the County's Internal Services Department are identifying and potentially pursuing measures to reduce energy costs at all five County airports. These measures may include: 1) Converting airfield lighting to Light Emitting Diode (LED); 2) New Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning (HVAC) system at Brackett Field Airport and San Gabriel Valley Airport; and 4) Pilot Controlled Lighting (PCL) for all five County airports.

Commissioners requested to receive monthly updates on the airport projects, property management, events and activities.

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

Mr. Morgan provided the Commission with an update on the \$1.3 million Whiteman Airport Land Use Study and Economic Analysis. On May 19, 2025, Mr. Morgan met with the consulting team and Supervisor Lindsay Horvath's Economic Development and Equity Deputy at Whiteman Airport. The consultants are formulating a Community Engagement Plan that will include individual meetings with each Commissioner and other stakeholders as well as several open house events at the airport to inform the public about the study and solicit additional input.

Commissioners engaged in a brief discussion regarding the information presented.

E. Subcommittee on Airport Funding and Self-Sustainability

Chair Lord presented to the Commission a motion to establish a subcommittee of the Aviation Commission on Airport Funding and Self-Sustainability. The purpose of the subcommittee will be to collaborate with Public Works and identify and recommend the implementation of cost saving measures and the pursuit of new or enhanced sources of revenue to ensure the airports remain self-sustaining and capable of fully funding all planned airport capital improvement projects and deferred maintenance needs.

Chair Lord's motion was seconded by Commissioner Singh. Chair Lord announced the nominations for subcommittee members as follows: Chair Lord, Commissioner Singh, and Commissioner Rudy Villarreal. The Commission held a brief discussion. One speaker commented on the agenda item. The motion was then unanimously approved by the Commission.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT – OPEN FORUM

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

IV. NEXT COMMISSION MEETING WILL BE ON:

**Wednesday, June 25, 2025, at 7 p.m.
at Brackett Field Airport
1615 McKinley Avenue
La Verne, CA 91750-5846**

Chair Lord provided a brief overview of the life of former Public Works Director Harry Stone and adjourned the meeting at 7:56 p.m. in his memory.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeff Mort, Secretary
Los Angeles County Aviation Commission

JM:vt