



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

January 28, 2026, 10 a.m.

Brackett Field Airport

1615 McKinley Avenue

La Verne, CA 91750-5846

(909) 593-1395

COMMISSIONERS

RUDY VILLARREAL
CHAIR

CHARLES NELSON
VICE-CHAIR

JERILYN LOPEZ MENDOZA
SECRETARY

HARVEY HOLLOWAY
MEMBER

DENNIS LORD
MEMBER

ROHIT J. SINGH
MEMBER

THOMAS SUTFIN
MEMBER

CHRISTOPHER D. THOMAS
MEMBER

VACANT
MEMBER

VACANT
MEMBER

IN ATTENDANCE

Chair Rudy Villarreal
Vice-Chair Charles Nelson
Commissioner Harvey Holloway
Commissioner Rohit J. Singh
Commissioner Thomas Sutfin
Commissioner Christopher D. Thomas

OFFICIALLY EXCUSED

Secretary Jerilyn Lopez Mendoza
Commissioner Dennis Lord

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES – DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS STAFF

Mr. Jason Morgan, Chief, Aviation Division
Ms. Claudia M. Delgado, Staff Assistant

GUESTS

Mr. James Miller, Friends of Whiteman Airport
Mr. David Kolstad, Whiteman Airport Association
Mr. Bruce Busch, San Gabriel Valley Tenant
Mr. Robert Head, San Gabriel Valley Tenant
Mr. Don Brandon, San Gabriel Valley Airport Tenant
Dr. James Haney, San Gabriel Valley Airport Association

PUBLIC COMMENT SPEAKERS

Mr. James Miller, Friends of Whiteman Airport
Mr. David Kolstad, Whiteman Airport Association
Dr. James Haney, San Gabriel Valley Airport Association

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Rudy Villarreal called the meeting to order at 10 a.m.

I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Rohit J. Singh led the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. MATTERS FOR AND ACTION BY THE COMMISSION

A. Minutes for the December 3, 2025, meeting

The minutes for the December 3, 2025, meeting were unanimously approved on a motion from Commissioner Singh and seconded by Commissioner Christopher D. Thomas.

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

Mr. Morgan provided to the Commission a brief overview of Brackett Field Airport and announced that Commissioner Monique Earl resigned from the Aviation Commission.

Operations (Takeoffs and Landings) and Fuel Sales

Total aircraft operations for all five County airports were down 8 percent in the month of December 2025, as compared to the same month last year.

Total aircraft operations were up 20 percent for all five County airports in calendar year 2025 versus 2024.

Total fuel sales for all five County airports were down 28 percent in the month of December 2025, as compared to the same month last year.

Total fuel sales for all five County airports were up 8 percent for all five County airports in calendar year 2025 versus 2024.

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

Airport Projects (including Grant Funding)

Mr. Morgan informed the Commission that the County plans to apply for the Airport Terminal Program FY 2026 Funding Opportunity, which is offered annually. If awarded, this grant would fund 95 percent of the cost for the replacement of the HVAC unit at the terminal building at Brackett Field Airport.

At Brackett Field Airport, design has been underway to reconstruct approximately 12.5 acres of pavement for the north runway and cross taxiway, and completion is expected by the end of this month.

At San Gabriel Valley Airport, the Apron Pavement and Crack Slurry Project design is complete, and construction should commence Fall 2026. The Runway/Taxiway Pavement Rehabilitation construction is expected to commence Winter 2026.

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 April 2026 and construction in 2028.

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 in March 2026.

Mr. Morgan informed the Commission that the Airport Traffic Control Tower facility construction projects for Brackett Field Airport and San Gabriel Valley Airport, which is to be carried out by the FAA and to be funded through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Air Traffic Law Air Traffic Program, may be delayed due to funding challenges. Mr. Morgan will provide additional information once it is available.

Mr. Morgan shared with the Commission that the Federal government had attempted to impose additional requirements for Airport Improvement Program (AIP) grant assurances related to immigration and customs enforcement compliance. However, those requirements were withdrawn following legal challenges.

Airport Property Management

At Brackett Field Airport, three interested parties expressed interest in a commercial hangar on the north side of the airport, and proposals received will be evaluated. Repairs to the east side fuel island pump are in progress and the west side self-service fuel island remains operational.

The Runway End Identified Lights (REILs) at Brackett Field Airport, San Gabriel Valley Airport, and Fox Airfield are experiencing outages. Mr. Morgan indicated that options are being explored to establish an as needed contractor to support REIL and lighting repairs at all five County airports.

At San Gabriel Valley Airport, the Precision Approach Path Indicator (PAPI) lights were replaced, and the FAA flight check is being coordinated with the Federal Aviation Administration.

At Whiteman Airport, a commercial lease is being terminated as the lessee is no longer operating according to the terms of the lease. Los Angeles Mission College remains interested in exploring potential opportunities for an aviation program and the use of the airport for instructional space.

At Compton/Woodley Airport, repairs to the Automated Weather Observing System (AWOS) are expected to be completed in February.

At General William J. Fox Airfield, repairs to the nonoperational gate and beacon light are complete. Mr. Morgan also informed the Commission that Scott Wardle was hired to serve as assistant airport manager.

Mr. Morgan informed the Commission that the new Aviation Commission website is likely to go live by the end of April 2026.

Mr. Morgan informed the Commission that the janitorial and security service contracts previously removed from the Board agenda following a motion to develop a Labor Peace Agreement and Worker Retention policy are scheduled to return to the Board in March 2026.

Mr. Morgan informed the Commission that he continues to work with the Assessor, Auditor-Controller, and other agencies to address the ongoing issues related to the annual Possessory Interest Tax (PIT) imposed on aircraft hangars at the airports. He shared with the Commissioners that, after further evaluation, Sanitation Districts will be reversing their charges imposed for their Direct Assessment which were included in the 2025 possessory interest tax bills. He also informed the Commission that an Appraiser Specialist from the Assessor's Office will attend the next Aviation Commission meeting to provide information on the Possessory Interest Tax process.

Mr. Morgan provided the Commission with a copy of the FAA's determination regarding a recent Part 16 Complaint and briefly summarized the complaint and the associated corrective action plan. Commissioners engaged in a brief discussion.

A copy of the Expense and Revenue (Operating Surplus/Deficit) Report for Fiscal Year 2025-26 was also shared with the Commission, and a brief summary was provided. Another review of the Expense and Revenue report for the airports will be shared with the Commission following an update of the non-aeronautical rents and the identification of lease reversions to be included in future financial budgets and projections.

On January 21, 2026, twenty-five Federal Bureau of Investigation agents staged operations that were unrelated to immigration enforcement at Compton/Woodley Airport. Mr. Morgan also shared information regarding the County's Sensitive Location Policy related to immigration enforcement activities on County properties.

Airport Events and Activities

At Brackett Field Airport, a hazardous round-up was held at the airport on December 20, 2025. Airport management attended a career day at Bonita Unified School District on January 7, 2026, and provided a tour of the airport for a local group of mothers and children on January 20, 2026. The Brackett Airport Association host their monthly meetings in the terminal building on the first Thursday of every month and Aircraft Display Days are held on the third Sunday of every month.

At San Gabriel Valley Airport, a pedestrian deviation occurred on Taxiway Alpha by an unhoused individual, and local authorities responded to the incident which was evaluated and closed out by the FAA. Aircraft Display Days are held on the fourth Sunday of each month.

At Whiteman Airport, the Experimental Aircraft Association Chapter 40 Young Eagles events are held on the fourth Saturday of each month. They flew 82 kids at their event on January 24, 2026. Aircraft Display Days are held on the second Sunday of every month.

At Compton/Woodley Airport, non-profit organization RGE Cares hosted their annual Wonderland Christmas Toy Giveaway event on December 13, 2025. On December 14, 2025, non-profit Grow, Unwind, and Connect held their Toy Giveaway event, and on December 21, 2025, Wins and Lessons Foundation held their event. Public Works is collaborating with Supervisor Holly Mitchell's office to implement a Community Engagement Program, which includes an on-line webpage and survey, to inform the local community about plans for a new terminal building at the airport and to solicit their input regarding desired attributes for a new terminal building that best serves the local community.

At General William J. Fox Airfield, planning efforts are underway to establish an Experimental Aircraft Association chapter, and on February 7, 2026, the Fox Airport Association will host a Fly Safe meeting as part of the FAA Pilot Proficiency Program.

In January 2026, all airport managers and assistant airport managers attended an 8-hour refresher training course on emergency response on hazardous materials.

Mr. Morgan shared with the Commission that he is in communication with various urban air mobility companies to explore potential opportunities for County airports. He also informed the Commissioners that George Kivork, Archer Aviation's general manager for Southern California will present an overview of the company's plans and activities to the Aviation Commission at the February 2026 meeting.

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

At Whiteman Airport, Trifiletti hosted an Open House on December 3, 2025. The study is now expected to be completed in the summer of 2026. Mr. Morgan also shared the new website providing background on the study (whplandusestudy.com). Commissioners engaged in a discussion.

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

Mr. Morgan and Commissioner Singh provided a summary of the subcommittee's goals and the direction of its ongoing work.

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, February 25, 2026, at 10 a.m.
at Compton/Woodley Airport
901 West Alondra Boulevard
Compton, CA 90220-3528**

Chair Villarreal adjourned the meeting at 11:27 a.m. in honor of Benjamin Bundt who recently passed away. Mr. Bundt was an instructor and co-founder of MB Thrill Squadron at San Gabriel Valley Airport.

Respectfully submitted,

Jerilyn Lopez Mendoza, Secretary
Los Angeles County Aviation Commission

JM:cmd