



MARK PESTRELLA, Director

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

AVIATION COMMISSION

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"

900 SOUTH FREMONT AVENUE
ALHAMBRA, CALIFORNIA 91803-1331
Telephone: (626) 458-5100
<http://dpw.lacounty.gov>

LOS ANGELES COUNTY AVIATION COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes
April 29, 2026, 7 p.m.
Whiteman Airport
10000 Airpark Way
Pacoima, CA 91331-7393
(818) 896-5271

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
Secretary Jerilyn Lopez Mendoza
Commissioner Dennis Lord
Commissioner Rohit J. Singh
Commissioner Thomas Sutfin

OFFICIALLY EXCUSED

Commissioner Harvey Holloway
Commissioner Christopher D. Thomas

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES – DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS STAFF

Mr. Steve Burger, Deputy Director
Mr. Jason Morgan, Chief, Aviation Division
Ms. Van Tran, Staff Assistant

GUESTS

Mr. Emanuel W. Brown, Resident
Ms. Keziah B. Carver, Civil Air Patrol
Mr. Amiri Gallardo, Civil Air Patrol
Mr. Vincent Jessel, Virtual Emergency Operations Center Software (VEOCI)
Mr. James Miller, Civil Air Patrol
Mr. Giuseppe Dalmonte, Pilot/Owner
Mr. Marrow Rozansky, Experimental Aircraft Association
Mr. Rafael Martinez, Civil Air Patrol SQ137
Mr. Nathan Clark, Vista Air
Mr. Scott Wardle, Los Angeles County
Ms. Josie Zarate, Foothill Trails District Neighborhood Council
Mr. Ed Warner, Experimental Aircraft Association Chapter 40
Ms. Lisa Fusano, Aviation Explorers Post 747

GUESTS CONTINUED

Ms. Penny Alderson, Vista Aviation
Mr. James Arias, Resident
Mr. Jerry Neglio, Navions West Inc. (NWI)
Mr. Hollis D. Erdmann, Whiteman Airport Tenant
Ms. Lynn Banker, Whiteman Airport Tenant
Mr. Rico Burgos, Whiteman Airport Tenant
Mr. Matthew Stone, Whiteman Airport Tenant
Ms. Lliana Carver, Civil Air Patrol
Mr. Oliver Koelzer, Civil Air Patrol
Mr. Don Hagopian, Whiteman Airport Association
Ms. Sarah Olson, Whiteman Airport Guest
Ms. Marlene Rader, Whiteman Airport Guest

PUBLIC COMMENT SPEAKERS

Mr. Ed Warner, Experimental Aircraft Association Chapter 40
Ms. Lisa Fusano, Aviation Explorers Post 747
Ms. Penny Alderson, Vista Aviation
Mr. Oliver Koelzer, Civil Air Patrol
Mr. James Miller, Civil Air Patrol
Mr. Matthew Stone, Whiteman Airport Pilot
Ms. Josie Zarate, Foothill Trails District Neighborhood Council
Mr. Estevan Roth, Latino Pilots Association
Mr. David Kolstad, Whiteman Airport Association

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Rudy Villarreal called the meeting to order at 7 p.m.

I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Secretary Jerilyn Lopez Mendoza led the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. MATTERS FOR AND ACTION BY THE COMMISSION

A. Minutes for the January 28, 2026, meeting

The minutes for the January 28, 2026, meeting were unanimously approved on a motion from Commissioner Dennis Lord and seconded by Commissioner Rohit J. Singh.

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

Mr. Morgan provided to the Commission a brief overview of Whiteman Airport.

Operations (Takeoffs and Landings) and Fuel Sales

Total aircraft operations for all five County airports were up 7 percent in the month of March 2026, as compared to the same month last year.

Total fuel sales for all five County airports were up 17 percent in the month of March 2026, as compared to the same month last year.

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

Chair Villarreal moved item G up to the agenda, this item followed afterwards and the rest of the agenda remained in the same order.

Airport Projects (including Grant Funding)

Mr. Morgan provided to the Commission the monthly Los Angeles County Airports Projects Update Report.

Airport Property Management

No updates were provided on this section.

Airport Events and Activities

On April 20, 2026, an aircraft accident occurred near Whiteman Airport and is being investigated by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB). A single-engine Cessna 172 aircraft crashed outside the airport, hit the power lines, and damaged a parked vehicle. No reports on any person injured on the ground and only the pilot was reported to be injured. Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) restored power to the affected area. All requests regarding the aircraft operations or the cause of the accident are being directed to the FAA and the NTSB. Public Works personnel distributed flyers to the local residents and businesses regarding the accident and provided community assistance resources. On April 24, 2026, Supervisor Lindsey P. Horvath of the Third Supervisorial District released a statement regarding the accident and directed Public Works to identify immediate actions within the County's authority to strengthen safety around Whiteman Airport, building on recommendations from the Community Advisory Committee and the FAA to conduct a full review of air traffic control operations, determine whether there was a failure in communication or response, and outline steps to help prevent this from happening again. On April 29, 2026, Public Works sent a letter to the FAA Western-Pacific Regional Administrator requesting the FAA's cooperation in assisting with community outreach regarding its critical roles and responsibilities in safeguarding the National Airspace System. Commissioners engaged in a brief discussion on the information presented.

No updates were provided for the other four County airports events and activities.

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

Mr. Morgan informed the Commission that Trifiletti Consulting will be sharing their initial study findings with stakeholders in the upcoming months through various

small group meetings and an open house event. The final study is anticipated to be completed by the summer of 2026.

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

Mr. Morgan informed the Commission that there are no updates on this agenda item. The subcommittee members comprised of: Chair Villarreal, Commissioner Lord, and Commissioner Singh.

F. Discussion Regarding the Format for Aviation Commission Meeting Agenda

Mr. Morgan mentioned to the Commission that Commissioner Christopher D. Thomas requested to add this item to the agenda. However, as Commissioner Thomas was excused from this meeting, the Commission will table this item for a future meeting and Mr. Morgan will meet with Commissioner Thomas to discuss it.

G. Whiteman Airport Coalition – Guest speaker Christina Pascucci

Chair Villarreal moved this item up to the agenda, as requested by the guest speaker, and it was presented after agenda item B.

Former Commissioner Christina Pascucci shared with the Commission a presentation on the Whiteman Airport Coalition. She provided details on Whiteman Airport's economic and community impact, growth forecast and modernization goals, FAA funding issues and constraints on airport closure, airport safety facts, lead levels studies, and community engagement activities. On June 27, 2026, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Whiteman Airport will host a Community Airport Day. Six guest speakers shared their stories and comments regarding this agenda item. Commissioners provided comments and requested additional information on the presentation, which Mr. Morgan will share with the Commission.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT – OPEN FORUM

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

IV. NEXT COMMISSION MEETING WILL BE ON:

**Wednesday, May 27, 2026, at 7 p.m.
at San Gabriel Valley Airport
4233 Santa Anita Avenue
El Monte, CA 91731-1670**

Chair Villarreal adjourned the meeting at 8:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jerilyn Lopez Mendoza, Secretary
Los Angeles County Aviation Commission