



MARK PESTRELLA, Director

# COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

## AVIATION COMMISSION

*"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"*

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## COMMISSIONERS

RYAN ANTOON  
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VICE-CHAIR

DENNIS LORD  
SECRETARY

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MEMBER

CURT CASTAGNA  
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CHRISTINA PASCUCCI  
MEMBER

GABRIEL PEREZ  
MEMBER

## LOS ANGELES COUNTY AVIATION COMMISSION

### Meeting Minutes

October 30, 2024, 10 a.m.

Whiteman Airport

10000 Airpark Way

Pacoima, CA 91331-7393

(818) 896-5271

### IN ATTENDANCE

Chair Ryan Antoon  
Secretary Dennis Lord  
Commissioner Curt Castagna  
Commissioner Monique Earl  
Commissioner Harvey Holloway  
Commissioner Christina Pascucci

### OFFICIALLY EXCUSED

Commissioner Peter Amundson  
Commissioner Jeff Mort  
Commissioner Gabriel Perez

### COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES – DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS STAFF

Mr. Paul Maselbas, Assistant Deputy Director  
Mr. Jason Morgan, Assistant Chief, Aviation Division  
Ms. Van Tran, Staff Assistant

### GUESTS

Mr. Clyde Carpenter, Experimental Aircraft Association  
Mr. Richard Mend, Mend Aviation  
Mr. James Miller, Civil Air Patrol  
Mr. David Lunt, Northridge Consulting Enterprises, LLC  
Mr. Thomas Hendricks, Experimental Aircraft Association  
Ms. Penny Alderson, Vista Aviation  
Mr. Matthew Stone, Whiteman Airport Pilot  
Mr. John Nagle, Experimental Aircraft Association  
Dr. James Haney, San Gabriel Valley Airport Tenant  
Mr. Dave Kolstad, Experimental Aircraft Association  
Mr. Mario Urbina, Whiteman Airport Guest  
Mr. Belsazar Uriarte, Belana Holdings, LLC

## **CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Ryan Antoon called the meeting to order at 10 a.m.

### **I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Secretary Dennis Lord led the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **II. MATTERS FOR AND ACTION BY THE COMMISSION**

#### **A. Minutes for the September 25, 2024, meeting**

The minutes for the September 25, 2024, meeting were unanimously approved on a motion from Secretary Lord and seconded by Commissioner Harvey Holloway.

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

##### **Expense and Revenue Report**

Mr. Maselbas mentioned to the Commission that the report will be shared at each airport location for the next three meetings. A summary of the Expense and Revenue Report, a detailed explanation on the expenditures and revenues, and an update to the Airport Capital Improvement Plan were presented to the Commission.

Mr. Maselbas also informed the Commission about the Federal Aviation Administration Part 16 complaint from hangar tenants regarding the airport rents and fees study report.

Commissioners engaged in a brief discussion regarding the information presented.

##### **Aircraft Operations (Takeoffs and Landings) and Fuel Sales**

The overall aircraft operations for all five County airports were up 10 percent in the month of September 2024, as compared to the same month last year.

The overall fuel sales for all five County airports were up 168 percent in the month of September 2024, as compared to the same month last year.

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

##### **Airport Projects (including Grant Funding)**

No major projects are taking place at the airports.

The design for pavement reconstruction of approximately 12.5 acres of the north runway and taxiways has begun at Brackett Field Airport.

At Whiteman Airport, the Airport Layout Plan to consolidate 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**

Starting October 30, 2024, until November 5, 2024, the runway and taxiways at Brackett Field Airport will be closed nightly for survey work as part of the Runway 8L-26R and Associated Taxiway's Pavement Rehabilitation Project. Repairs are underway for the Precision Approach Path Indicator lights. United States Forest Service continues to fight the Bridge Fire.

At Compton/Woodley Airport, the Precision Approach Path Indicator lights are still under repair. On October 28, 2024, the main vehicle access gate next to the airport terminal building was vandalized and repairs were made to it.

During the solicitation period, no responses were received for the Request for Proposals for the aeronautical development lease at General William J. Fox Airfield. United States Forest Service and various agencies continue to fight local fires.

At San Gabriel Valley Airport, the self-serve fuel island is being repaired. The new lease agreement for the development of aircraft storage hangars on the north apron area is being finalized and will be presented to the Board of Supervisors for approval soon.

At Whiteman Airport, repairs are being made to the Airpark Way vehicle access gate. Earlier this month, a theft incident occurred in one of the aircraft storage hangars. Local law enforcement agency was notified to investigate the incident.

Since June 1, 2024, UL94 is available for purchase at Whiteman Airport. Public Works is coordinating with the Los Angeles County Fire Department to have UL94 available for purchase at Compton/Woodley Airport and San Gabriel Valley Airport.

At Compton/Woodley Airport and Whiteman Airport, the Virtower aircraft operations system is being worked on.

## **Airport Events and Activities**

At Brackett Field Airport, the Aircraft Display Day was held on October 20, 2024, and Brackett Airport Association will host their meeting on November 7, 2024.

Compton/Woodley Airport held the celebration of the airport's 100th year anniversary at the annual Air Fair on October 26, 2024. On November 6 and 7, the Federal Aviation Administration will host the First Responders Training at the airport.

At General William J. Fox Airfield, an aircraft incident occurred on October 25, 2024, and no injuries were reported.

At San Gabriel Valley Airport, an aircraft incident occurred on October 6, 2024, and no fire or major fuel leak were reported. A small hangar fire incident occurred on October 21, 2024, and no fuel spills or other dangers were reported.

At Whiteman Airport, the Experimental Aircraft Association Chapter 40 provided flights to 79 kids at their Young Eagles event on September 28, 2024, and 80 kids at their October 26, 2024, event. A minor aircraft incident occurred at the

October 26, 2024, event and no damage or injuries were reported. The Aircraft Display Day was held on October 13, 2024, at the airport.

General William J. Fox Airfield and San Gabriel Valley Airport served as Cooling Centers in the month of October 2024.

### **Airport Marketing and Public Relations**

The on-call consultant is finalizing the new airports website and is expected to go live later this year.

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

Mr. Maselbas informed the Commission that at the October 22, 2024, Board meeting, the Board of Supervisors approved the County Department of Economic Opportunity to hire a consultant to conduct an economic impact analysis and land use study for the potential repurposing of Whiteman Airport. The Board letter stated that a portion of the cost of the study is to be financed with Aviation Enterprise Funds.

Commissioners discussed and shared comments on the information presented.

### **III. PUBLIC COMMENT – OPEN FORUM**

Nine speakers commented on the expense and revenue report, possessory interest tax letter, operation, maintenance, and activities at the airports.

### **IV. NEXT COMMISSION MEETING WILL BE ON:**

**Wednesday, November 27, 2024, at 10 a.m.  
at San Gabriel Valley Airport  
4233 Santa Anita Avenue  
El Monte, CA 91731-1670**

Chair Antoon adjourned the meeting at 11:54 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dennis Lord, Secretary  
Los Angeles County Aviation Commission

PHM:vt