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AVIATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES
FORT LAUDERDALE EXECUTIVE AIRPORT
RED TAILS CONFERENCE ROOM
6000 NW 21 AVENUE, FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA
THURSDAY, JANUARY 23, 2025 – 1:30 P.M.

		Cumulative Attendance 7/2024 - 6/2025	
Board Members	**Attendance**	**Present**	**Absent**
Mark Volchek, Chair	A	3	1
William Gilbert, Vice Chair	P	3	1
David Ash [via Zoom]	P	3	1
David Cooper	P	2	0
Kelly Gordon	A	3	1
Dr. Jeff Johnson	P	4	0
Robert Laughlin	P	3	1
Kevin Macelhaney	P	3	1
John Vratsinas	A	3	1
Non-Voting			
Commissioner Marlon Bolton	P	4	0
Jeff Helyer, City of Oakland Park	A	3	1

Airport/City Staff

Rufus A. James, Airport Director
Chelsea Jones Finley, Airport Program Manager
Khant Myat, Airport Engineer
Patrick Donnelly, Advanced Specialist II
Linda Blanco, Senior Administrative Assistant
Ronald Aristide, Senior Airport Maintenance Technician
Ben Rogers, Acting Assistant City Manager

Others

Tom Rowe, Atlantic Aviation
Peter Bizzarro, 2001 NW 64 LLC
Jacob Nunez, Esq., Nunez & Fleischer, P.A..
Chris Allen, Air Flight Charters
John Caccamise, JM Family Enterprises
Todd Clarke, JM Family Enterprises
Hugo Cortes, W Aviation
Patrick Madden, Coral Ridge Isles Civic Association
Tom O'Donnell, Kimley-Horn and Associates
Debbie Puia, The Lofts of Palm Aire
Alexander Rivera, FXE Jet Center

CALL TO ORDER

Vice Chair Gilbert called the meeting to order at 1:35 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Roll was called and a quorum was determined to be present.

Motion made by Dr. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Macelhaney, to allow Mr. Ash to attend the meeting and vote via Zoom. In a voice vote, motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- December 5, 2024

Motion made by Mr. Laughlin, seconded by Mr. Cooper, to approve the minutes of the December 5, 2024, meeting as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

VOTING ITEMS

1. FXE Aviation Equipment & Service Facility Expansion Contract Award

Vice Chair Gilbert informed the Board that the contract bid was found to be incomplete.

This item was deferred to the next meeting.

2. FDOT Public Transportation Grant Agreement for the Construction of Runway 9 Parallel Taxiways Extension

Mr. Myat provided the presentation and recommended approving the Public Transportation Grant Agreement with the Florida Department of Transportation in the amount of $1,886,440 for the construction of Runway 9 Parallel Taxiways Extension project.

Motion made by Mr. Laughlin, seconded by Mr. Macelhaney, to approve the Public Transportation Grant Agreement with the Florida Department of Transportation in the amount of $1,886,440 for the construction of Runway 9 Parallel Taxiways Extension project. **Motion** passed 6-0.

3. Assignment of Lease - FL LLC JPTMR Holdings, LLC for Lots 18 and 19 to 2001 NW 64, LLC

Mr. James provided the presentation and recommended that the City consent to the requested assignment of the FL LLC JPTMR Holdings, LLC Lease for Lots 18 and 19 to 2001 NW 64 LLC, subject to review by the City Attorney's Office.

Jacob Nunez Esq. was present to represent both FL LLC JPTMR Holdings, LLC and 2001 NW 64, LLC.

Motion made by Mr. Cooper, seconded by Mr. Laughlin, to recommend that the City consent to the requested assignment of the FL LLC JPTMR Holdings, LLC lease for Lots 18 and 19 to 2001 NW 64 LLC, subject to review by the City Attorney's Office. **Motion** passed 6-0.

UPDATE ITEMS

A. Noise Compatibility Program

Mr. Donnelly reported that in November there were 848 jet departures from Runway 9, with 36 noise submissions from 13 households. In December, there were 879 jet

departures from Runway 9, with 35 noise submissions from 21 households. Noise Monitor 2 did not detect any aircraft exceeding the 80-decibel threshold in November or December.

B. Development and Construction

12764 - FXE Runway 9-27 Pavement Rehabilitation

Mr. James stated that the existing asphalt on Runway 9-27 was last rehabilitated in 2004. He informed the Board that Airport staff met with tenants regarding their concerns about the start date of February 17, a holiday weekend. As a result, the start date was rescheduled to February 24 at 10:00 PM. At that time, Runway 9-27 will be closed, and Runway 13-31 will remain open for Phase 1 of the project.

Phase 2 will begin on Friday, February 28 at 10:00 PM, requiring the closure of both Runway 9-27 and Runway 13-31 for construction at the runway intersection.

Phase 3 will begin on Monday, March 3 at 6:00 AM with the reopening of Runway 13-31 and construction on the western portion of Runway 9-27 until Friday, March 7 at 6:00 AM. The contractor was confident they will meet the deadline and will work on a 24/7 cycle.

Operational data was included in the Board packet.

Mr. James reported a slight uptick in Airport and Helistop operations however, the customs numbers and fuel flowage slightly decreased. Mr. James informed Vice Chair Gilbert that the Helistop project should not affect its operations.

C. Arrearages

Mr. James stated there were no rent or fuel flowage arrearages to report.

D. Communication to the City Commission

None

E. Other Items

i. Challenge Air for Kids and Friends – 2025 Fort Lauderdale Fly Day

Ms. Jones Finley stated that on Saturday, January 25, Banyan Air Service, in partnership with Challenge Air for Kids and Friends, will host the 2025 Fort Lauderdale Fly Day at FXE. Challenge Air for Kids and Friends was started in 1993 and is dedicated to empowering kids and young adults with special needs through the gift of flight. With the support of sponsors, pilots, aircraft owners, and volunteers, they can provide 30-minute flights for participants and their families.

Ms. Jones Finley informed the Board that the founder of Challenge Air, Rick Amber, became a quadriplegic when his jet crashed in 1971. He subsequently invited a group of physically challenged children on a flight and recognized that overcoming his disability helped change the children’s perception of disabilities.

Ms. Jones Finley also stated that over 100 families would be participating this year. The flights will take off from Banyan North, fly to the bend in the Sawgrass and return to FXE. The Executive Airport thanks Don Campion and Banyan Air Service, the Rotary Club of Fort Lauderdale, the Civil Air Patrol, the pilots, co-sponsors, and the Air Traffic Control Tower, for their instrumental roles in ensuring the event's success.

ii. Annual Open House Event and Achievement in Community Excellence Awards

Mr. James announced that on Thursday, January 30 at 5:30 PM, the Airport will host its annual ACE awards and Open House event at Jet Runway Cafe. There will be five honorees: Southeast Toyota/JM Family Enterprises for the ACE award; Amazon for the Green Champion award; Hop-a-Jet and ATP Flight School for the Special Recognition award; and Duncan Aviation for the Distinguished Service Award.

iii. Public Comments

None

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING DATE: Thursday, February 27, 2025, at 1:30 P.M.

Any written public comments made 48 hours prior to the meeting regarding items discussed during the proceedings have been attached hereto.

VOTING ITEM 1

DATE: March 27, 2025
TO: Aviation Advisory Board
FROM: Rufus James, Airport Director
BY: Khant Myat, P.E., Airport Engineer
SUBJECT: Fort Lauderdale Executive Airport Aviation Equipment & Service Facility Expansion Contract Award

The Fort Lauderdale Executive Airport (FXE) Aviation Equipment & Service (AES) facility was constructed in 2010. It is a 7,440-square-foot, one-story building with apparatus bays to store FXE's vehicles and equipment. The building is LEED Gold certified (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) and features offices, a fully furnished kitchen, a shower room, a storage room, and rainwater harvesting tanks. Since its construction, the Airport has acquired additional equipment and vehicles that are currently stored on the apron ramp or offsite due to limited space within the AES facility. The proposed 4,000-square-foot expansion will accommodate these assets within the facility, reducing the maintenance cost and extending their service life.

The scope of work under this contract includes but is not limited to, landscaping and irrigation installation, additional parking spaces, drainage improvements, concrete and steelwork, utility connections, door installation, electrical work, and the installation of cameras and lighting. Additionally, the project includes Add Alternates, which incorporates replacing the office area flooring in the existing building, upgrading its light fixtures to LED, and painting the existing structure.

On September 3, 2024, the Procurement Services Division issued an Invitation to Bid for this project. The City received the following five bids in response to the solicitation, which were opened on December 20, 2024:

1. Sun State General Contractors, LLC $2,232,842
2. Vercetti Enterprises, LLC $2,308,862
3. Persons Services Corp. $2,319,503
4. H.A. Contracting Corp. $2,709,000
5. Alen Construction Group, Inc. $3,246,600

Sun State General Contractors, LLC (Sun State) submitted the lowest bid; however, the company did not provide the City with references or documentation demonstrating compliance with the bid solicitation requirement to self-perform at least 40% of the construction work on past projects. This requirement applies to all bidders to ensure they possess the necessary experience, workforce, and organizational capacity to successfully complete the project. Therefore, staff has determined that Sun State is not a responsive bidder and does not qualify to perform the work.

Vercetti Enterprises, LLC (Vercetti) is the apparent second-lowest, responsive, and responsible bidder. Upon review of its bid proposal documents, staff confirmed that Vercetti meets all requirements outlined in the bid solicitation.

Staff Recommendation

Staff recommends awarding the contract to Vercetti Enterprises, LLC, the low-responsive, qualified bidder, in the amount of $2,308,862 for the Fort Lauderdale Executive Airport Aviation Equipment & Service Facility Expansion project.

VOTING ITEM 1
EXHIBIT 1

Image 1: Rendering of the Aviation Equipment & Service facility after the expansion.

DATE: March 27, 2025
TO: Aviation Advisory Board
FROM: Rufus A. James, Airport Director
VIA: Chelsea Jones Finley, Airport Program Manager
BY: Patrick Donnelly, Advanced Specialist II
SUBJECT: Executive Airport – Noise Compatibility Program

This update comprises the reports for January and February 2025.

In January 2025, Fort Lauderdale Executive Airport (FXE) recorded 1,242 jet departures, with 586 departing from Runway 9. Noise Monitor #2 detected one aircraft that exceeded the 80-decibel (dB) threshold, a Cessna Citation, which did not generate noise complaints. A total of 19 noise submissions were received in January 2025.

In February 2025, the Airport recorded 1,196 jet departures, with 987 taking off from Runway 9. Noise Monitor #2 detected a Gulfstream G3 exceeding the 80-decibel (dB) threshold, which resulted in three noise inquiries. Overall, the Airport received 26 noise submissions in February 2025.

Staff will continue to address residents' concerns and analyze aircraft operations to ensure safe and efficient operations at FXE.

FORT LAUDERDALE EXECUTIVE AIRPORT

COOPERATIVE NOISE ABATEMENT EFFORTS

March 27, 2025

Month of January 2025

Jet Departures and Noise	Dec-24	Jan-25
Total Departures	1266	1242
Runway 27 Jet Departures	374	653
Runway 9 Jet Departures	879	586
Runway 13/31 Jet Departures	13	3
Runway 9 Jet Departures, I-95 Turns	519	313
Runway 9 Jet Departures %, I-95 Turns	59%	53%
Jet over 80dB at Monitor #1	29	31
Jet over 80dB at Monitor #2	0	1

Noise Reports	Dec-24	Jan-25
Number of Households - FXE Noise Only	21	14
Number of Reports - Jets	14	11
Number of Reports - Propellers Single-Engine	6	5
Number of Reports - Propellers Multi-Engine	6	3
Number of Reports - Helicopters	0	0
Number of Reports - Other Airports	0	0
Number of Reports - DT1	-	-
Total Number of Noise Reports for FXE	35	19

Noise Reports By Quadrant

FORT LAUDERDALE EXECUTIVE AIRPORT

COOPERATIVE NOISE ABATEMENT EFFORTS

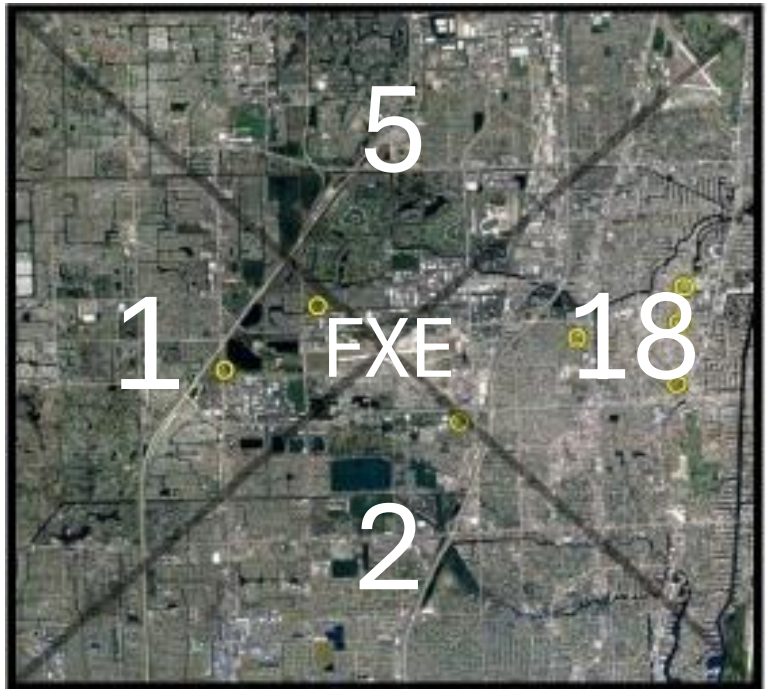
March 27, 2025

Month of February 2025

Jet Departures and Noise	Jan-25	Feb-25
Total Departures	1242	1196
Runway 27 Jet Departures	653	119
Runway 9 Jet Departures	586	987
Runway 13/31 Jet Departures	3	90
Runway 9 Jet Departures, I-95 Turns	313	497
Runway 9 Jet Departures %, I-95 Turns	53%	50%
Jet over 80dB at Monitor #1	31	34
Jet over 80dB at Monitor #2	1	1

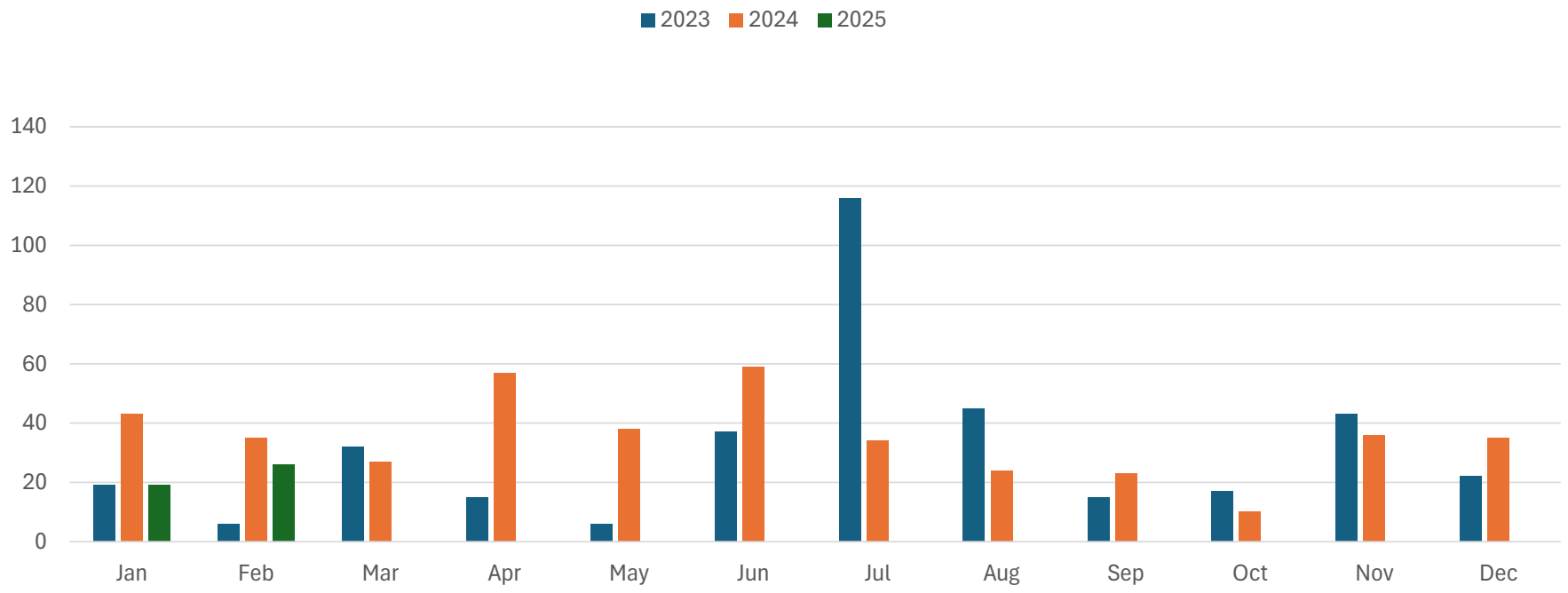
Noise Reports	Jan-25	Feb-25
Number of Households - FXE Noise Only	14	13
Number of Reports - Jets	11	18
Number of Reports - Propellers Single-Engine	5	8
Number of Reports - Propellers Multi-Engine	3	0
Number of Reports - Helicopters	0	0
Number of Reports - Other Airports	0	0
Number of Reports - DT1	-	-
Total Number of Noise Reports for FXE	19	26

Noise Reports By Quadrant



Year-Over-Year (YoY): Airport Noise Submissions

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Totals
2023	19	6	32	15	6	37	116	45	15	17	43	22	373
2024	43	35	27	57	38	59	34	24	23	10	36	35	421
2025	19	26											45



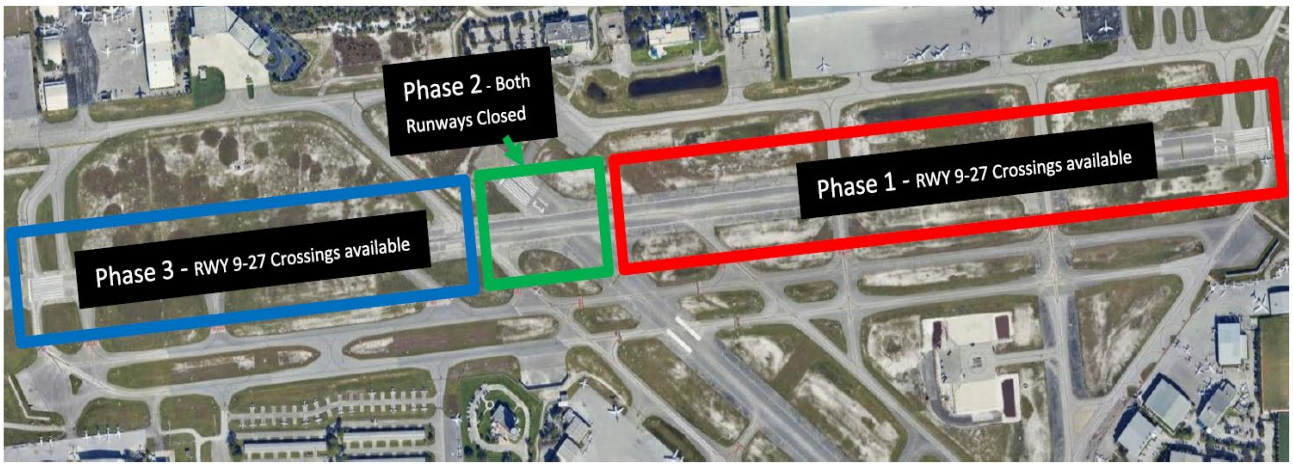
UPDATE ITEM B

DATE: March 27, 2025
TO: Aviation Advisory Board
FROM: Rufus A. James, Airport Director
VIA: Carlton M. Harrison, Assistant Airport Director
BY: Benjamin J. Gatti, Airport Operations Specialist
SUBJECT: Development and Construction

12764 - FXE Runway 9-27 Pavement Rehabilitation

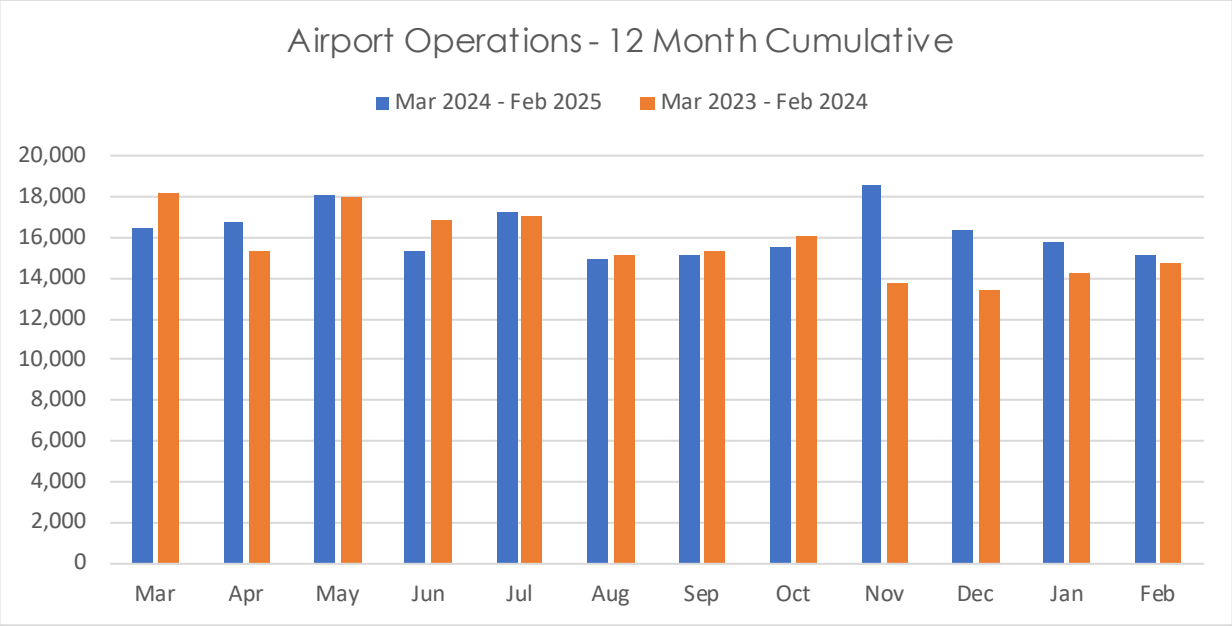
The Runway 9-27 Pavement Rehabilitation project was a required initiative outlined in the Airport's approved Airport Layout Plan (ALP) to address the deterioration of Runway 9-27. The existing asphalt on Runway 9-27 was last rehabilitated in 2004. This project rehabilitated approximately 650,000 square feet of pavement, encompassing the runway and connector taxiways up to the hold position markings. The construction scope included milling, paving, installing electrical systems, applying pavement markings, performing geotechnical work, and conducting construction surveys.

Phase 1 of the Runway 9-27 Pavement Rehabilitation project began on Monday, February 24, 2025, at 10:00 p.m. with full closure of Runway 9-27. Construction started at the east portion of Runway 9-27, removing electrical systems and asphalt milling. Phase 2 began on Friday, February 28 at 10:00 p.m., closing both Runway 9-27 and Runway 13-31 until Monday, March 3 at 6:00 a.m. for construction at the intersection. Phase 3 began on Monday, March 3, at 6:00 a.m. with the reopening of Runway 13-31 and construction on the west portion of Runway 9-27. On Friday, March 7, at 3:00 a.m. Runway 9-27 fully reopened with temporary paint markings applied. After a 30-day cure period, asphalt grooving and the final paint will be applied during nightly closures of the Runway from 10:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m. This will also include another closure of both runways to complete asphalt grooving and final paint markings at the intersection.



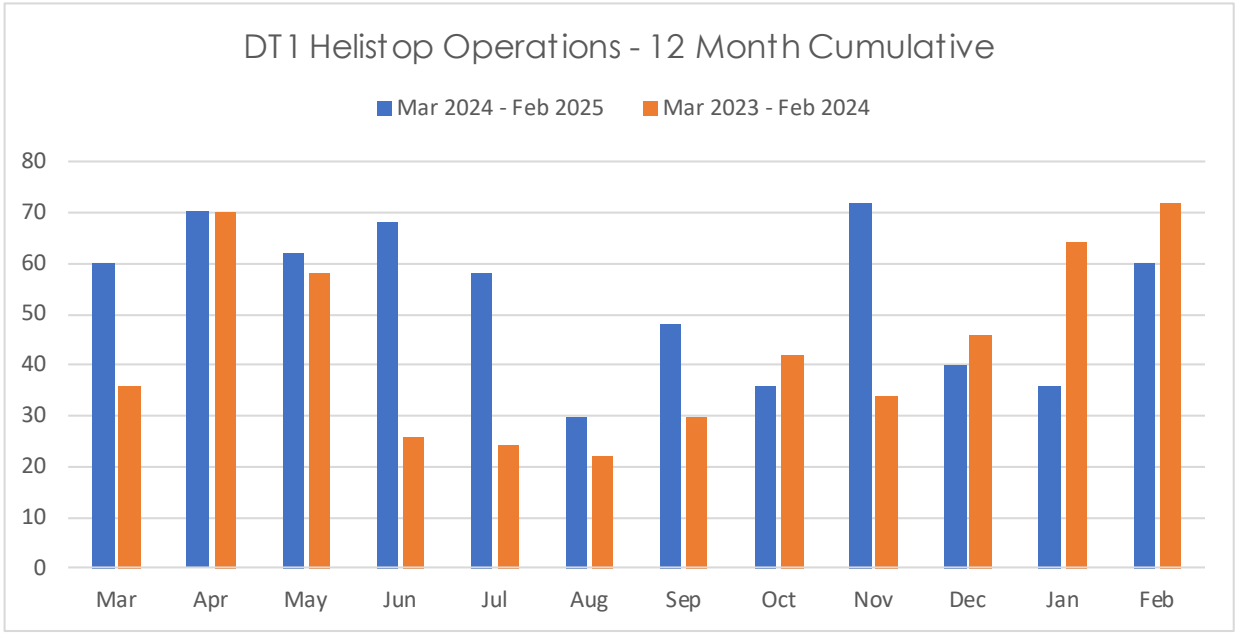
Airport Operations - 12 Month Cumulative

	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Totals
Mar 2024 - Feb 2025	16,444	16,787	18,089	15,357	17,236	14,907	15,094	15,564	18,546	16,372	15,773	15,122	195,291
Mar 2023 - Feb 2024	18,158	15,321	17,980	16,802	17,016	15,145	15,294	16,020	13,692	13,431	14,231	14,721	187,811



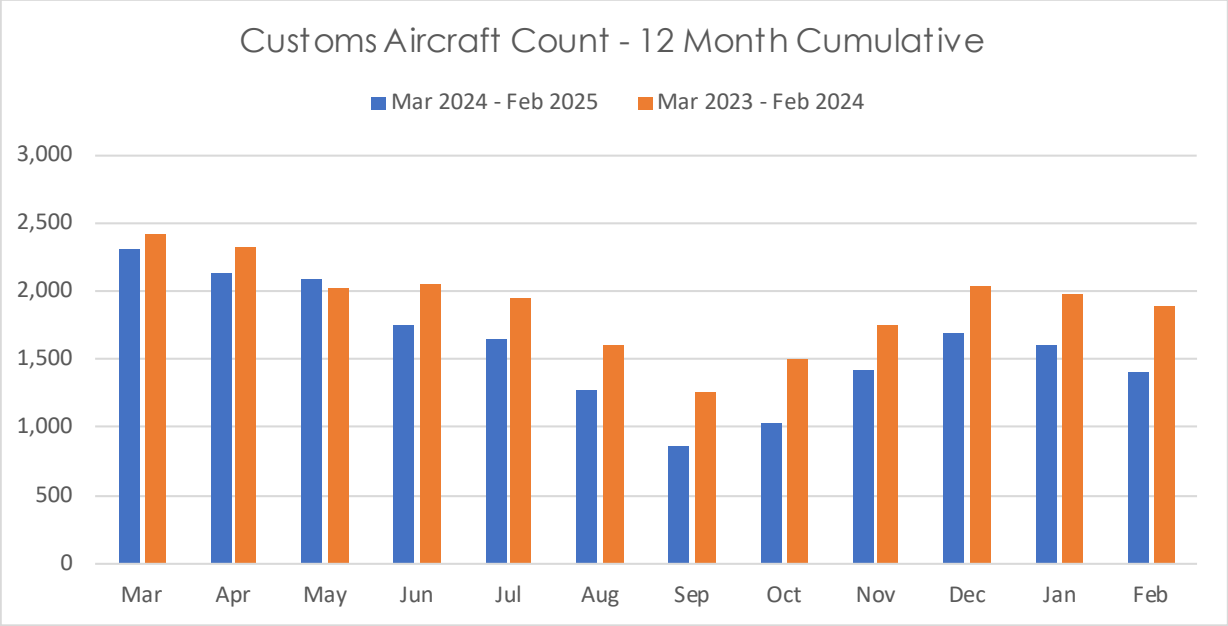
DT1 Helistop Operations - 12 Month Cumulative

	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Totals
Mar 2024 - Feb 2025	60	70	62	68	58	30	48	36	72	40	36	60	640
Mar 2023 - Feb 2024	36	70	58	26	24	22	30	42	34	46	64	72	524



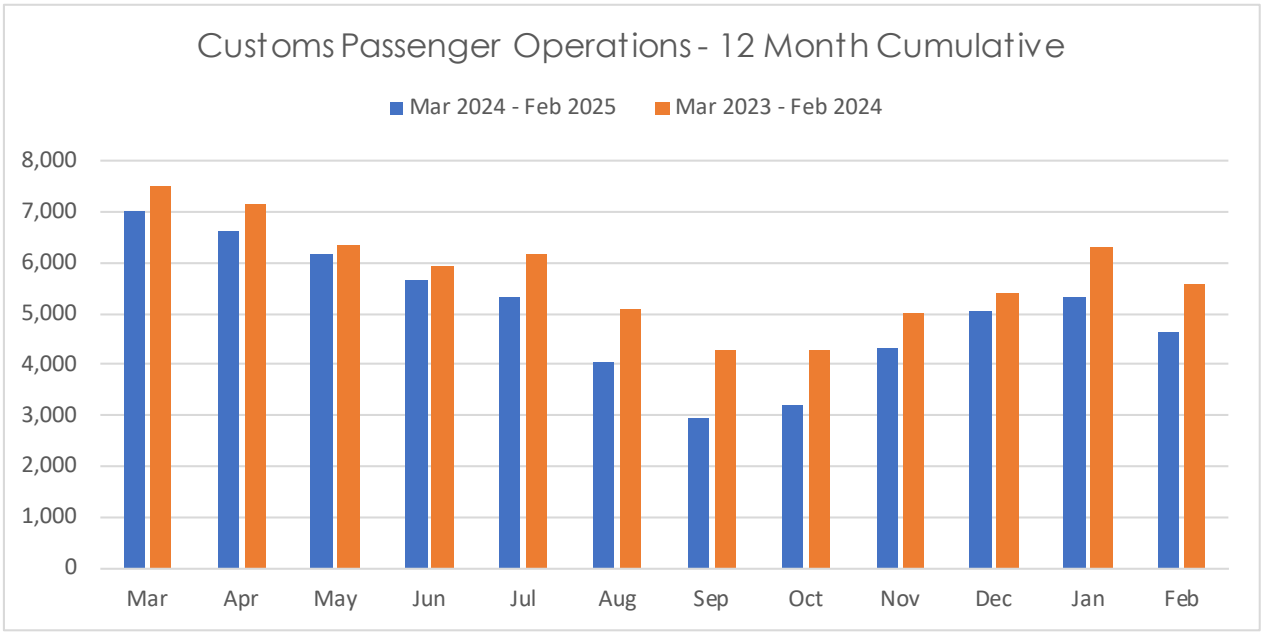
Customs Aircraft Count - 12 Month Cumulative

	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Totals
Mar 2024 - Feb 2025	2,306	2,123	2,080	1,747	1,644	1,267	869	1,033	1,416	1,690	1,605	1,399	19,179
Mar 2023 - Feb 2024	2,410	2,316	2,021	2,055	1,951	1,603	1,257	1,488	1,749	2,041	1,984	1,887	22,762



Customs Passenger Operations - 12 Month Cumulative

	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Totals
Mar 2024 - Feb 2025	7,023	6,600	6,160	5,649	5,335	4,025	2,954	3,198	4,331	5,066	5,311	4,624	60,276
Mar 2023 - Feb 2024	7,489	7,158	6,338	5,947	6,169	5,070	4,284	4,299	5,016	5,420	6,300	5,561	69,051

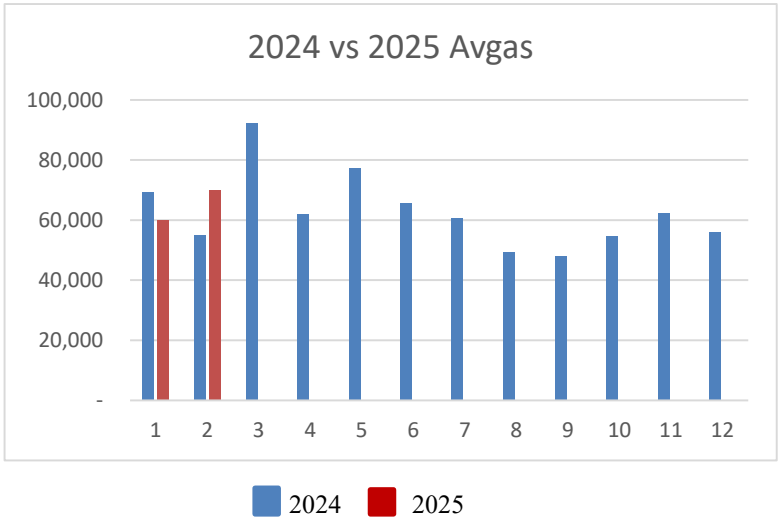


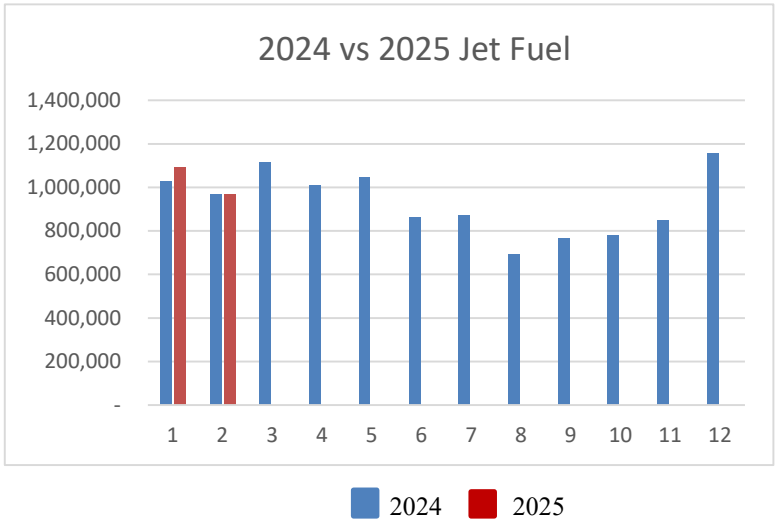
Date	Alert Level	Aircraft Type	Description
1/11/2025	II	Beech 400A	Low Fuel Pressure
1/15/2025	I	Cirrus SR22	Flat Left and Right Main Gear
1/24/2025	II	Learjet 45	Unsafe Gear Indicator
1/31/2025	I	Cirrus SR22	Flat Right Main Gear

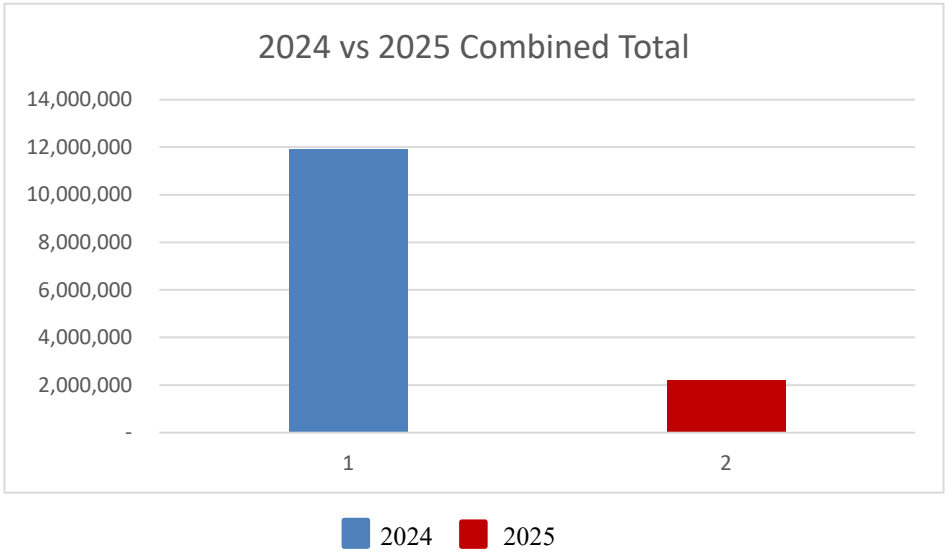
Date	Alert Level	Aircraft Type	Description
2/7/2025	I	Cessna 208B Grand Caravan	Flat Nose Gear
2/8/2025	I	Cessna 750 Citation X	Smoke from the Left Main Gear
2/9/2025	III	Beech A36 Bonanza	Nose Gear Collapse
2/12/2025	II	Cessna 172 Skyhawk	Low Engine Power
2/12/2025	II	Beech 95-B55 Baron	Unsafe Gear Indicator
2/15/2025	I	Piper PA-28 Cherokee	Rough Running Engine

2024 & 2025 Monthly Fuel Flowage (Gallons)

Year	Fuel	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Totals
2024	Avgas	69,394	55,013	92,323	62,139	77,461	65,665	60,583	49,389	47,998	54,662	62,474	56,214	753,315
	Jet	1,026,986	968,551	1,115,643	1,011,625	1,046,671	859,942	873,318	693,464	764,773	778,918	850,696	1,154,564	11,145,151
	Total	**1,096,380**	**1,023,564**	**1,207,966**	**1,073,764**	**1,124,132**	**925,607**	**933,901**	**742,853**	**812,771**	**833,580**	**913,170**	**1,210,778**	**11,898,466**
2025	Avgas	59,994	70,084											130,078
	Jet	1,090,127	967,870											2,057,997
	Total	**1,150,121**	**1,037,954**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**2,188,075**







UPDATE ITEM C

DATE: March 27, 2025
TO: Aviation Advisory Board
FROM: Rufus A. James, Airport Director
SUBJECT: Arrearages

Rent

There are no arrearages to report.

Fuel Flowage

There are no arrearages to report.

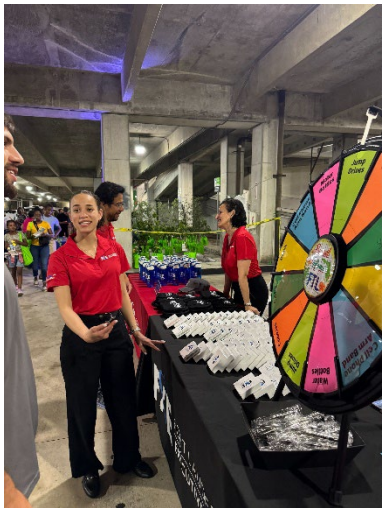
UPDATE ITEM E.I.

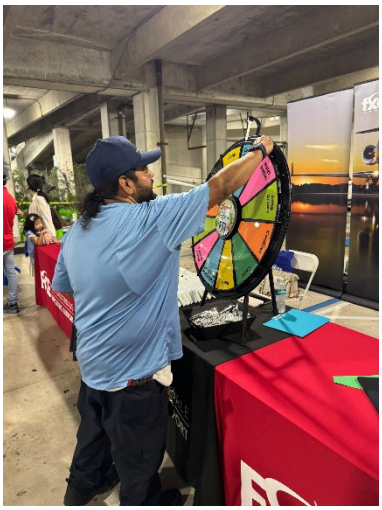
DATE: March 27, 2025
TO: Aviation Advisory Board
FROM: Rufus A. James, Airport Director
VIA: Carlton Harrison, Assistant Airport Director
BY: Chelsea Jones Finley, Airport Program Manager
SUBJECT: Community Events

Neighbor Support Night

The City of Fort Lauderdale and the Council of Fort Lauderdale Civic Association hosted the 2025 Neighbor Support Night (NSN) on Thursday, February 13. NSN is a family-friendly event held annually to allow neighbors to interact with community leaders, learn about City initiatives, and explore potential career paths. This year's theme was Sweet Home Fort Lauderdale. Attendees, including City staff, were excited to spin the wheel at the Airport booth to win their favorite giveaway items. The event also allowed the FXE team to reconnect with fellow City personnel.

View the 2025 Neighbor Support Night Recap.





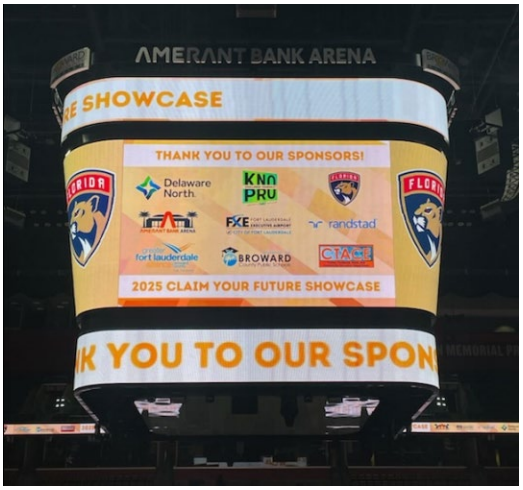
Claim Your Future Showcase 2025

The Fort Lauderdale Executive Airport (FXE) team participated in the 2025 Claim Your Future Showcase on Wednesday, February 19, at the Amerant Bank Arena in Sunrise. Organized by the Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance and Broward County Public Schools, this industry-focused career fair welcomed over 1,500 ambitious high school juniors eager to explore diverse career opportunities within the community.

The annual Claim Your Future Showcase is designed to help students turn their aspirations into achievable goals by increasing awareness of key industries in South Florida and highlighting career pathways that encourage local talent retention. This year, FXE supported the event as a sponsor and exhibitor.

Key highlights of the event included the Exhibitors' Showcase, where students engaged with representatives from more than 51 industry partners, explored career opportunities, and gained insight into essential qualifications for various professions. The FXE team also participated in mock interviews, offering students a simulated real-world experience, and contributed to workshops and panel discussions focused on developing essential soft skills for workplace success.

View the 2025 Claim Your Future Recap.



Flying Classroom 2025 STEMFest

On Saturday, March 1, Flying Classroom, in collaboration with Broward County Public Schools – Title I, Migrant, and Special Programs Department, and Fort Lauderdale Executive Airport, hosted the 2025 STEMFest. This annual event offers students an immersive experience in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) through the lens of Aviation.

This year's STEMFest welcomed over 1,000 attendees, including students and their families, who engaged in a dynamic mix of hands-on activities. Participants explored flight and car simulators, conducted science experiments, created art, and interacted with various exhibits. They also explored static airplanes and interacted with the Airport's Aircraft Rescue and Firefighting truck.

In celebration of the Airport's seventh year hosting the event, Flying Classroom introduced the Barrington Irving Technical Training School (BITTS) to the community, an initiative dedicated to cultivating a skilled workforce that meets the growing needs of the aviation, transportation, and manufacturing industries. Flying Classroom founder Captain Barrington Irving, a pioneer in aviation and education, was present to connect students and their families.

The 2025 STEMFest success was made possible by the dedication of over 60 volunteers and partners, including OSM Aviation Academy, W Aviation, the Museum of Discovery & Science Star Lab, the Community Emergency Response Team, and Kona Ice. Feedback from attendees was overwhelmingly positive, with many calling it the best year yet.

View the 2025 STEMFest photos.

CareerSource Broward 2025 World of Works Career Expo

CareerSource Broward, in partnership with the Broward County School Board, hosted the 2nd annual Worlds of Work (WOW) Career Expo for over 1,200 9th and 10th-grade high school students to explore dynamic career paths. The event occurred on Tuesday, March 11, 2025, at the Amerant Bank Arena, bringing together more than 50 top employers eager to inspire Broward County's future workforce.

At WOW, students entered twelve interactive 'worlds' representing key industries such as aviation, technology, transportation, public safety, and more. Exhibitors engaged students with live demonstrations, hands-on activities, and real-world career experiences, from operating robots to piloting aircraft simulators. Fort Lauderdale Executive Airport served as a sponsor and exhibitor at the event.

"For students to realize their full potential, they need awareness of the many opportunities available to them," said Dean Trantalis, Mayor of the City of Fort Lauderdale and Chairman of CareerSource Broward's Council of Elected Officials. "WOW helped students see what's possible and gave them a head start in making choices that will shape their future."

Banyan Aviation Expo 2025

On Saturday, March 15, Banyan Pilot Shop brought together more than 20 of South Florida's partner agencies, including flight schools, universities, technical colleges, and aviation organizations, at FXE to host the 2025 Banyan Aviation Expo. The event attracted over 250 attendees, primarily high school and college students. The main objective of the expo was to introduce and educate young individuals about the multiple career opportunities in aviation and to inspire them to pursue careers as future aviators. Attendees gained valuable insights on translating their passion for aviation into promising career paths. We acknowledge the Banyan team's commitment to helping introduce the endless possibilities in business aviation to the next generation.

View the Banyan Aviation Expo Recap