DRAFT

AVIATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES
FORT LAUDERDALE EXECUTIVE AIRPORT
RED TAILS CONFERENCE ROOM
6000 NW 21 AVENUE, FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA
THURSDAY, MARCH 27, 2025 – 1:30 P.M.

		Cumulative Attendance 7/2024 - 6/2025	
Board Members	**Attendance**	**Present**	**Absent**
Mark Volchek, Chair	A	3	2
William Gilbert, Vice Chair	P	4	1
David Ash	P	4	1
David Cooper	P	3	0
Louis Gavin	P	1	0
Kelly Gordon	P	4	1
Dr. Jeff Johnson	P	5	0
Robert Laughlin	P	4	1
Kevin Macelhaney	P	4	1
John Vratsinas	P	4	1
Non-Voting			
Commissioner Marlon Bolton	P	5	0
Jeff Helyer, City of Oakland Park	A	3	2

Airport/City Staff
Rufus A. James, Airport Director
Carlton Harrison, Assistant Airport Director
Chelsea Jones Finley, Airport Program Manager
Patrick Donnelly, Advanced Specialist II
Daniel Friedland, Airport Electrician
Brian St. Pierre, Airport Operations Specialist
Ceasar Vasquez, Senior Airport Maintenance Technician
Ronald Aristide, Senior Airport Maintenance Technician
Linda Blanco, Senior Administrative Assistant
Katharine Lee, Airport Project Support

Others
Stephen Martin, AOPA
Travis Wertz, JM Family Enterprises
Andres Cardona, Ardurra
Manda Metzger, Michael Baker Int'l.
Brian Russell, Michael Baker Int'l.
Debbie Puia, The Lofts of Palm Aire
Kevin Scott, Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc.
Don Campion, Banyan Air Service
Jay Apusma, JNA Healthcare

CALL TO ORDER
Vice Chair Gilbert called the meeting to order at 1:31 p.m.

ROLL CALL

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- January 23, 2025

Motion made by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Gordon, to approve the minutes of the January 23, 2025, meeting as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

VOTING ITEMS

1. FXE Aviation Equipment & Service Facility Expansion Contract Award

Mr. Harrison shared the presentation and recommended awarding the contract to Vercetti Enterprises, LLC, the second lowest responsive, qualified bidder, in the amount of $2,308,862 for the Fort Lauderdale Executive Airport Aviation Equipment & Service Facility Expansion project.

Motion made by Mr. Vratsinas, seconded by Mr. Cooper, to award the contract to Vercetti Enterprises, LLC, the second lowest responsive, qualified bidder, in the amount of $2,308,862 for the Fort Lauderdale Executive Airport Aviation Equipment & Service Facility Expansion project. **Motion** passed 9-0.

UPDATE ITEMS

A. Noise Compatibility Program

Mr. Donnelly reported that in January, there were 586 jet departures from Runway 9, with 19 noise submissions. In February, there were 987 jet departures from Runway 9, with 26 noise submissions. In January, Noise Monitor 2 detected one aircraft exceeding the 80-decibel threshold, which did not generate any noise complaints; however, one aircraft exceeded the 80-decibel threshold, which resulted in three noise inquiries.

B. Development and Construction

12764 - FXE Runway 9-27 Pavement Rehabilitation

Mr. Harrison reported that Phase 1 of the project began on Monday, February 24, 2025, at 10:00 p.m. with a 10-day closure of Runway 9-27 and construction starting at the east end of Runway 13-31; Phase 2 was for work on the intersection and Phase 3 was for work west of Runway 13-31. Mr. Harrison showed a video of the project, thanked the project team and staff, and noted that the project had been completed ahead of schedule. Mr. James distributed certificates of appreciation to the Airport project staff.

Mr. Harrison explained that on April 7, after a 30-day cure period, asphalt grooving and the final paint will be applied during nightly closures of Runway 9-27 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 for 14 days after April 7.

Mr. Laughlin wondered if the Federal government would continue to fund the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), considering the current political climate. Mr. James had just returned from Washington, DC, where he and others from the Florida Airports Council

Board met with FAA representatives and Congress members to request support for Florida's airports. He said the recurring theme was that the government would not alter Airport Improvement Program funding. He noted that FXE was financially sound and had sufficient reserves to survive for three years should there be a catastrophic or doomsday scenario.

Airport Operations data was included in the Board packet.

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. 2024 Year in Review

Mr. Harrison shared a presentation. He stated the Airport's vision and discussed FXE's economic impact and FDOT's Airport State ranking, annual operations, fuel flowage, accomplishments, special events, and completed projects over the last year. Mr. Harrison stated that the FAA approved the Taxiway Intersection Improvement Project and presented FXE with the FAA Southern Region 2024 General Aviation Airport Safety Award. Mr. Harrison then reviewed upcoming projects and discussed the future of aviation regarding jobs.

ii. Community Events

Neighbor Support Night

Ms. Jones Finley stated that the City of Fort Lauderdale and the Council of Fort Lauderdale Civic Association hosted the 2025 Neighbor Support Night (NSN) on Thursday, February 13. She stated NSN is a family-friendly event held annually to allow neighbors to interact with community leaders and learn about City initiatives.

Flying Classroom 2025 STEMFest

Ms. Jones Finley informed the Board that on Saturday, March 1, Flying Classroom, in collaboration with Broward County Public Schools 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. 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. Ms. Jones Finley said there had been over 1,000 students this year. She then played a video of the event.

Claim Your Future Showcase

Ms. Jones Finley reported that the Fort Lauderdale Executive Airport (FXE) team had 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. This year, FXE supported the event as a sponsor and exhibitor, participating in panel reviews and conducting mock interviews.

Since the beginning of the year, the staff has interacted with approximately 5,000 students. She thanked volunteers, tenants, and their team for making these events successful.

Mr. Harrison reported that the Helistop project was in the mobilization phase. Mr. Vratsinas requested a monthly status report on ongoing projects.

Mr. James stated that Banyan now has full-time sustainable aviation fuel. He thanked Mr. Campion and his team for enhancing sustainability efforts at the Airport. Mr. James stated that FXE would host Fleet Week on April 29. He announced the Air Show would be May 3 and 4, and the Blue Angels would be based at FXE. Media Day is scheduled for Friday, May 2, and all Board members will be sent an invitation.

iii. Public Comments

None

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 2:10 p.m.

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING DATE: Thursday, April 24, 2025, at 1:30 P.M.

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

VOTING ITEM 1

DATE: May 29, 2025
TO: Aviation Advisory Board
FROM: Rufus A. James, Airport Director
SUBJECT: FXE Parcel 15, LLC – Parcel 15 Lease Amended Phase Plan

FXE Parcel 15, LLC leases Parcel 15 consisting of 14.32 acres at Fort Lauderdale Executive Airport (FXE) under terms of a lease agreement expiring on December 31, 2048. The annual lease payment for this parcel is $ 371,150.30 ($0.59 PSF) and is adjusted annually in accordance with the Consumer Price Index (CPI). An investment of more than $19 million has been made consisting of hangar and apron improvements totaling 110,000 square feet (Exhibit 1).

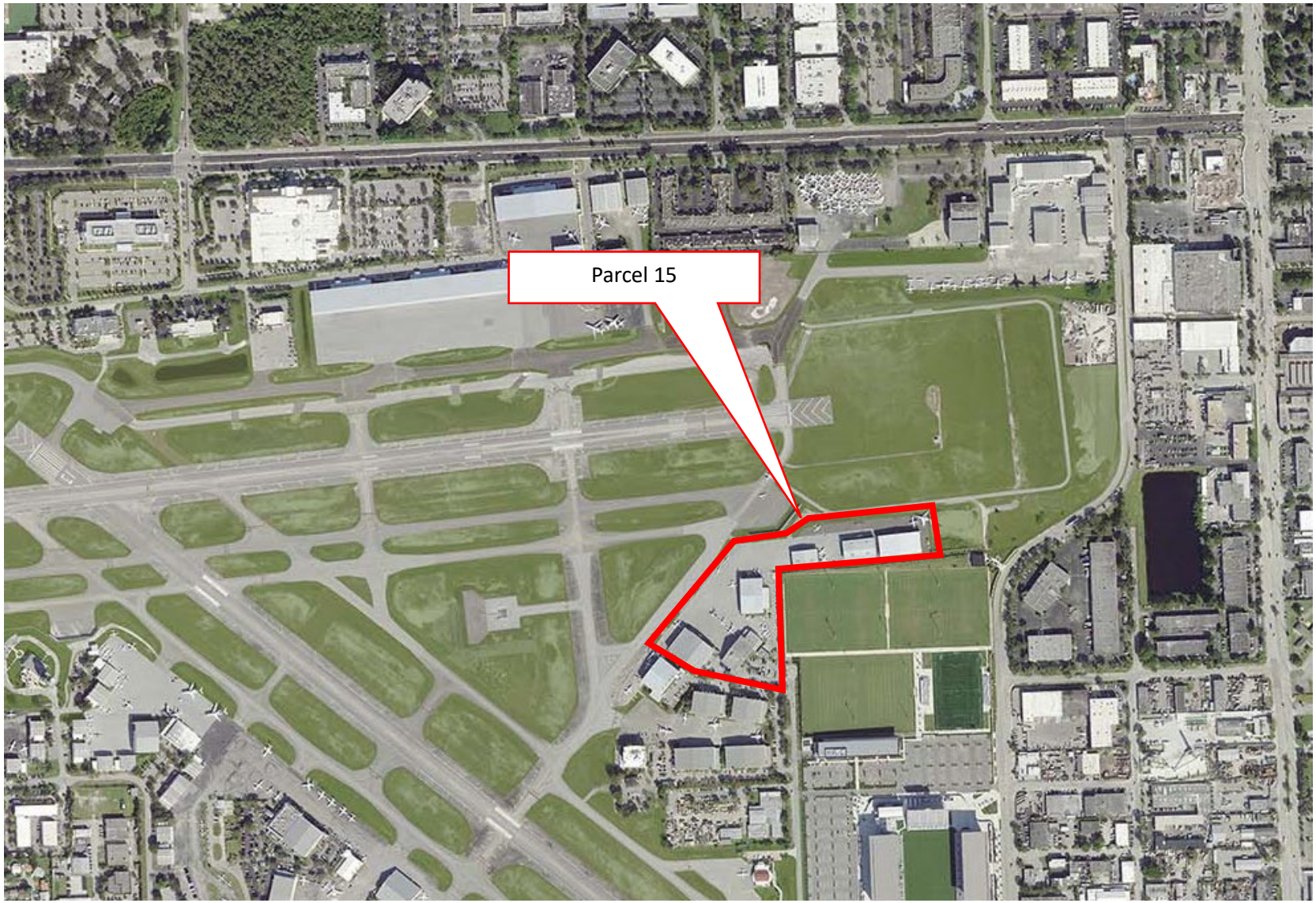
At the April 27, 2023 Aviation Advisory Board (AAB) meeting the Board approved staff's recommendation for a Lease Amendment with FXE Parcel 15, LLC, which included the addition of approximately 4.15 acres to the Parcel 15 leasehold, first right of refusal on the adjacent Parcel 1, construction of a corporate hangar totaling a minimum of 20,000 square feet, and an option to extend for an additional 10 years.

Ms. Lynda Zur is the owner of FXE Parcel 15, LLC, and is in the permitting process with the City's Building Department to develop the 4.15 acres leasehold site. Originally, FXE Parcel 15, LLC proposed developing this site through two phases of development which consisted of Phase 1 asphalt apron construction within 24 months and Phase 2 hangar construction within thirty-six months (Exhibit 2).

After contracting with a professional consulting firm to complete the site survey and design of the project, the consultant recommended rearranging the order of construction for Phase 1 & 2. This approach would avoid reconstructing the asphalt ramp after constructing the hangar and will also reduce the overall cost to construct.

Upon receiving the construction permit from the City Building Department, FXE Parcel 15, LLC will construct the hangar first and then construct the asphalt ramp afterwards. The time to finish the entire project will remain the same as the anticipated completion date of October 2026.

Staff Recommendation
Staff recommend the City Commission authorize the Lease Amendment for FXE Parcel 15, LLC to rearrange the order of construction Phase 2 hangar development to occur prior to Phase 1 asphalt ramp construction.


Parcel 15

VOTING ITEM 1
EXHIBIT 2

DATE: May 29, 2025
TO: Aviation Advisory Board
FROM: Rufus A. James, Airport Director
VIA: Chelsea Jones Finley, Airport Programs Manager
BY: Patrick Donnelly, Advanced Specialist II
SUBJECT: Executive Airport – Noise Compatibility Program

This update comprises the reports for March and April 2025.

March 2025

Fort Lauderdale Executive Airport (FXE) recorded 1,119 jet departures, with 769 departing from Runway 9. Noise Monitor #2 registered three exceedances above the 80-decibel (dB) threshold. One of these events, involving an Israel Westwind jet, resulted in a noise submission. The Airport received a total of 23 noise concerns during March 2025.

April 2025

The Executive Airport registered 1,276 jet departures, with 1,142 utilizing Runway 9. Noise Monitor #2 recorded three noise events above the 80 dB threshold, though none resulted in public concerns. The Airport received 71 noise submissions in April 2025.

FXE staff will continue to address residents' concerns and monitor aircraft operations to support safe and efficient operations.

FORT LAUDERDALE EXECUTIVE AIRPORT

COOPERATIVE NOISE ABATEMENT EFFORTS

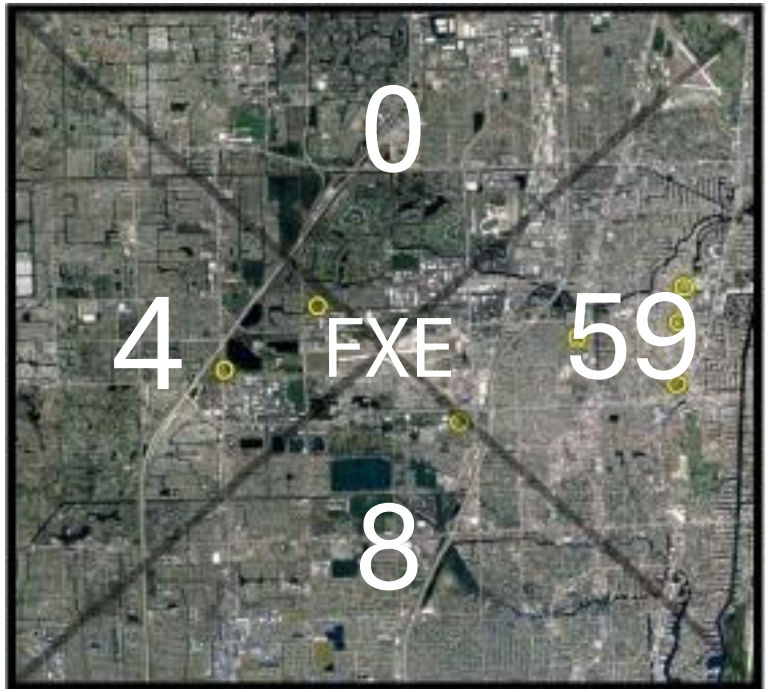
May 29, 2025

March & April 2025

Jet Departures and Noise	Mar-25	Apr-25
Total Departures	1119	1276
Runway 27 Jet Departures	295	129
Runway 9 Jet Departures	769	1142
Runway 13/31 Jet Departures	55	5
Runway 9 Jet Departures, I-95 Turns	440	725
Runway 9 Jet Departures %, I-95 Turns	57%	63%
Jet over 80dB at Monitor #1	24	28
Jet over 80dB at Monitor #2	3	3

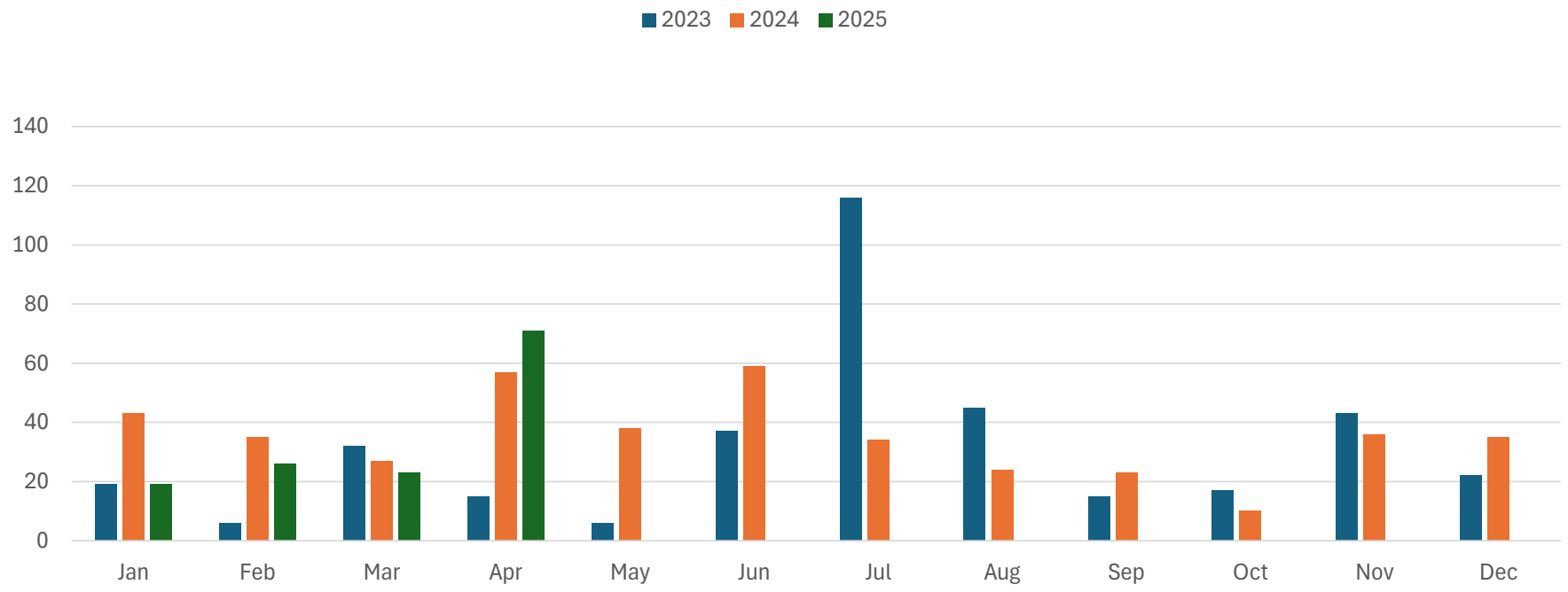
Noise Reports	Mar-25	Apr-25
Number of Households - FXE Noise Only	12	23
Number of Reports - Jets	8	34
Number of Reports - Propellers Single-Engine	13	21
Number of Reports - Propellers Multi-Engine	2	11
Number of Reports - Helicopters	0	5
Number of Reports - Other Airports	0	0
Number of Reports - DT1	-	-
Total Number of Noise Reports for FXE	23	71

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	23	71									139



UPDATE ITEM B

DATE: May 29, 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

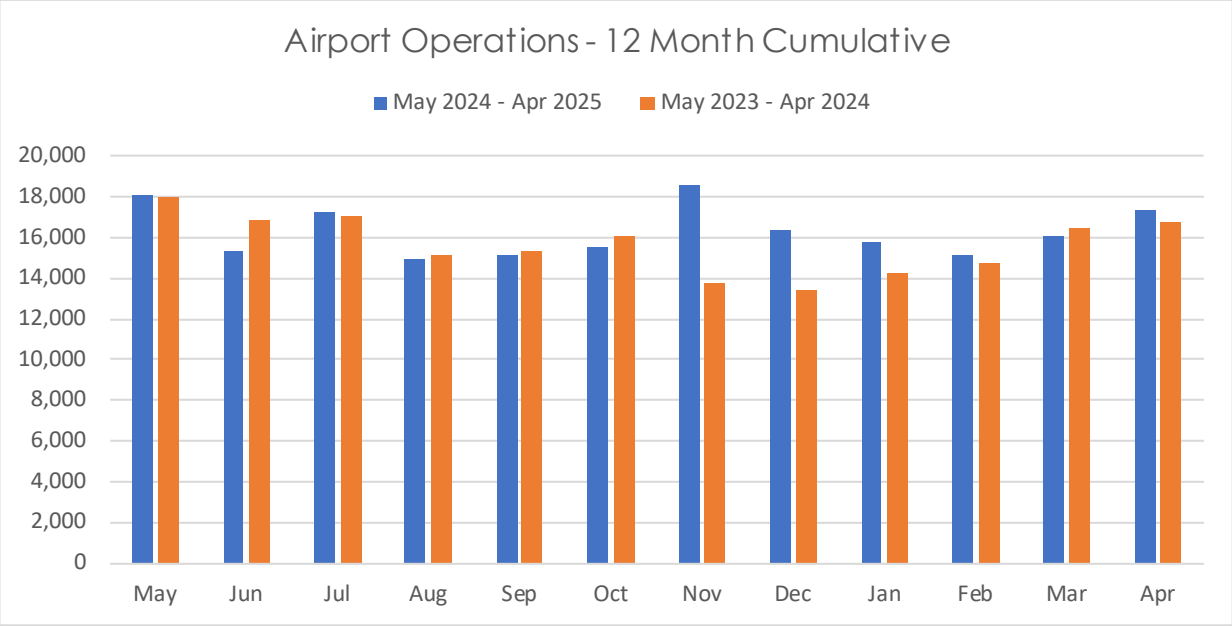
12764 - FXE Runway 9-27 Pavement Rehabilitation

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 which 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, grooving, installation of electrical systems, applying pavement markings, performing geotechnical work, and conducting construction surveys.

The Runway 9-27 Pavement Rehabilitation project began on February 24, 2025, and reached final completion on April 18, 2025. The total cost of the project was $9,800,000 funded by grants from the Federal Aviation Administration and Florida Department of Transportation

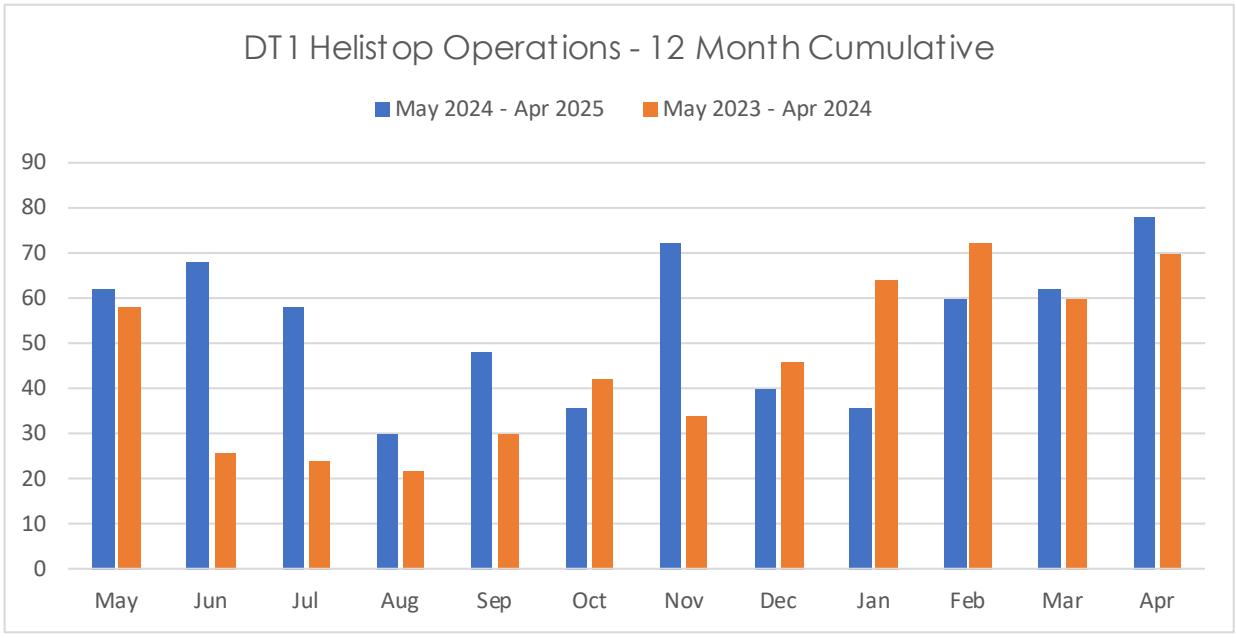
Airport Operations - 12 Month Cumulative

	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	Totals
May 2024 - Apr 2025	18,089	15,357	17,236	14,907	15,094	15,564	18,546	16,372	15,773	15,122	16,046	17,326	195,432
May 2023 - Apr 2024	17,980	16,802	17,016	15,145	15,294	16,020	13,692	13,431	14,231	14,721	16,444	16,787	187,563



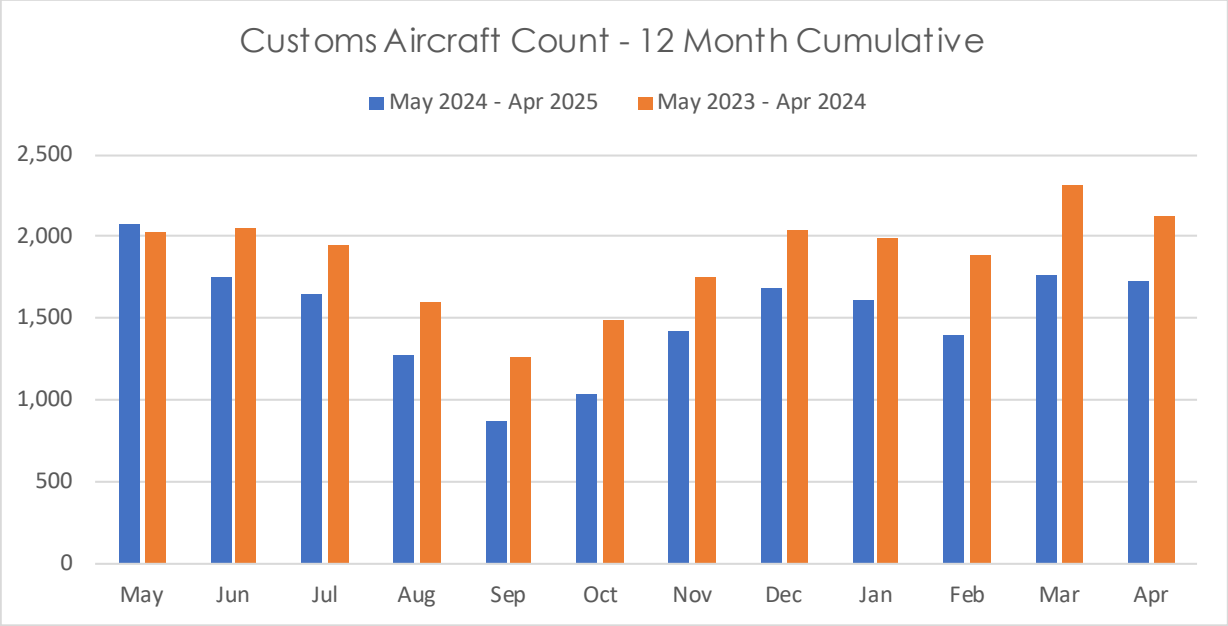
DT1 Helistop Operations - 12 Month Cumulative

	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	Totals
May 2024 - Apr 2025	62	68	58	30	48	36	72	40	36	60	62	78	650
May 2023 - Apr 2024	58	26	24	22	30	42	34	46	64	72	60	70	548



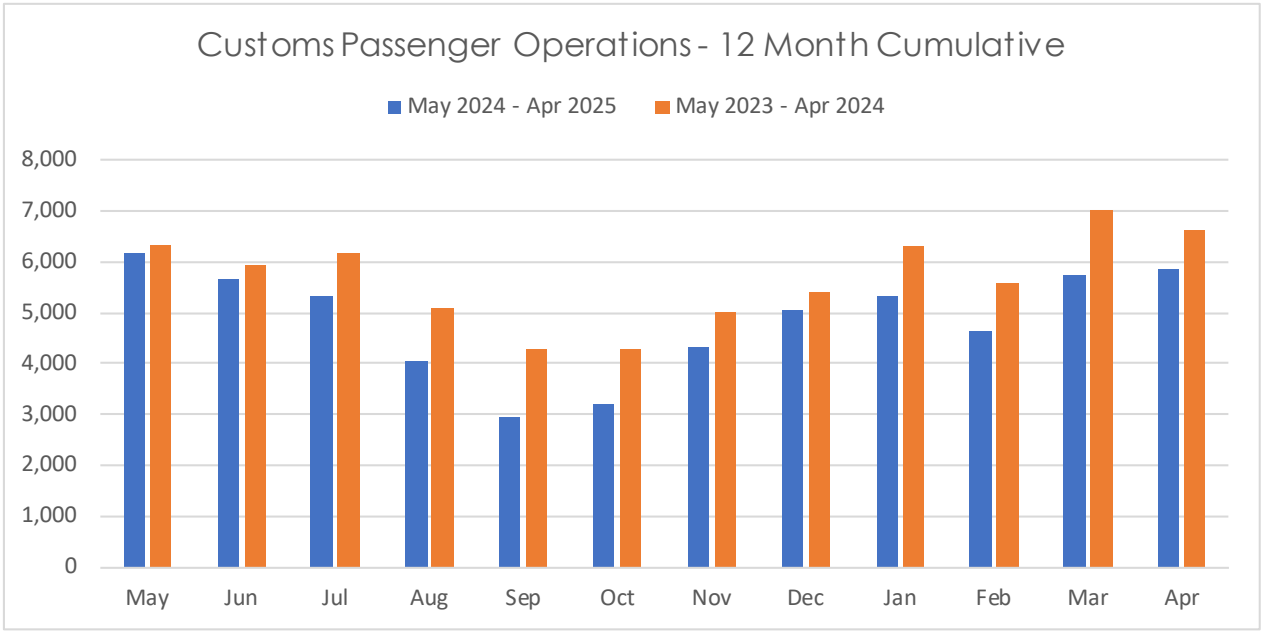
Customs Aircraft Count - 12 Month Cumulative

	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	Totals
May 2024 - Apr 2025	2,080	1,747	1,644	1,267	869	1,033	1,416	1,690	1,605	1,399	1,756	1,728	18,234
May 2023 - Apr 2024	2,021	2,055	1,951	1,603	1,257	1,488	1,749	2,041	1,984	1,887	2,306	2,123	22,465



Customs Passenger Operations - 12 Month Cumulative

	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	Totals
May 2024 - Apr 2025	6,160	5,649	5,335	4,025	2,954	3,198	4,331	5,066	5,311	4,624	5,741	5,843	58,237
May 2023 - Apr 2024	6,338	5,947	6,169	5,070	4,284	4,299	5,016	5,420	6,300	5,561	7,023	6,600	68,027

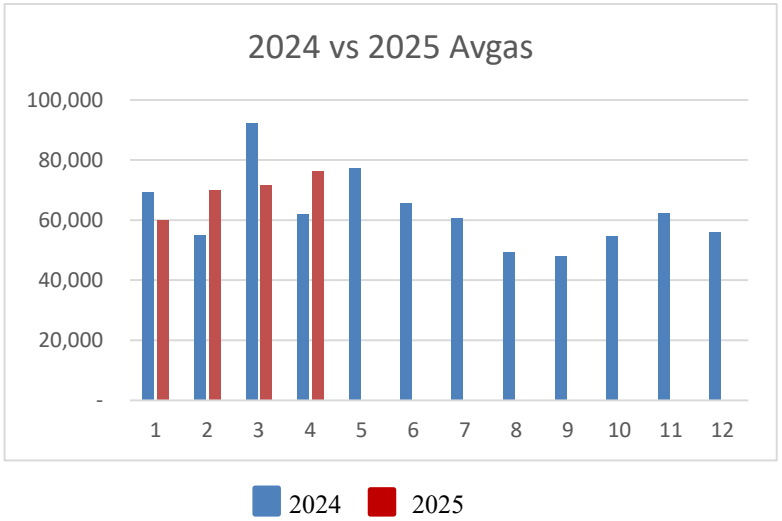


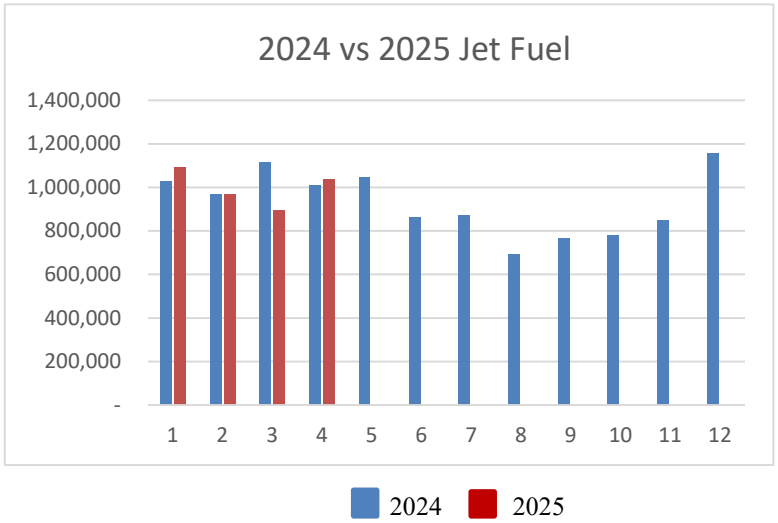
Date	Alert Level	Aircraft Type	Description
3/3/2025	I	Cessna 172 Skyhawk	Flat Left Main Gear
3/6/2025	III	Piper PA-34 Seneca	Collapsed Right Main Gear
3/7/2025	I	Piper PA-27 Aztec	Flat Nose Gear
3/9/2025	I	Cessna 172 Skyhawk	Flat Nose Gear
3/13/2025	I	Raytheon Hawker 800	Cracked Windshield Mid-flight
3/13/2025	I	Gulfstream G4	Electrical Malfunction
3/14/2025	II	Piper PA-28 Cherokee	Rough Running Engine
3/19/2025	I	Piper PA-34 Seneca	Flat Right Main Gear
3/31/2025	I	Cessna 172 Skyhawk	Flat Left Main Gear

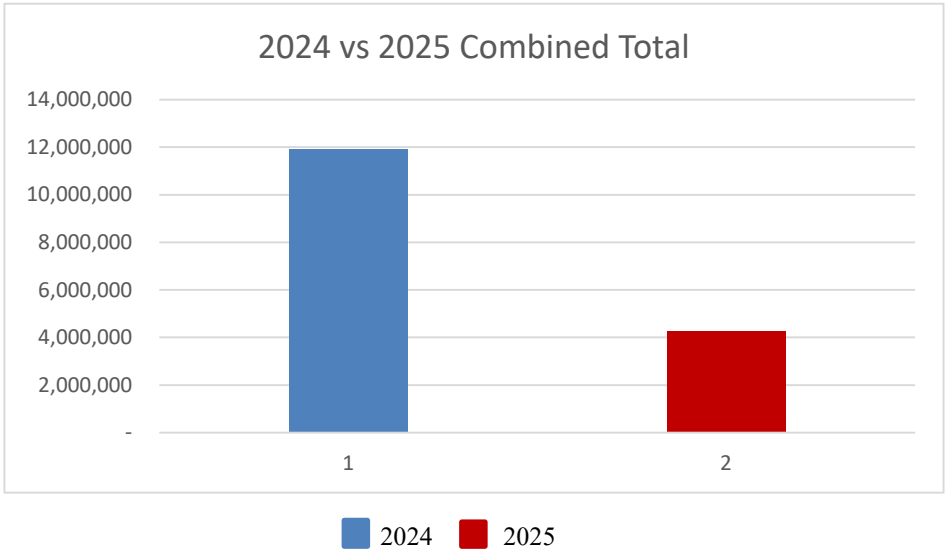
Date	Alert Level	Aircraft Type	Description
4/6/2025	I	Cessna 172 Skyhawk	Brake Failure
4/8/2025	II	Bombardier Challenger	Stabilizer Malfunction
4/10/2025	II	Diamond DA62	Left Engine Out

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	71,666	76,322									278,066
	Jet	1,090,127	967,870	892,884	1,036,532									3,987,413
	Total	**1,150,121**	**1,037,954**	**964,550**	**1,112,854**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**4,265,479**







UPDATE ITEM C

DATE: May 28, 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: May 29, 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: 2025 Fort Lauderdale Air Show – Blue Angels at FXE

2025 Fort Lauderdale Air Show – Blue Angels at FXE

The Fort Lauderdale Air Show is a premier aviation event that draws thousands of spectators to Fort Lauderdale Beach each year. Held on May 3–4, 2025, the show featured a dynamic lineup of military and civilian performers, showcasing precision flying, tactical demonstrations, and aerial acrobatics. Highlights included demonstrations by the U.S. Navy Blue Angels, F-22 Raptor Demo Team, Florida Air National Guard F-15 Eagles, Southern Command Parachute Commandos, NORAD Intercept Demo, P-51 Mustang Demo, U.S. Coast Guard Search & Rescue Demo, Aarron Deliu and T-6 Texan II Formation. The event was a celebration of aviation excellence, honoring the service and capabilities of the U.S. Armed Forces, and offering an exciting and patriotic experience for attendees of all ages.

This year, Fort Lauderdale Executive Airport (FXE) proudly served as the home base for the U.S. Navy Blue Angels from April 29 to May 4, providing support for the aircraft pilots, operations, maintenance, and team logistics. The U.S. Navy Blue Angels, one of the most iconic flight demonstration teams in the world, headlined this year's show. The fleet consists of seven F-18 Super Hornets (typically, jets numbered 1 through 6 are used in performances) and one C-130 "Fat Albert" (carries personnel, equipment, and spare parts and often performs a short demonstration at the airshows). Known for their tight formations and high-speed maneuvers, Blue Angels 1 - 6 thrilled crowds with their precision signature flying. FXE's role in hosting the Blue Angels underscores the Airport's ability to support high-profile aviation activities and reinforces its commitment to promoting aviation excellence in the community.

The Airport also hosted a chalet at the beach during the Fort Lauderdale Air Show weekend, welcoming City officials, Airport tenants, community stakeholders, members of the media, staff, and aviation enthusiasts of all ages.

FXE acknowledges Air Dot Show Tour, the event organizer, for selecting the Executive Airport as the operational home base for the 2025 Fort Lauderdale Air Show. We also recognize Banyan Air Service for facilitating the presence of more than 80 U.S. Navy team members and aircraft stationed at the Banyan North location, as well as the Fort Lauderdale Police Department and Airport staff for their roles in making it a safe and memorable experience.

Image I: Blue Angels 1 - 6 at Fort Lauderdale Executive Airport

Image II: Fat Albert at Fort Lauderdale Executive Airport