



CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE

3rd Draft

**AVIATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES
FORT LAUDERDALE EXECUTIVE AIRPORT
RED TAILS CONFERENCE ROOM
6000 NW 21 AVENUE, FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2026 – 1:30 P.M.**

Board Members	Attendance	Cumulative Attendance 7/2025 - 6/2026	
		Present	Absent
William Gilbert, Chair	P	5	0
David Cooper, Vice Chair	P	3	2
Olivia Anderson	P	1	2
David Ash	P	3	2
Louis Gavin	P	4	1
Kelly Gordon	P	4	1
Dr. Jeff Johnson	P	4	1
Robert Laughlin	P	4	1
John Vratsinas	P	3	2
Barry Zimmerman	P	2	0
Non-Voting			
Commissioner Marlon Bolton, City of Tamarac (<i>Arrived 1:43 p.m.</i>)	P	4	1
Narciso Cherson, City of Oakland Park	P	5	0

Airport/City Staff

John C. Herbst, Vice Mayor/Commissioner
 Rickelle Williams, City Manager
 Christopher Cooper, Deputy City Manager
 Shari McCartney, City Attorney (*Via Zoom*)
 Peter Kirsch, Kaplan Kirsch LLP (*Via Zoom*)
 Patrick Reilly, City Auditor
 Marco Hausy, Senior Assistant City Auditor
 Jeffrey Modarelli, Commission Assistant Coordinator - District 1
 Rufus A. James, Airport Director
 Carlton M. Harrison, Assistant Airport Director
 Chelsea Jones Finley, Division Manager – Airport Administration
 Patrick Donnelly, Division Manager – Airport Operations
 Khant Myat, Airport Engineer
 Angelia Basto, Senior Financial Administrator
 Miguel Laca, Financial Administrator
 Linda Blanco, Senior Administrative Assistant
 Katharine Lee, Airport Projects Support

Others

Sabina Chaudhry, American Infrastructure Development
 Stephen Martin, AOPA
 Thomas Rowe, Atlantic Aviation

Nicholas Leone, Atkins Réalis
Don Champion, Banyan Air
Jose Blanco, CHA Consulting
Stephanie Lopez, CHA Consulting
Pat Frawley, Cordella Court
Marc Fermanian, CRJ & Associates
Annya Grom, Garver
Cody Parham, Garver
Dean Koggan, KEITH
Kevin Scott, Kimley-Horn and Associates
Suzanne Jacob, Lofts of Palm Aire
Deb Puia, Lofts of Palm Aire
Anne van den Berg, Marchena & Graham
Cecelia Linley, Milestone Reporting
Nina Perez, Sheltair Aviation
Tony Sherbert, Sheltair Aviation
Francisco Gonzalez, Sky Harbour
Neil Szymczak, Sky Harbour
Judith Stern, Stern Consulting
Alejandro Assor, W Aviation
Hugo Cortes, W Aviation
Ignacio Martinez, W Aviation
Steven Wherry, Wherry Law
Karen Cruitt, Prototype, Inc.

Communication to City Commission

Motion by Chair Gilbert, seconded by Mr. Zimmerman, for this Board to vote on communicating to the City Commission that transaction fees should not be part of the lease policy. In a roll vote, the Motion passed unanimously. (10-0)

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Gilbert called the meeting to order at 1:33 p.m.

ROLL CALL

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

• January 22, 2026 Minutes

Motion made by Mr. Zimmerman, seconded by Vice Chair Cooper, to approve the minutes of the January 22, 2026, meeting as presented. In a voice vote, the **Motion** passed unanimously. (10-0)

VOTING ITEMS

1. FDOT PTGA for Construction of Runway 9 Parallel Taxiways Extension - \$3,000,000

Mr. Khant Myat, Airport Engineer, provided the project overview. He noted that the estimated construction cost is \$6,108,100 and recommended approving the amendment and accepting \$3,000,000 in grant funding from the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT).

Motion made by Mr. Gavin, seconded by Mr. Ash, to approve the Public Transportation Grant Agreement Amendment and accept \$3,000,000 in grant funding from the Florida Department of Transportation for construction of the Runway 9 Parallel Taxiways Extension Project. In a voice vote, the **Motion** passed unanimously. (10-0)

2. FDOT PTGA for Construction of Runway 27 Bypass Taxiway and Run-Up Area Relocation Project - \$113,362

Mr. Myat provided the project overview. He noted that the estimated construction cost is \$4,534,466 and recommended accepting FDOT grant funding in the amount of \$113,362.

Motion made by Vice Chair Cooper, seconded by Mr. Ash, to approve the Public Transportation Grant Agreement with the Florida Department of Transportation in the amount of \$113,362 for construction of the Runway 27 Bypass Taxiway and Run-up Area Relocation Project. In a voice vote, the **Motion** passed unanimously. (10-0)

3. Renaming of FXE Administration Building to “William H. Crouch Airport Administration Building.”

Mr. Rufus James, Airport Director, presented the proposal and recommended approval to honor the extraordinary service, visionary leadership and lifelong dedication to public service of Mr. William H. Crouch, who was under hospice care at the time.

Motion made by Mr. Vratsinas, seconded by Mr. Gordon, to approve the renaming the Airport Administration Building the “William H. Crouch Airport Administration Building” in recognition of Mr. William H. Crouch’s exceptional service and contributions to the Airport and the aviation community. In a voice vote, the **Motion** passed unanimously. (10-0)

Mr. James clarified that the proposal would be presented to the Parks and Recreation Department prior to going before the City Commission.

UPDATE ITEMS

A. Noise Compatibility Program

Mr. Patrick Donnelly, Division Manager - Airport Operations, shared the January 2026 report. In January, there were 1,759 jet departures, with 915 of those from Runway 9. Three departures

were recorded over the 80-decibel threshold at Noise Monitor 2, none of which generated a noise submission. There were a total of 31 noise inquiries from 10 households.

B. Development and Construction

I. FXE Project Status Update

Mr. Donnelly reported that the master permit for the Aviation Equipment & Service (AES) Facility Expansion Project had been issued; he anticipated that work would commence March 2, 2026.

Mr. Donnelly noted that the Runway 13-31 Pavement Sealing Project was delayed due to weather; he anticipated that work would begin on March 6, 2026.

C. Arrearages

Mr. James advised there were no arrearages to report.

D. Communications to the City Commission

None

E. Other Items

Chair Gilbert introduced Olivia Anderson as the newest member of the Board.

I. Presentation of the Fort Lauderdale Executive Airport's (FXE) History, Economic Impact, Revenue, Capital Improvement Plan, and Leasing Policy

Motion by Mr. Zimmerman, seconded by Mr. Gordon, for the City Attorney, Shari McCartney, and Outside Counsel, Peter Kirsch of Kaplan Kirsch, to participate in the meeting via Zoom. In a voice vote, the **Motion** passed unanimously. (10-0)

Mr. Carlton Harrison, Assistant Airport Director, provided the presentation. Key points included the following: The Airport administers 37 leases [17 aviation and 20 non-aviation] that are expected to contribute approximately \$11.5 million in revenue towards the Fiscal Year (FY) 2026 budget of \$13.8 million. Airport expenses were estimated at \$10.3 million. The Capital expenditure is budgeted at \$15.8 million, of which \$12.3 million is grant funding. The Five-Year Community Investment Plan (CIP) projected \$45 million for Airport projects, with an estimated \$36 million to \$37 million funded through grants. The Airport would need to match just under \$9 million to achieve those grant obligations.

Mr. Harrison presented transaction or opportunity fees charged by other Florida airports to their tenants. He then opened the topic for discussion to obtain recommendations and feedback from the Board.

In his capacity as Outside Counsel, Mr. Peter Kirsch of Kaplan Kirsch provided national context; he stated that while leasing policies are not required, they were strongly encouraged as a best practice at all airports because they would ensure tenant equity as required by the grant assurances. He also stated that transfer fees are an industry standard and noted that the proposed amount is modest.

Motion by Mr. Vratsinas that a formal stakeholder group be established to study the lease policy development and transaction fees that we have been discussing, and that any final decisions or policy adoptions are presented to the City Commission. The group should include members of this Advisory Board, prime aviation tenants on the field, and sub-tenants on the field of aviation, prime non-aviation tenants, and FXE staff. The **Motion** failed for lack of a second.

City Attorney Shari McCartney noted that the role of the Board was to make recommendations, subject to the approval of the City Commission.

Mr. Vratsinas further explained the rationale for his motion. At the suggestion of Chair Gilbert, he and several members agreed to “table” his Motion for discussion later in the meeting.

Mr. Harrison clarified that while the fund balance was just over \$20 million, the Airport would need to pursue grant funding to sustain the present strong position documented in the recent Stantec study. He highlighted that the study was based on the expectation that grant funding would continue at current levels. He clarified that the study was projected through 2035 and did not include the proposed fees.

Vice Mayor John Herbst stated that the issue was before this Board at his request after he learned a transaction fee was included in two leases and the City Commission had not been apprised. He emphasized that new revenue streams are policy decisions under the purview of the City Commission and expressed concerns about the financial justification and apparent lack of involvement in the decision by Airport tenants. Vice Mayor Herbst stressed the importance of treating everyone equitably “across the board,” and that it was important to look at this from a policy perspective. He was in favor of a stakeholder group and did not agree that the proposed fee was ‘modest.’ Vice Mayor Herbst emphasized that it was “critical” to engage all the stakeholders and requested that Members take the time for due diligence to ensure success for all parties prior to providing their feedback to the Commission.

Rickelle Williams, City Manager, acknowledged that while tenant transactions were pending and a timely response was needed, the Stantec report had just been released. She encouraged Members to take the time to review and incorporate the stakeholder feedback prior to sending their recommendation to the Commission. Chair Gilbert was in favor of Ms. Williams suggestion and asked the Board to have their recommendations within the next 90 days.

Vice Chair Cooper seconded the **Motion** made earlier by Mr. Vratsinas to facilitate additional discussion.

Mr. Vratsinas distributed and then read a printed statement addressed to Mayor Dean Trantalis, the City Commission, the Aviation Advisory Board (AAB), and executive staff at FXE. Mr. Vratsinas stated that he had written the statement as a sub-tenant operating an aviation-related business at Fort Lauderdale Executive Airport, and a current member of the AAB. In the statement, which is part of the public record, he expressed concern that the proposed lease fees and related policies at FXE would impose a substantial financial burden on Airport tenants and their sub-tenants and referenced his Motion that the AAB establish a stakeholder group for inclusive collaboration prior to communicating with the City Commission.

Mr. Laughlin noted that, unrelated to the Motion, he had concerns that transaction fees would not offset a potential reduction in future grant funding. In his opinion, charging more for leases would be a more predictable source of revenue; he was opposed to charging a percentage of the transaction, or revenue of the company involved.

Mr. Gavin questioned the urgency of making a decision on this matter. During the discussion that followed, Mr. James clarified that FXE was in lease negotiation with one tenant with multiple leases; that prime tenant was Sheltair. He shared that subsequent to presenting the 2023 draft leasing policy, through engagement with outside counsel and other airports, it was evident that more should be incorporated into the policy. Feedback from Airport tenants had been solicited then provided to inside counsel, who engaged with outside counsel, for consideration regarding those fees and verbiage. Mr. James reiterated that Member feedback on the general leasing policy was needed and clarified that ground rent for aeronautical and non-aeronautical would be at fair market value.

The motion tabled earlier in the meeting was restated by Mr. Vratsinas:

Motion by Mr. Vratsinas, seconded by Vice Chair Cooper, to create a formal stakeholder group to study the leasing policy detail and make recommendations to this Board that can be recommended to the City Commission. In a roll vote, the **Motion** passed with nine votes in favor; Mr. Zimmerman abstained. (9-0-1)

Motion by Chair Gilbert, seconded by Mr. Zimmerman, for this Board to vote on communicating to the City Commission that transaction fees should not be part of the lease policy. In a roll vote, the **Motion** passed unanimously. (10-0)

The need for both motions was debated. City Attorney McCartney offered that the Motion to create a committee to review all aspects of the policy was independent of the second Motion which would communicate that the Board did not like the fee.

Vice Mayor Herbst indicated this would now go the City Commission for action, and suggested that the Board await the outcome to determine next steps.

II. Public Comments

Don Campion, Banyan Air, stated that he had been at this Airport for 47 years and noted that the policy changes being discussed had not been brought before the tenants that built and invested heavily in Airport infrastructure. He highlighted the breadth of services and important

contributions made by Banyan in partnership with Sheltair, and that the Banyan-Sheltair complex was ranked number one in the country by the Professional Pilot Survey; it was consistently in the top five of 3,000 airports nationwide. Mr. Campion emphasized that they accounted for over 1,000 jobs; spend over \$500,000 per year to attract customers and said a fee would be very prohibitive. He cited their \$35 million investment, and felt this issue needed much more discussion.

Neil Szymczak, Senior Vice President of Development, Sky Harbour Group, indicated that his company has had an interest in developing at FXE for several years. He acknowledged direct negotiations with existing tenants that wished to extend their leases and expressed an interest in seeing the new leasing policy include an RFP process so that other “non-income” entities can have an opportunity to bid and develop at the Airport. He highlighted the unique aspects of their home-based operation which was publicly traded and ready to deploy over \$400 million in cash. He expressed a desire to be at FXE.

Steven Wherry, Wherry Law, acknowledged that the 2023 draft leasing policy was a very dense and complicated document with a lot of subtleties which required careful consideration. He suggested the Board consider forming a subcommittee to continually evaluate it as Airport needs change. In his view, a transfer fee for new leases would not be a fair policy as that would be uneven in its application. Mr. Wherry stated that he did not represent Sheltair but felt that more than three years to get their lease renewed was a long time. It was his hope that the process implemented would not force other Airport users to continue waiting to have certainty.

Tony Sherbert, Sheltair Aviation, stated his appreciation for the conversation so far. He highlighted that Sheltair, one of the largest family-owned and operated FBO networks in the country, had been developing real estate at the Airport for decades and was embedded in the community. He noted that they are the longest standing, continuously operated prime lessee, and had invested tens of millions of dollars in developing hangars, FBO terminals, office buildings in addition to contributing countless dollars to the Fort Lauderdale economy. Mr. Sherbert noted that they started the process three years ago; if the transaction fee issue had been resolved two years ago, some of the revenue discussed would already have been flowing to the Airport given their investment of “tens of millions of dollars” in additional square footage and terms already agreed to. He was hopeful for an expedient resolution, as funds are ready to be invested.

Ignacio Martinez, W Aviation, stated that they were one of the FBO tenants looking to expand their lease by investing another \$8 million to \$9 million in the Airport. He felt that additional taxes would hinder efforts to continue expanding here on existing property, given that no more land was available.

Suzanne Jacob, Lofts of Palm Aire Village, acknowledged that this will be problematic in many ways. She did not think the Board should do it, and felt it was necessary to protect the existing tenants that have invested for decades in the Airport. Ms. Jacob stated that it would be an unfair tax, and the leases have been problematic for 30 years. She was opposed to Sky Harbour over

allowing existing tenants to expand. She referenced the runway expansion and their HOA meeting on March 12, 2026, and encouraged Members to protect current tenants.

Chair Gilbert expressed appreciation to the business owners present for their investment in the Airport and time taken to attend the meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 3:16 p.m.

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING DATE: Thursday, March 26, 2026, at 1:30 p.m.

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

[Minutes prepared by K. Cruitt, Prototype, Inc.]

February 26, 2026

**Honorable Dean J. Trantalis,
Mayor Vice Mayor/Commissioner John C. Herbst (District 1)
Commissioner Steven Glassman (District 2)
Commissioner Pamela Beasley-Pittman (District 3)
Commissioner Ben Sorensen (District 4)**

Fort Lauderdale City Commission
City of Fort Lauderdale
1 E. Broward Blvd., Suite 444
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301

Aviation Advisory Board

Fort Lauderdale Executive Airport
Attn: Airport Manager Rufus James
6000 NW 21st Avenue Fort Lauderdale, FL 33309

Re: Concerns Regarding Proposed Lease Fees at Fort Lauderdale Executive Airport (FXE) and Request for Stakeholder Review Process

Dear Mayor Trantalis, Honorable City Commissioners, Members of the Aviation Advisory Board, and FXE Airport Staff:

I am writing as a sub-tenant operating an aviation related business at Fort Lauderdale Executive Airport (FXE) and as a current member of the Aviation Advisory Board. I respectfully submit these comments for the public record and consideration in relation to the recent presentation on proposed lease fees and related policies at FXE.

In my opinion, this is a significant matter that would impose a substantial financial burden on airport tenants and their subtenants. The airport has been operating in a surplus for years—why is it necessary at this juncture to introduce what amounts to another hidden tax on tenants?

Every business at the airport already pays City of Fort Lauderdale Business Tax license fees (a form of tax). My on-field business pays the equivalent of \$2.95 per square foot to the City in this form every year.

While a new lease fee may be justifiable in principle, several key questions remain unanswered:

- Does a policy such as this proposed lease fee increase affect any FAA funding eligibility or compliance, including obligations under Airport Improvement Program (AIP) Grant Assurances (e.g., economic nondiscrimination, reasonable and not unjustly discriminatory rates/charges, or self-sustainability requirements for federally obligated airports)?
- Has any financial modeling or analysis been conducted to assess the potential impacts on airside tenant finances, including increased rents, additional occupancy costs, effects on subtenant viability, or broader operational sustainability?

I respectfully request that a formal stakeholder group be established to study the matter in detail before any final decisions or policy adoptions are presented to the City Commission.

This group should include:

- Members of the Aviation Advisory Board
- Prime aviation tenants on the field
- Sub-tenants (aviation)
- Prime non-aviation tenants
- FXE staff representatives

Such inclusive collaboration would ensure balanced input, transparency, full consideration of FAA compliance implications, and outcomes that support the long-term vitality of FXE as a premier general aviation facility and economic engine for our community.

Thank you for your attention to this important issue and for your ongoing stewardship of Fort Lauderdale Executive Airport.

Sincerely,



John Vratsinas
Member, Aviation Advisory Board
Fort Lauderdale Executive Airport (FXE)

APPOINTED OFFICERS (continued)

- A copy of the form must be provided immediately to the other members of the agency.
- The form must be read publicly at the next meeting after the form is filed.

IF YOU MAKE NO ATTEMPT TO INFLUENCE THE DECISION EXCEPT BY DISCUSSION AT THE MEETING:

- You must disclose orally the nature of your conflict in the measure before participating.
- You must complete the form and file it within 15 days after the vote occurs with the person responsible for recording the minutes of the meeting, who must incorporate the form in the minutes. A copy of the form must be provided immediately to the other members of the agency, and the form must be read publicly at the next meeting after the form is filed.

DISCLOSURE OF LOCAL OFFICER'S INTEREST

I, Barry Zimmerman, hereby disclose that on February 26, 20 26 :

(a) A measure came or will come before my agency which (check one or more)

- inured to my special private gain or loss;
- inured to the special gain or loss of my business associate, _____ ;
- inured to the special gain or loss of my relative, _____ ;
- inured to the special gain or loss of _____, by whom I am retained; or
- inured to the special gain or loss of _____, which is the parent subsidiary, or sibling organization or subsidiary of a principal which has retained me.


(b) The measure before my agency and the nature of my conflicting interest in the measure is as follows:

I did not feel comfortable voting on this motion.

If disclosure of specific information would violate confidentiality or privilege pursuant to law or rules governing attorneys, a public officer, who is also an attorney, may comply with the disclosure requirements of this section by disclosing the nature of the interest in such a way as to provide the public with notice of the conflict.

Feb 26, 2026

Date Filed

 Barry Zimmerman
02/26/26 04:27 PM EST

Signature

NOTICE: UNDER PROVISIONS OF FLORIDA STATUTES §112.317, A FAILURE TO MAKE ANY REQUIRED DISCLOSURE CONSTITUTES GROUNDS FOR AND MAY BE PUNISHED BY ONE OR MORE OF THE FOLLOWING: IMPEACHMENT, REMOVAL OR SUSPENSION FROM OFFICE OR EMPLOYMENT, DEMOTION, REDUCTION IN SALARY, REPRIMAND, OR A CIVIL PENALTY NOT TO EXCEED \$10,000.

PACKAGE CERTIFICATE



FORM 8B.PDF

2 pages

Form 8B.pdf

2 pages

E-SIGN INFO



Status:

SIGNED

Originator:

BARRY ZIMMERMAN
bz777pilot@gmail.com
IP: 76.128.69.212
Domain: bhgfirst.brokermint.com
Date: Feb 26, 2026 04:27 PM

Package ID:

DE30666BD8D540DC6AE195EE7EC0D169

Time zone:

EST (UTC-5)

Signers:

BZ

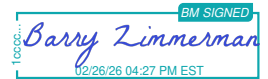
BARRY ZIMMERMAN
BARRY ZIMMERMAN

bz777pilot@gmail.com
IP: 76.128.69.212

Signed

Feb 26, 2026 04:27 PM

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HISTORY

Feb 26, 2026	04:27 PM	BZ	BARRY ZIMMERMAN	bz777pilot@gmail.com	IP: 76.128.69.212	Viewed
Feb 26, 2026	04:27 PM	BZ	BARRY ZIMMERMAN	bz777pilot@gmail.com	IP: 76.128.69.212	Signed
Feb 26, 2026	04:27 PM		Package has been fully signed and sealed			Completed

UPDATE ITEM A

DATE: April 23, 2026
TO: Aviation Advisory Board
FROM: Rufus A. James, Airport Director
VIA: Carlton Harrison, Assistant Airport Director
BY: Patrick Donnelly, Division Manager – Airport Operations
SUBJECT: Executive Airport – Noise Compatibility Program

This update comprises the reports for February and March 2026.

February 2026

Fort Lauderdale Executive Airport (FXE) recorded 1,515 jet departures, with 952 departing from Runway 9. Noise Monitoring Terminal #2 recorded six departures that exceeded the 80-decibel (dB) threshold; none of which generated a noise submission. A total of 24 noise inquiries were received from nine households.

March 2026

FXE recorded 1,917 jet departures, with 1,696 departing from Runway 9. Noise Monitoring Terminal #2 recorded four departures that exceeded the 80-dB threshold; none of which generated a noise submission. A total of 42 noise inquiries were received from 11 households.

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



COOPERATIVE NOISE ABATEMENT EFFORTS

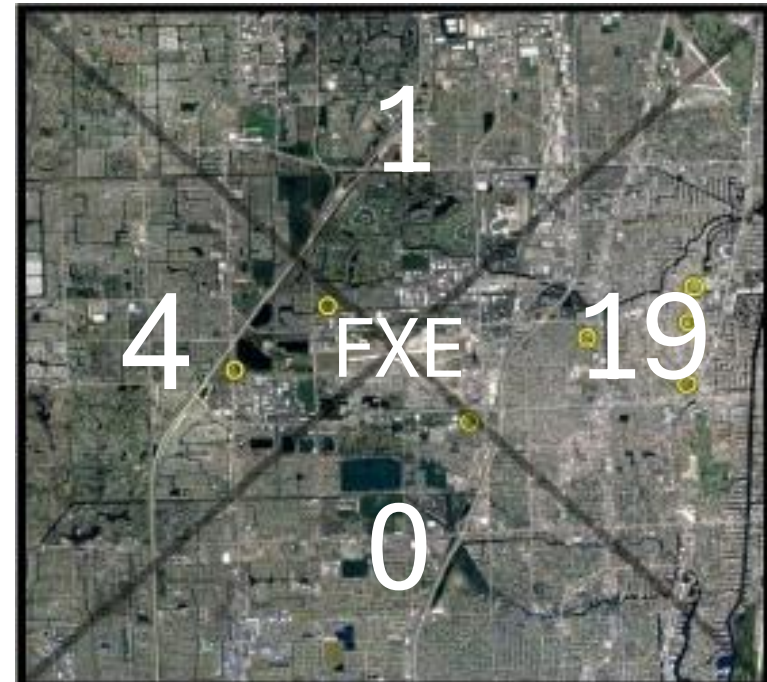
April 23, 2026

Month of February 2026

Jet Departures and Noise	Jan - 26	Feb - 26
Total Departures	1759	1515
Runway 27 Jet Departures	833	551
Runway 9 Jet Departures	915	952
Runway 13/31 Jet Departures	11	12
Runway 9 Jet Departures, I-95 Turns	532	565
Runway 9 Jet Departures %, I-95 Turns	58%	59%
Jet over 80dB at Monitor #1	74	37
Jet over 80dB at Monitor #2	3	6

Noise Reports	Jan - 26	Feb - 26
Number of Households - FXE Noise Only	10	9
Number of Reports - Jets	26	21
Number of Reports - Propellers Single-Engine	2	0
Number of Reports - Propellers Multi-Engine	2	2
Number of Reports - Helicopters	1	1
Number of Reports - Other Airports	0	0
Number of Reports - DT1	0	0
Total Number of Noise Reports for FXE	31	24

Noise Reports By Quadrant





COOPERATIVE NOISE ABATEMENT EFFORTS

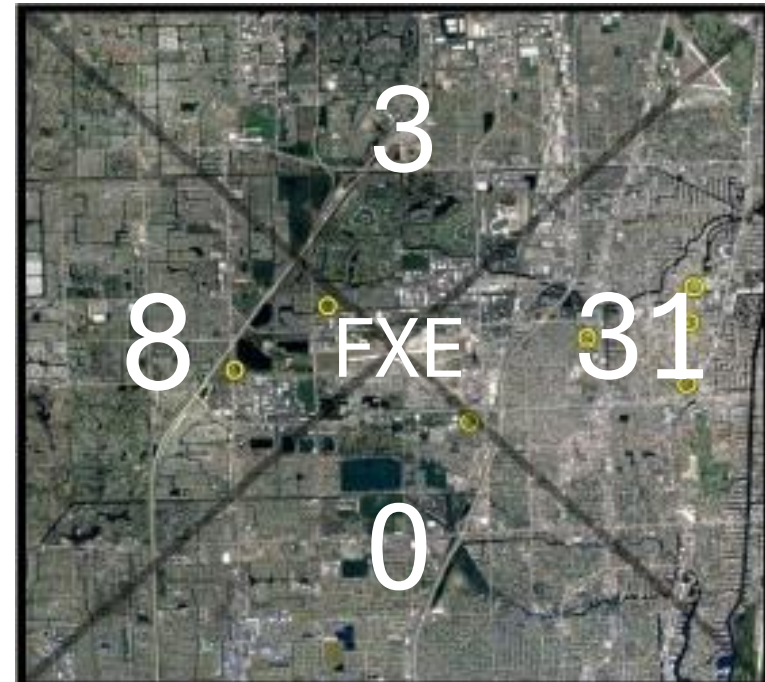
April 23, 2026

Month of March 2026

Jet Departures and Noise	Feb - 26	Mar - 26
Total Departures	1515	1917
Runway 27 Jet Departures	551	218
Runway 9 Jet Departures	952	1696
Runway 13/31 Jet Departures	12	3
Runway 9 Jet Departures, I-95 Turns	565	783
Runway 9 Jet Departures %, I-95 Turns	59%	48%
Jet over 80dB at Monitor #1	37	50
Jet over 80dB at Monitor #2	6	4

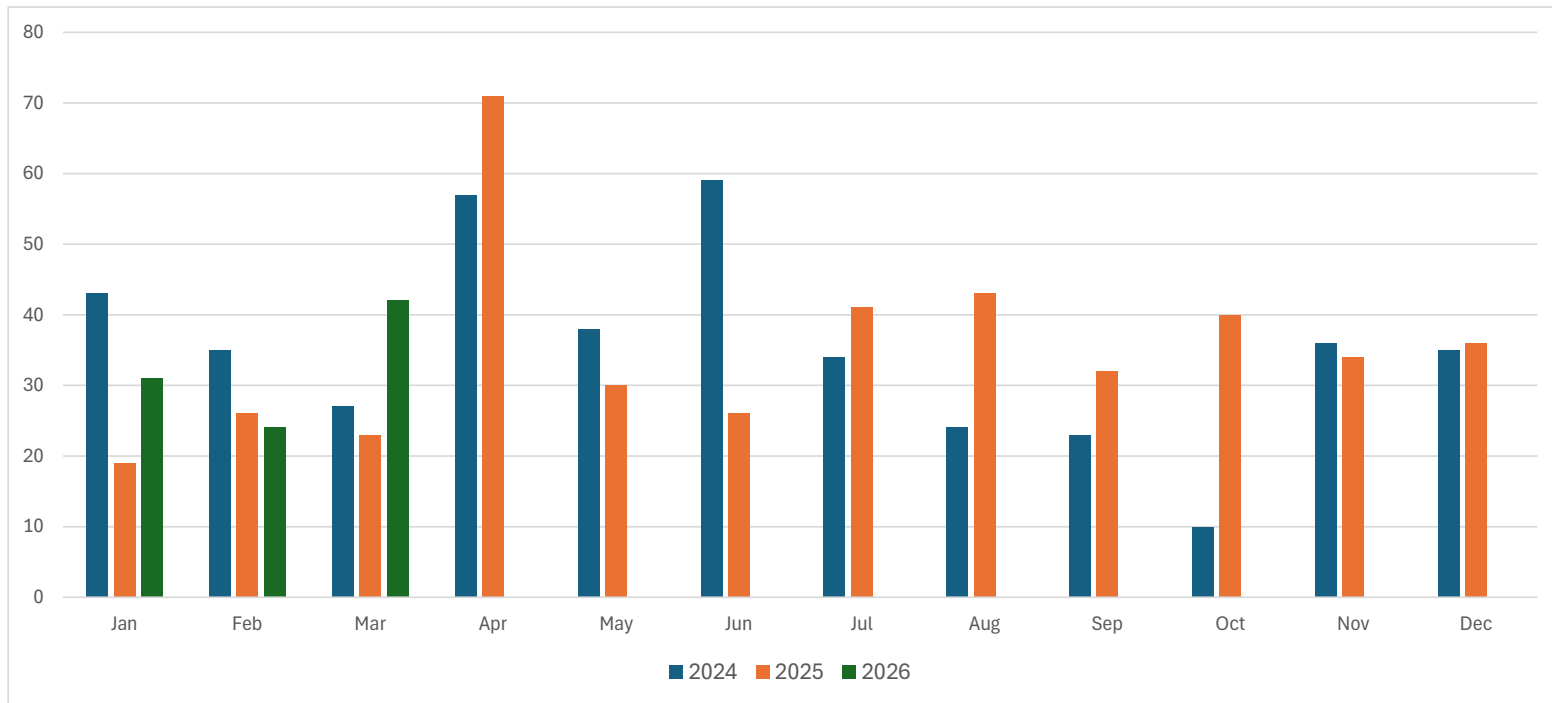
Noise Reports	Feb - 26	Mar - 26
Number of Households - FXE Noise Only	9	11
Number of Reports - Jets	21	37
Number of Reports - Propellers Single-Engine	0	1
Number of Reports - Propellers Multi-Engine	2	3
Number of Reports - Helicopters	1	1
Number of Reports - Other Airports	0	0
Number of Reports - DT1	0	0
Total Number of Noise Reports for FXE	24	42

Noise Reports By Quadrant

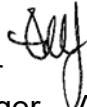


Year-Over-Year (YoY): Airport Noise Submissions

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Totals
2024	43	35	27	57	38	59	34	24	23	10	36	35	421
2025	19	26	23	71	30	26	41	43	32	40	34	36	421
2026	31	24	42										97



DATE: April 23, 2026
TO: Aviation Advisory Board
FROM: Rufus A. James, Airport Director
VIA: Patrick Donnelly, Division Manager – Airport Operations
BY: Benjamin J. Gatti, Airport Operations Specialist
SUBJECT: Development and Construction



12356 - FXE Aviation Equipment & Service Facility Expansion Project

The Aviation Equipment & Service (AES) Facility Expansion project is designed to add 4,000 square feet of interior workspace and storage capacity, while modernizing the existing site. Planned improvements include enhanced landscaping, an upgraded irrigation system, new LED lighting, refreshed flooring and paint, and upgraded security infrastructure.

Construction commenced on Monday, March 2, 2026. Earthwork has been completed and rebar has been placed in preparation for pouring the concrete pad. Once the pad is poured, the next phase will focus on vertical construction, including forming and installing structural columns with additional rebar placement.



12707- Runway 13-31 Pavement Sealing Project

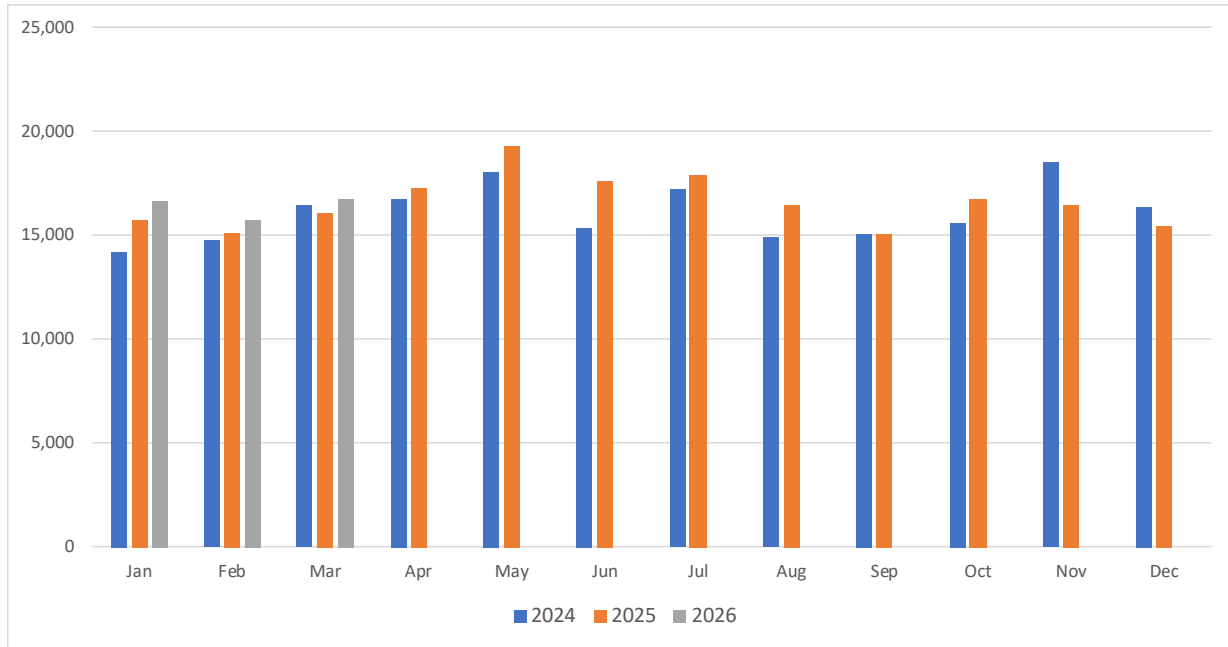
Phase 1 of the Runway 13-31 Pavement Sealing project commenced on Friday, March 6, 2026. Activities during this phase included cleaning and preparing the asphalt, removing existing paint markings, applying joint and crack sealant, administering surface treatment, and placing temporary paint markings.

Runway 13-31 was reopened on the evening of Monday, March 9, 2026, following completion of the initial work. Friction testing was conducted at intervals of 24 and 48 hours post-completion. Phase 2 commenced on Saturday, April 11, 2026, with the application of final paint markings. This phase concluded on the same day, at which time Runway 13-31 was reopened for operations.



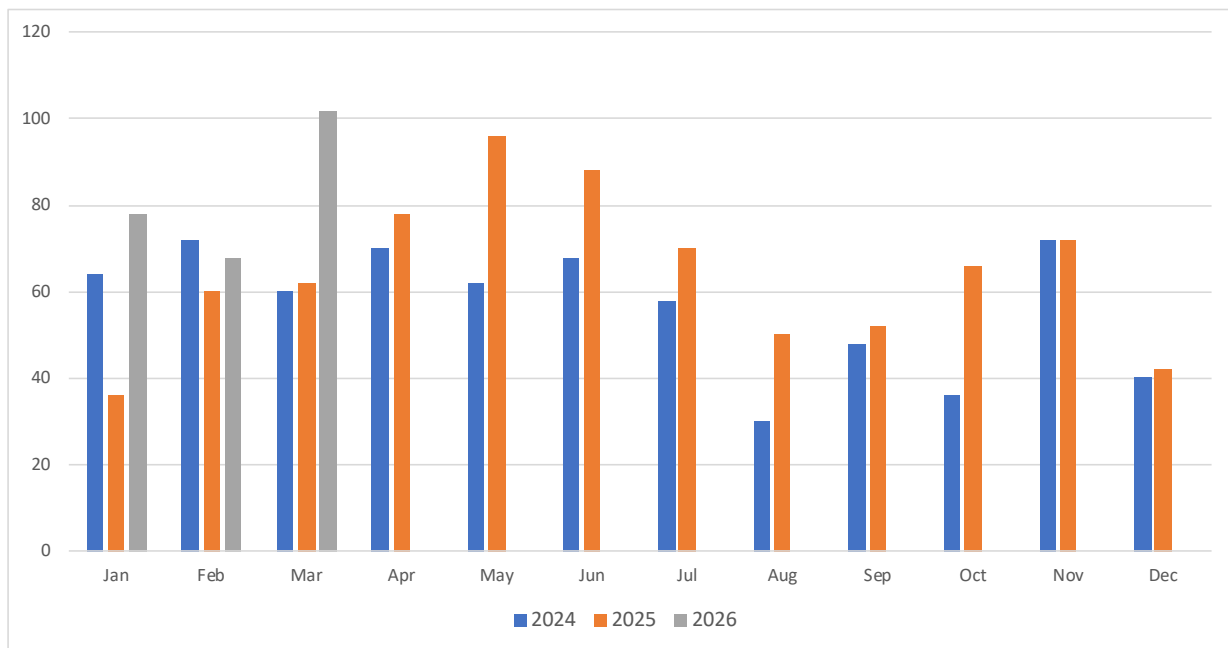
Year-Over-Year (YoY): Airport Operations

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Totals
2024	14,231	14,721	16,444	16,787	18,089	15,357	17,236	14,907	15,094	15,564	18,546	16,372	193,348
2025	15,773	15,122	16,046	17,326	19,274	17,589	17,915	16,435	15,063	16,755	16,422	15,454	199,174
2026	16,682	15,763	16,765										49,210



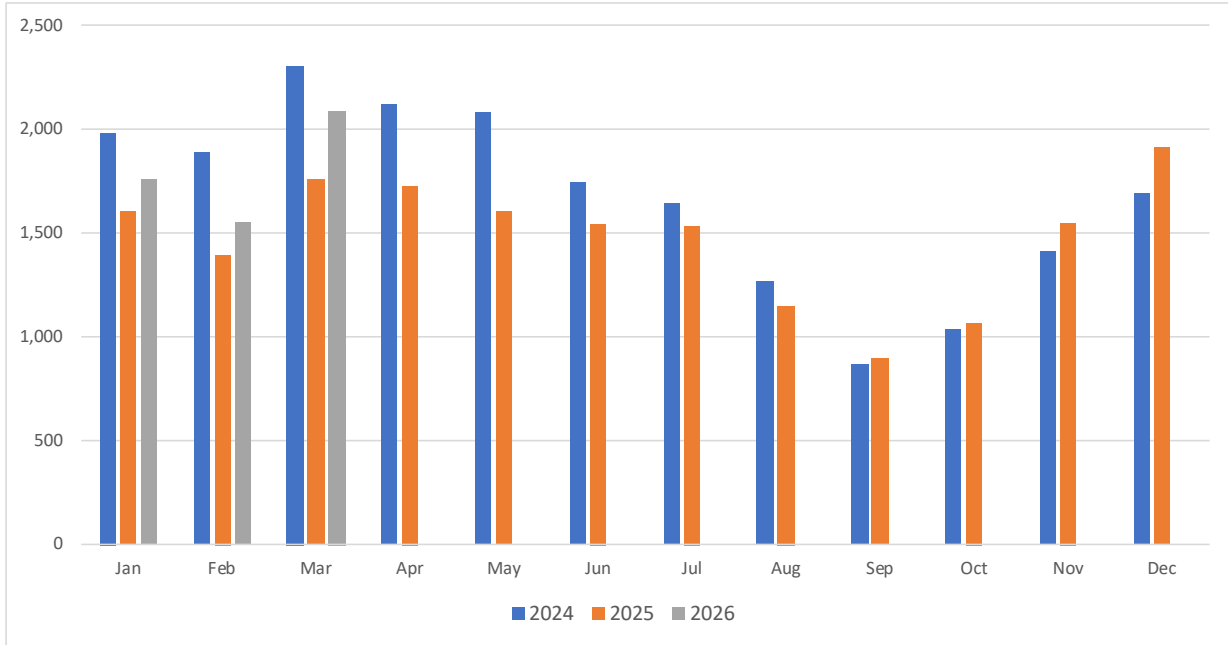
Year-Over-Year (YoY): DT1 Operations

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Totals
2024	64	72	60	70	62	68	58	30	48	36	72	40	680
2025	36	60	62	78	96	88	70	50	52	66	72	42	772
2026	78	68	102										248



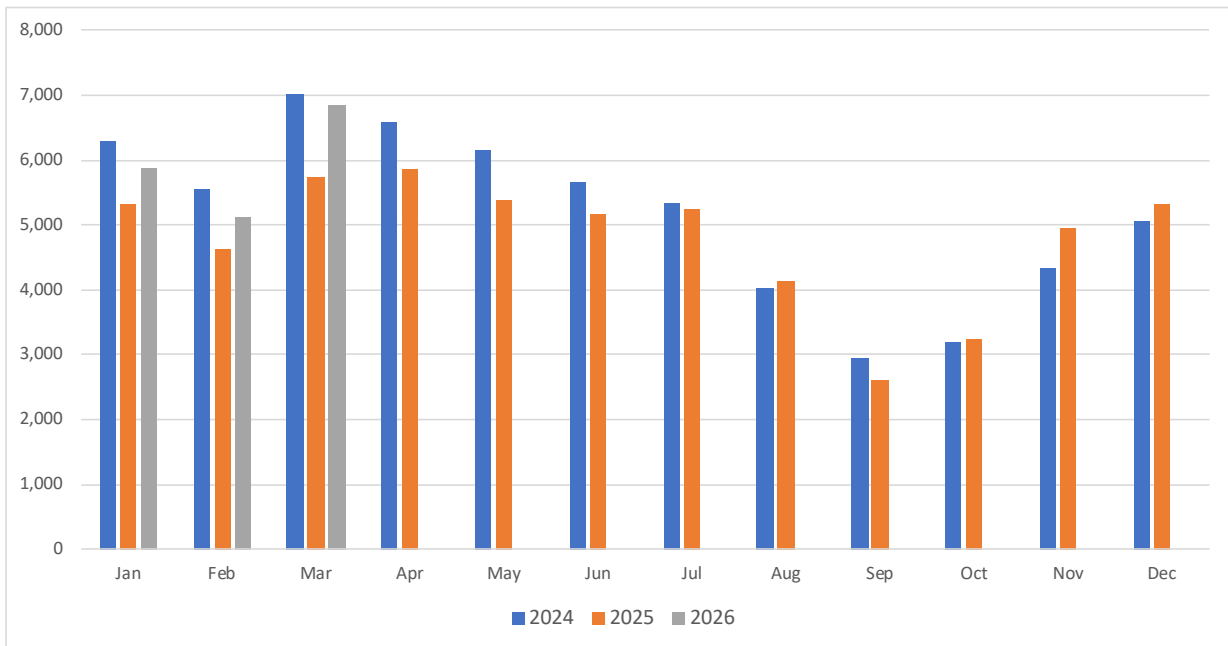
Year-Over-Year (YoY): Customs Aircraft Count

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Totals
2024	1,984	1,887	2,306	2,123	2,080	1,747	1,644	1,267	869	1,033	1,416	1,690	20,046
2025	1,605	1,399	1,756	1,728	1,606	1,542	1,535	1,148	898	1,064	1,555	1,914	17,750
2026	1,756	1,554	2,088										5,398



Year-Over-Year (YoY): Customs Passenger Count

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Totals
2024	6,300	5,561	7,023	6,600	6,160	5,649	5,335	4,025	2,954	3,198	4,331	5,066	62,202
2025	5,311	4,624	5,741	5,843	5,397	5,174	5,234	4,135	2,614	3,240	4,947	5,299	57,559
2026	5,876	5,119	6,849										17,844

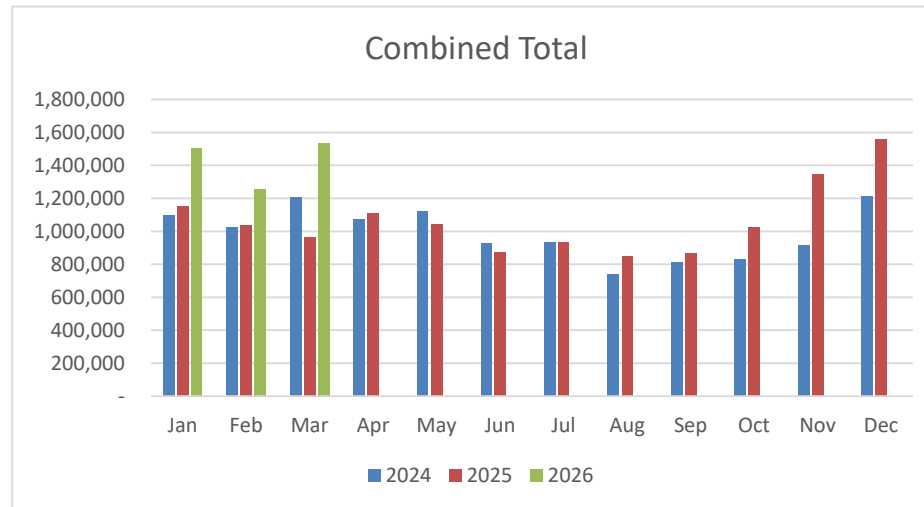
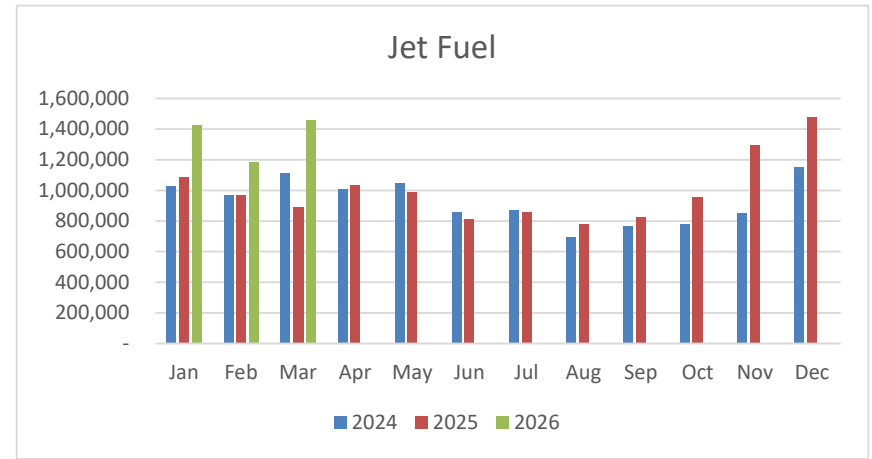
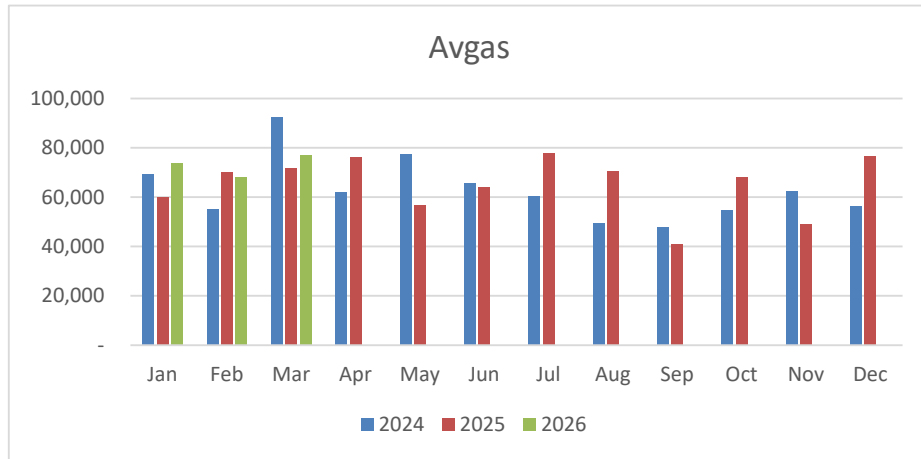


Date	Alert Level	Aircraft Type	Description
2/6/2026	I	Piper Cherokee	Flat Left Main Gear
2/23/2026	I	Beech Duchess	Flat Right Main Gear
2/28/2026	II	Learjet 45	Bird Strike

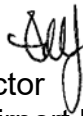
Date	Alert Level	Aircraft Type	Description
3/3/2026	I	Diamond DA40	Flat Left Main Gear
3/5/2026	II	Cessna Citation III	Bleed Air System Leak
3/17/2026	I	Beech 55 Baron	Flat Left Main Gear
3/18/2026	II	Hawker 800XP	Unsafe Gear Indicator
3/20/2026	II	Cessna Citation V	Engine Power Fluctuations
3/20/2026	II	Cessna 210	Unsafe Gear Indicator
3/20/2026	II	Cessna 402	Right Engine Out
3/28/2026	I	Piper Cherokee	Flat Right Main Gear

2024, 2025 & 2026 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	56,894	64,173	77,745	70,429	40,722	67,979	49,120	76,515	781,643
	Jet	1,090,127	967,870	892,884	1,036,532	986,791	810,737	857,423	779,131	828,032	954,806	1,296,346	1,480,919	11,981,598
	Total	1,150,121	1,037,954	964,550	1,112,854	1,043,685	874,910	935,168	849,560	868,754	1,022,785	1,345,466	1,557,434	12,763,241
2027	Avgas	73,575	68,061	77,117										218,753
	Jet	1,427,032	1,185,759	1,458,028										4,070,819
	Total	1,500,607	1,253,820	1,535,145	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4,289,572



UPDATE ITEM B.I.

DATE: April 23, 2026
 TO: Aviation Advisory Board 
 FROM: Rufus A. James, Airport Director
 VIA: Carlton Harrison, Assistant Airport Director
 BY: Khant Myat, Airport Engineer
 SUBJECT: FXE Project Update

PROJECT STATUS UPDATE FOR THE MONTH OF APRIL 2026

Project Number	Project Name	Funding Detail	Phase	Current Status
12522/12708	Runway 9 Run-Up Area	Total Project Cost: \$4,570,122 Funding: FDOT: \$251,830 FAA: \$ 4,048,500 Airport: \$269,792	Post-Warranty	City staff are closing the remaining purchase orders for the projects pending May 5th Commission meeting to close grant and then closeout by Finance. The warranty has expired.
12539	Taxiway Golf Pavement Rehabilitation	Total Project Cost: \$1,257,664 Funding: FDOT: \$1,076,352 FAA: N/A Airport: \$269,088	Post-Warranty	City staff are closing the remaining purchase orders for the projects pending FY25 Closeout Memo from Finance. The warranty has expired.
12521	Runway 31 By-pass Taxiway	Total Project Cost: \$1,243,277.19 Funding: FDOT: \$885,000 FAA: N/A Airport: \$358,277.19	Post-Warranty	City staff are closing the remaining purchase orders for the projects. Pending FY25 Closeout Memo from Finance The warranty has expired.

Project Number	Project Name	Funding Detail	Phase	Current Status
GHELIST21	Helistop Layout Plan and Construction Survey	Total Project Cost: \$151,203.43 Funding: FDOT: \$101,288 FAA: N/A Airport: \$101,288	Complete	The Layout Plan was completed in December of 2024 and has been approved by FDOT. City staff are closing the remaining purchase orders for the projects pending FY25 Closeout Memo from Finance
12355	Airport Drainage Improvements Phase 1	Total Project Cost: \$594,694 Funding: FDOT: \$540,000 FAA: N/A Airport: \$135,000	Warranty	Phase one of the project is complete, and the grant is closed out. All the POs are closed. The project will remain open for future phases.
12764	RW 9 Pavement Rehab	Total Project Cost: \$10,538,909.51 Funding: FDOT: \$528,196 FAA: \$ 8,800,000 Airport: \$1,210,713.51	Warranty	The construction is 100% complete. FAA's AIP grant will be closed out in April and FDOT grant will be closed out in May once the final reimbursement is received. The warranty is still in effect.
12970	2025 Helistop Fireproofing and Painting	Total Project Cost: \$167,529 Funding: FDOT: \$134,023 FAA: N/A Airport: \$33,506	Warranty	The project is complete. The FDOT grant will be closed in May. Currently the project is in the warranty phase.
12356	FXE AES Expansion	Total Project Cost: \$2,161,206 Funding: FDOT: N/A FAA: N/A Airport: \$2,161,206	Construction	Construction is currently in Week 7 of the project schedule. The contractor completed installation of reinforcing steel for the foundation slab on April 15, 2026. Substantial completion is anticipated in September 2026.

Project Number	Project Name	Funding Detail	Phase	Current Status
12770	FXE Decorative Street Post – Phase 2	Total Project Cost: \$418,859.20 Funding: FDOT: N/A FAA: N/A Airport: \$418,859.20	Construction	Currently one sign is remaining to be complete in order to close out the project. The remaining sign and bracket are now expected to arrive by June 9, 2026. Originally, it was supposed to arrive in a 2 - 3 week delivery window, and due to a manufacturing issue the delivery date was delayed to 16 weeks.
12813	Environmental Assessment (EA) for RW 9 Extension	Total Project Cost: \$500,000 Funding: FDOT: \$400,000 FAA: N/A Airport: \$100,000	Design	Currently, FXE/HDR is addressing comments from the second review by the FAA Regional and Legal Divisions. The second public meeting is anticipated to take place in late May 2026, and the FAA is expected to issue the Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) in August 2026. On December 18, 2025, FDOT extended the PTGA agreement through August 31, 2026. The project has been significantly delayed due to unforeseen changes in the FAA review process.
12707	Runway 13-31 Pavement Sealing	Total Project Cost: \$611,200 Funding: FDOT: \$391,200 FAA: N/A Airport: \$220,000	Construction	As of April 15, 2026, the contractor has completed the original scope of the contract. The contractor still needs to repaint the vehicle services area per FDOT comments. Construction completion is anticipated on April 30, 2026.
12706	Taxiway B and G Realignment	Total Project Cost: \$2,038,000 Funding: FDOT: \$1,633,600 FAA: N/A Airport: \$404,400	Bidding	The project is currently in the bidding phase, with the bid opening expected on May 18, 2026. Construction is anticipated to begin in August 2026, with project completion scheduled for June 2027.

Project Number	Project Name	Funding Detail	Phase	Current Status
12884	Taxiway Echo Pavement Rehabilitation	Total Project Cost: \$2,560,000 Funding: FDOT: \$2,048,000 FAA: N/A Airport: \$512,000	Bidding	The project is currently in the bidding phase, with the bid opening expected on May 15, 2026. Construction is anticipated to begin in August 2026, with project completion scheduled for June 2027.
12883	AES Apron Pavement Resurfacing	Total Project Cost: \$616,250 Funding: FDOT: \$493,000 FAA: N/A Airport: \$123,250	Bidding	The preconstruction meeting is scheduled for April 28. The Notice to Proceed (NTP) for construction will be issued in May. The contractor will begin Phase 1 work in September 2026, once the AES expansion project is complete.
23GARFF	FXE Fire Rescue Vehicle Replacement	Total Project Cost: \$1,200,000 Funding: FDOT: \$600,000 FAA: N/A Airport: \$600,000	Complete	The ARFF truck was delivered to the City on 8/26/2025 and arrived at FXE on 9/10/2025. The FDOT grant was closed in December 2025. City staff is closing out the project pending FY25 Closeout Memo from Finance.
12882	FXE Runway 9 Parallel Taxiway Extension	Total Project Cost: \$5,337,622 Funding: 5,337,622 (Anticipated BIL AIG grant – 95% FAA, 2.5% FDOT, at least 2.5% Airport) FDOT: \$113,362 FAA: \$5,070,742 Airport: \$153,518	Design	The 100% design plans were completed on January 31, 2026. As part of the runway extension project, bidding is anticipated once the FAA issues the Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for the Environmental Assessment (EA). The project design was completed in order to meet the FDOT grant funding deadline.

Project Number	Project Name	Funding Detail	Phase	Current Status
12540	Runway 27 Bypass Taxiways and Run-up Area Improvements	<p>Total Project Cost: \$5,337,622</p> <p>Funding:</p> <p>5,337,622 (Anticipated BIL AIG grant – 95% FAA, 2.5% FDOT, at least 2.5% Airport)</p> <p>FDOT: \$113,362 FAA: \$5,070,742 Airport: \$153,518</p>	Design	<p>The project is currently in the 100% design phase. Bidding is anticipated in May 2026, with bid opening expected in late June. The City will apply for an FAA AIG grant for this project; the FAA has already programmed funding for FY 2026 for up to 95% of the construction cost. FDOT has issued the PTGA grant agreement for up to 2.5% of the construction cost. Construction is anticipated to begin in September 2026.</p>

UPDATE ITEM C

DATE: April 23, 2026
TO: Aviation Advisory Board
FROM: Rufus A. James, Airport Director
SUBJECT: Arrearages



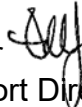
Rent

There are no arrearages to report.

Fuel Flowage

There are no arrearages to report.

UPDATE ITEM E.I.

DATE: April 23, 2026
TO: Aviation Advisory Board
FROM: Rufus A. James, Airport Director 
BY: Carlton Harrison, Assistant Airport Director
SUBJECT: Airport Leasing Policy Update

This update provides a summary of the recent measures adopted by the Fort Lauderdale City Commission regarding leasing policies at Fort Lauderdale Executive Airport (FXE). These efforts focus specifically on improvements to the Airport's administrative processes and the development of a formalized leasing framework.

At its meeting on March 19, 2026, the City Commission approved the removal of transaction fees associated with ground leases and property-related transactions at FXE. The Commission also authorized the formation of a working group to support the development of a formal Airport Leasing Policy for FXE. The working group will evaluate current practices, incorporate industry benchmarks, and prepare a standardized and transparent policy framework, with the support of legal counsel, for Commission consideration.

Aviation consultant, Kimley-Horn and Associates (KHA), has been selected to guide the working group through the policy development process. KHA will facilitate stakeholder discussions, organize technical input, and support the group's review of the proposed leasing policy.

Next steps include:

- Finalizing working group membership and establishing the initial meeting schedule
- Coordinating kickoff session and facilitating working group meetings
- Developing a draft policy timeline for review

The working group's efforts will culminate in the development of a comprehensive Airport Leasing Policy for Commission consideration. Staff will continue coordinating with KHA and City departments to ensure that the resulting framework supports transparency, consistency, and long term operational effectiveness at FXE.

UPDATE ITEM E.II.

DATE: April 23, 2026
TO: Aviation Advisory Board
FROM: Rufus A. James, Airport Director 
VIA: Carlton Harrison, Assistant Airport Director
BY: Chelsea Jones Finley, Division Manager – Airport Administration
SUBJECT: Community Events

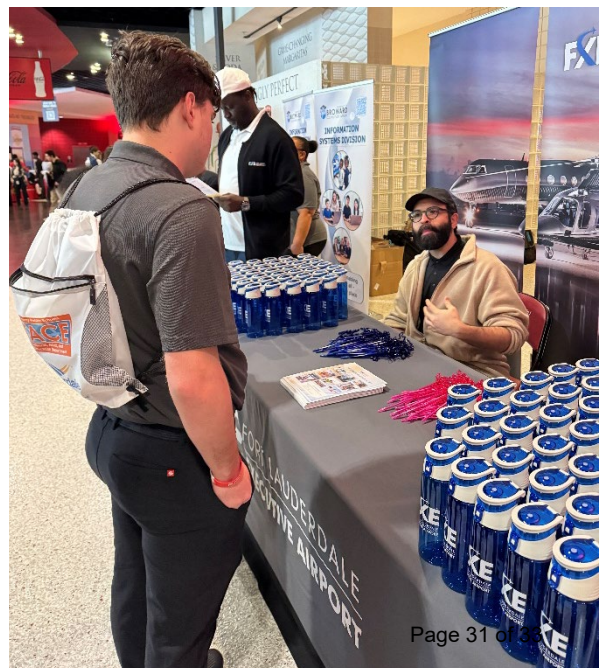
Claim Your Future Showcase 2026

The Fort Lauderdale Executive Airport (FXE) team participated in the 2026 Claim Your Future Showcase on Wednesday, February 25, 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 1,200 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 60 industry partners, explored career opportunities, and gained insight into essential qualifications for various professions. The FXE team also contributed to workshops and panel discussions focused on developing essential soft skills for workplace success.

[View the 2026 Claim Your Future Recap.](#)



CareerSource Broward 2026 World of Works Career Expo

CareerSource Broward, in partnership with the Broward County School Board, hosted the 3rd annual Worlds of Work (WOW) Career Expo for over 1,200 ninth- and tenth-grade high school students to explore dynamic career paths. The event occurred on Tuesday, March 4, 2026, 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 career experiences, from operating robots to piloting aircraft simulators. Fort Lauderdale Executive Airport served as a sponsor and exhibitor at the event.

"WOW is where students turn imagination into action," said Carol Hylton, President & CEO of CareerSource Broward. "When young people meet the professionals behind the careers, try the equipment, and learn more about the industries, they gain clarity and confidence. That is the spark WOW is built to create."

"WOW gives students a clear view of the careers behind the industries and employers a meaningful way to inspire the future workforce," said Jim Ryan, Chair of the Broward Workforce Development Board.

"WOW creates that moment of discovery and strengthens the connection between education, training, and real career goals in a powerful way," said Dr. Howard Hepburn, Superintendent of Broward County Public Schools.

[View the 2026 Worlds of Work Recap](#)



Flying Classroom 2026 STEMFest

On Saturday, April 11, Flying Classroom, in collaboration with Broward County Public Schools – Title I, Migrant, and Special Programs Department, and Fort Lauderdale Executive Airport, hosted the 2026 STEMFest. This annual event offered 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 simulators, conducted science experiments, created art, and interacted with various exhibits. They also explored static aircraft displays and interacted with the Airport's Aircraft Rescue and Firefighting truck.

In celebration of the Airport's eight-year history of hosting the event, Flying Classroom reintroduced 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 2026 STEMFest success was made possible by the dedication of over 50 volunteers and partners, including OSM Aviation Academy, W Aviation, Banyan Aviation, the Community Emergency Response Team, and the FXE staff. Feedback from attendees was overwhelmingly positive, with many calling it the best year yet.

