

City of Arts & Innovation

## AIRPORT COMMISSION MINUTES

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2024, 3 P.M.  
PUBLIC COMMENT IN PERSON/TELEPHONE  
ART PICK COUNCIL CHAMBER  
3900 MAIN STREET, RIVERSIDE, CA 92522

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PRESENT: Commissioners Alderette, Bloch, Gamblin, Greene, and Lightfeldt.

ABSENT: Chair Gibbs, Co-Chair Randleman and Commissioner Vazquez

STAFF PRESENT: Daniel Prather, Michael Dean.

The Airport Commission convened the meeting at 3:08 p.m.

### ELECTION OF CHAIR PRO TEM

Commissioner Alderette volunteered to become the Chair Pro Tem. The Commission unanimously approved Commissioner Alderette's appointment with no discussion.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

### ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE AUDIENCE

There was no one wishing to address the Commission.

### CONSENT CALENDAR MINUTES

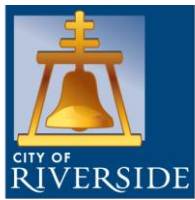
A motion was made by Commissioner Gamblin and second by Commissioner Greene to approve the Consent Calendar as presented. The Commission approved item 3 with no discussion.

### DISCUSSION CALENDAR

Unexcused absences

October 2024 Airport Manager's Operations and Activity Report-Dr. Daniel Prather/Airport Manager

Airport Manager Daniel Prather started his report by updating the Commission on airport operations and financials ending in August of this year. Prather discussed some highlights



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which included the awarding of the \$791,604 FAA AIP Grant for the rehabilitation of Taxiway Alpha.

Prather continued his report by informing the Commission of an airport grant submittal to the Department of Transportation to develop 24 EV charging stations estimated at \$5 million dollars.

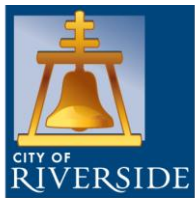
Prather continued with his report by informing all about the continued efforts on Doolittle Avenue. Prather spoke about some in house parking lot improvements in front of ATP Flight School and California Aviation Services respectively.

Prather concluded the September Airport Managers Report by updated the Commission on recent City Council actions which included the Terminal Restroom Renovation Agreement and the FAA Grant Award for the Taxiway A Rehab Project.

Commissioner Gamblin asked if the increase in aircraft operations in August was related to the flight schools on the field. Prather did confirm that the surge most likely stems from school being back in session after the summer break. Gamblin asked for clarification on how flight schools pay the airport as was it specific to the number of students enrolled. Prather stated that enrollment was not a factor, and revenues generated from the airport's current flight schools are from space leasing and tiedown space rental. Prather then discussed about a future request for proposal to evaluate rates and fees currently at the airport.

Commissioner Lightfeldt asked who accumulates the traffic numbers specifically transient visitors. Prather specified that all operations numbers come from the Air Traffic Control Tower which includes based aircraft as well as transient. To document transient aircraft is rather difficult in the sense of aircraft operations form a controller standpoint. Lightfeldt wanted to know of any updates on the airport name change and the goal to enhance and attract business and visitors to the airport. Prather updated the Commission that the name change has been deferred but the focus of the airport continues to explore positive impacts.

Commissioner Gamblin asked if the tower was still experiencing staffing issues. Prather confirmed that the tower is still understaff but staffing issues are nationwide. Prather did see advertisements of hiring controllers to help elevate the ongoing issue.



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Commissioner Alderette asked about revenue generating options such as landing fees and if that would have a negative impact on the airport. Prather agreed the charging landing fees could have a ripple effect and not be considered.

Commissioner Greene asked for an update on the Arlington Mixed Use Project at the old Sear Building. Prather confirmed the City Council approved the project to develop on the current site.

Following discussion and without formal motion, the Commission received and ordered the file of items 4-6.

### COMMUNICATIONS

UPDATES OF CONFERENCES, SEMINARS, AND REGIONAL MEETINGS ATTENDED BY COMMISSIONERS

None currently

ITEMS FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION

None currently

The Airport Commission adjourned at 3:44 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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MICHAEL DEAN  
Airport Operations Coordinator