Airport Commission

City of Arts & Innovation

TO: **AIRPORT COMMISSIONERS** **DATE: MAY 14, 2026**

FROM: **AIRPORT** **WARD: 3**

SUBJECT: **AIRPORT MANAGER'S OPERATIONS AND ACTIVITY REPORT**

ISSUE:

Receive and file the May 2026 Airport Manager's Operations and Activity Report, which includes January-March 2026 aircraft operations data, July 2025 to March 2026 financial data, and review of airport highlights and events.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Airport Commission receive and file the May 2026 Airport Manager's Operations and Activity Report.

BACKGROUND:

The Airport Manager's Operation and Activity Report informs the Airport Commission (Commission) on operational performance, City Council actions, events, meetings and other matters affecting the Riverside Airport (Airport).

DISCUSSION:

This update includes information about Airport operations, financials, and highlights.

Key Operational and Financial Statistics

Aircraft Operations:

Aircraft Operations			
Prior Year to Date Versus Current Year To Date	**Jan-Mar 2025**	**Jan-Mar 2026**	**Year to Date**
	31,147	32,641	+4.7%
Prior Year Month Versus Current Year Month	**March 2025**	**March 2026**	
	12,446	11,723	-5.8%

NOTE: FAA air traffic statistics are reported on a calendar year basis

For the first three months of 2026, aircraft activity increased by 4.7%compared to the same period in 2025. While March 2026 operational activity is down 5.8% from March 2025, 2026 is projected to be a strong year.

Financials:

Airport Financials July 01, 2025 – March 2026					
	OPERATING BUDGET		ACTUAL	% TO GOAL	Projection Through End of FY
Expenditures[1]	$	2,272,319.32	$ 1,334,168.40	58.7%[3]	$2,272,319.32
Revenues[2]	$	2,274,000.00	$ 1,969,292.95	86.6%	$2,500,000.00
[1] Includes adjustments and encumbrances [2] Preliminary figures as of 3/31/26 [3] 75.0% complete with FY					

Nine months into the current fiscal year, expenditures are 16.3% below budget, while revenues are 11.6% above projections. Expenditures will track closer to budget with the completion of several upcoming projects (e.g., marquee installation) funded from the operating budget, whereas revenues will likely continue tracking above budget as the airport continues to diversify revenue streams, perform maintenance work in-house, and actively pursue the collection of outstanding invoices.

Highlights

Public Works Partnership
To fully prepare for the Aerospace Expo, the Airport teamed up with the Department of Public Works to remove deteriorating stairs and gravel sidewalk leading to the entrance of Commemorative Air Force. The Public Works team then poured new contacted stairs and concrete pathway, which greatly enhanced the safety and aesthetics of the entrance. We are grateful for their partnership.

Aerospace Expo
On April 25, 2026 the second annual aerospace Expo was held. The community was invited to this event to learn more about career pathways in aviation/aerospace, as well as opportunities with flight schools and on-airport businesses. The event was well attended and appreciated by all in attendance. We look forward to hosting the third annual Aerospace Expo in Spring of 2027!

Plant Bingo
To celebrate Earth Day, the airport hosted plant bingo on April 22, 2026. Approximately 85 attendees participated, with each winner receiving a free plant. The event successfully brought the community together for a fun and engaging morning of bingo, using bingo materials provided by the Riverside Airport Cafe. Two airport commissioners also joined by calling bingo games, adding to the event's lively and fun atmosphere.

Concrete

New concrete was poured in front of the terminal on April 22, 2026. This concrete improved areas of bare ground that were once unused planters.

Signage

Per the control tower's request, a new airfield sign was installed leading from the runway 27 run-up area to taxiway Alpha via taxiway Charlie. According to the tower, pilots at times did not realize that permission was required to taxi from the run-up area to runway 27 for departure. The runway 27 run-up area is located in the non-movement area.

Recent City Council and Committee Actions:

- Title 12 revisions adopted.
- Waypoint Aviation 10-year lease
- Marque award bid

Upcoming City Council Actions

- CAVU 5-year lease
- Taxiway A Rehabilitation project change order. Original project amount was $775,559.00, and the added pay items total $88,843.75, representing an 11.45% increase to the overall project value. Original Council-approved change order authority was 10%.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact associated with receiving this monthly activity report.

Prepared by: Daniel Prather, Airport Manager
Approved by: Gil Hernandez, Interim Assistant City Manager

Attachment: Presentation