



City of Arts & Innovation

Airport Commission

City of Arts & Innovation

TO: AIRPORT COMMISSIONERS

DATE: FEBRUARY 12, 2026

FROM: AIRPORT

WARD: 3

SUBJECT: AIRPORT MANAGER'S OPERATIONS AND ACTIVITY REPORT

ISSUE:

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

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the Airport Commission receive this February 2026 Airport Manager's Operations and Activity Report.

BACKGROUND:

The Airport Manager's Operation and Activity Report is provided to inform the Airport Commission (Commission) about operations, City Council actions, events, meetings and other issues concerning the Riverside Municipal 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-December 2024	Jan-December 2025	Year to Date
Prior Year Month Versus Current Year Month	December 2024	December 2025	
	144,092	134,410 (I: 144,349)	-6.7% (-0.1%)
	9,681	8,802 (I: 9,546)	-9.0% (-1.3%)

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

For full-year 2025, flight activity declined 6.7% from the record set in 2024. When adding in overflights (which was counted in 2024 data), overall activity was flat at 0.1% increase. The airport averaged 283 daily operations in December. Counting for overflights, activity declined 1.3% from December the year prior.

Financials:

Airport Financials July 01, 2025 – December 31, 2025					
	OPERATING BUDGET	ACTUAL	% TO GOAL	Projection Through End of FY	
Expenditures ⁽¹⁾	\$ 2,153,238.06	\$ 800,308.23	37.2% ³		\$2,153,238.06
Revenues ⁽²⁾	\$ 2,274,000.00	\$ 1,194,310.42	52.5%		\$2,300,000.00
<small>(1) Includes adjustments and encumbrances (2) Preliminary figures as of 12/31/2025 (3) 50.0% complete with FY</small>					

Six months into the current fiscal year, expenditures are nearly 13% below budget, while revenues are 2.5% above budget. 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 airport continues exploring diverse revenue streams and actively pursues past due invoices for collection.

Highlights

Parflight Hangar Roof Replacement

The replacement of the Parflight hangar roof began on January 27. One of the original airport hangars, this project is a complete tear-off and installation of new roof. Additionally, the west wall roof of Waypoint Aviation will be repaired and the main terminal roof will be replaced as part of this project.

eVTOL efforts

At the request of the Airport Commission, airport staff are pleased to provide an update on the active efforts to recruit an eVTOL manufacturer/operator to the airport, specifically the westside. During the past 12+ months, airport staff (and members of the Community and Economic Development Department) have had discussions with Supernal and Joby. Supernal staff visited RAL multiple times and were hosted at the FAA Flight Standards District office for a meeting on airspace availability and test flight plans. Unfortunately, Supernal determined that the airspace is too congested for their planned test flights. Discussions are continuing with Joby, as well as other eVTOL manufacturers/operators.

Airport staff, in coordination with Community and Economic Development staff, responded to an RFI through GoBiz related to an eVTOL manufacturer searching for a CA airport at which to base operations. A final decision has not yet been made.

Learning Institute for Flight Technology (LIFT)

Councilmember Robillard was instrumental in securing the partnership of five local educational institutions to collaborate on developing a Learning Institute for Flight Technology at Riverside Airport. Airport staff are working with these partners and city management to explore a new home for this institute, possibly to include the soon-to-be renovated former FAA Flight Service Station facility.

Parties to the MOU include:

Alvord Unified School District
California Baptist University
Riverside City College
Riverside Unified School District
University of California Riverside

Economic Impact Study

To gather data in support of the Economic Development Plan, the consultant has begun data collection from all tenants, visiting pilots, and passengers. This data collection effort is in addition to data from all on-airport businesses. The goal is to quantify economic impacts of the airport to the community.

Upcoming events

- Quarterly Tenant meeting – Feb 19
- 2nd Annual Aerospace Expo – April 11
- 5th Annual Planes and Treats - October

Recent City Council and Committee Actions:

- Approved First Amendment to Master Agreement with Mead & Hunt, Inc., to increase compensation by \$500,000 from various current and future grant projects and operating accounts on an as needed basis for not-to-exceed \$1,000,000 for consulting, administrative services, and anticipated challenges associated with Airport Capital Improvement Projects - Riverside Municipal Airport - 6951 Flight Road
- Adopted a Resolution approving the name change of the Riverside Municipal Airport (KRAL) to the Riverside Airport (KRAL)

Upcoming City Council Actions

- Long-term 5-year agreement CAVU
- Long term 5-year agreement Commemorative Air Force
- Long-term 10-year agreement Waypoint Aviation

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