

Lunken Airport Oversight Advisory Board Meeting Minutes
August 11, 2025

Present: Anne Sesler, Susan Brownknight, Neil Tilow, Jeff McClean, James Murray, Elissa Pogue, Pete Riddle, Robert Roark

Also: Bob Vickrey, Mike Brenner, Anthony Cadle, Pedro Aguilera, Mike Driller, Peter Gockerman, Chris McIntyre, Matthew Manifold, Rick Miller, Patti Newberry, Roger Pelletier, J.J. Suarez, Ian Tholking, Anthony Vogel, Jon Wittoesch, Elaine Luchi

I. Roll Call

II. Approval of Minutes

The Minutes of the June 9, 2025 meeting were approved as written. Minutes are available at <https://www.cincinnati-oh.gov/dote/lunken-airport/lunken-airport-boards/>

III. Hotel Development Update

Anthony reported that a Lease Agreement and Development Agreement were approved by City Council, and these agreements are currently being routed for signatures. The project is scheduled to begin in early 2026 with completion by the end of 2027. The development will include hotel rooms, two event spaces, and a restaurant. The Board will be notified when the Agreements are executed.

IV. Operations Report

A decrease in operations in June is likely attributed to an intermittent Temporary Flight Restriction (TFR) that was issued when the Vice-President spent several days in Cincinnati. Operations in July increased when compared to the same period in 2024.

V. Financial Report

Revenues have increased, particularly Landing Fees. Expenses are also higher with costs of fleet repair and other contractual services having risen. Overall, Lunken is on track to have a Net Operating Income at the end of the fiscal year at or above last fiscal year. City staff are optimistic that the Strategic Business Plan (Item VII. below) will identify additional sources of income as happened when Landing Fees were reinstated.

VI. Customs Facility Update

A consultant has been retained to perform a site assessment of Lease Area 32 for a permanent Customs and Border Protection facility. A Feasibility Study and 30 percent of the design with cost estimates is due to be delivered to the City in early- to mid-October. The contractor has inspected the property and created a 3D graphic depiction. An environmental assessment will also be included. The deadline for completion of the facility is May 2027.

VII. Strategic Business Plan

A recommendation has been made to the City Manager for the selection of a contractor to prepare a Strategic Business Plan (SBP) for Lunken. After the agreement is signed by the City Manager, a work order will be generated. The Board and other stakeholders will participate in the preparation of the SBP.

VIII. Land Development

The decommissioning of Runway 3L/21R resulted in an available 6-acre parcel south of the former runway. The Request for Proposals (RFP) is scheduled to be advertised on August 28. The City expects a 2-month turnaround on responses and one month to evaluate the submissions. The available parcel is only being offered as the full 6 acres. There is more property available for development on the northern end of the Airport that will be advertised in the future.

IX. New Business

Jaime Edrosa resigned as Division Manager effective August 8. Bob Vickrey, Deputy Director, and Mike Brenner, Supervisor of Operations, will perform his duties until a Manager is hired. Advertisement of the position was expedited and is currently open for applications on Neogov (human resource management company serving the public sector). A committee including Bob and others will screen the applicants and create a short list of candidates to be interviewed by the Director of the Department of Transportation and Engineering. City Human Resources has reported that several applications have been received.

Elissa reported that she continues to receive noise complaints from residents of Mt. Washington and Anderson Township. These noise events appear to primarily involve the flight schools. Jaime spoke to the Air Traffic Control Tower Manager, and the Tower Manager is working with the flight schools. Tower staff are attempting to vary the training pattern when safely possible. Board members may refer citizens with noise complaints to Bob.

Submitted by Elaine Luchi
Lunken Airport Administration

Next meeting: Monday, October 13, 2025 4:00 p.m.- 5:00 p.m.