

**Lunken Airport Oversight Advisory Board Meeting Minutes
December 8, 2025**

Present: Anne Sesler, Susan Brownknight, Neil Tilow, Elissa Pogue, Pete Riddle, Robert Roark, Jane Sites

Also: Bob Vickrey, Mike Brenner, Anthony Cadle, Nathan B., Dave Crockett, Matthew Manifold, Jeff Mayerle, George Stinson, J.J. Suarez, Andy V., Jon Wittoesch, Elaine Luchi

- I. Roll Call
- II. Approval of Minutes
The Minutes of the October 13 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 Development Agreement and long-term Lease are being routed through City Hall for signatures. The developer will begin selective demolition in February or March to identify any potential issues. It will be at the discretion of the van Rooyen Group if there will be a groundbreaking or other commemoration marking the beginning of the project. The City will post conceptual drawings on its website if the developer will allow.
- IV. Operations Report
Operations decreased in October and increased in November in comparison to 2024. The Airport is on pace to have 115,000 total operations in Calendar Year 2025.
- V. Financial Report
Although expenses have increased in Fiscal Year 2026 (which began July 1), revenues have also grown. The Airport's Landing Fees and the renewal of leases using appraisals, Consumer Price Index, and industry standards have contributed to the gains.
- VI. Customs Facility Update
The consultant has completed the design portion of the Feasibility Study to repurpose Lease Area 32 (422 Wilmer Avenue) to accommodate Customs and Border Protection (CBP) offices and storage of the Airport's snow removal equipment. Once City Council allocates capital funds, a Work Order will be issued to continue design development and construction.
- VII. Strategic Business Plan
A contract with Woolpert was signed and a kick-off meeting was held in November. The purpose of this plan is to examine the commercial aspects of Lunken and provide the Airport with business goals for the long-term. The consultant will seek input from the Board, and there will be at least one Open House for the communities to be updated and provide comments. The East End Community Council volunteered to host, suggesting it be held at LeBlond Recreation Center and/or the Pendleton Historic Center. As stated in the last meeting, the City is not considering removal of the recreation area for aviation purposes.

VIII. Land Development

The City received six responses to the Request for Proposals for development of the 6-acre parcel south of former Runway 3L/21R (Lease Area 58), and they were ranked by a selection committee. Interviews will be conducted with at least the top three respondents.

IX. New Business

Nine interviews were conducted for the Airport Manager position, and the list was narrowed to three finalists. The new Manager will begin in mid-January. When an official announcement is made, the Board will be updated with more details.

Lunken's 100th Anniversary celebration has been postponed. It will be on the agenda of future Board meetings.

A question was raised regarding the potential for a National Historic designation for the Lunken Terminal. While both the City and the developer recognize and appreciate the terminal's historic significance, it is doubtful that the facility would qualify for national designation due to modifications to the original layout and footprint. However, should the developer wish to pursue such a designation, the City would have no objection.

Submitted by Elaine Luchi
Lunken Airport Administration

Next meeting: Monday, February 9, 2026 4:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.