

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR LINDSEY P. HORVATH

May 5, 2026

Enhancing Safety at Whiteman Airport

On Monday, April 20, 2026, a single engine propeller aircraft crashed in Pacoima, outside Whiteman Airport, while trying to land. While making its descent, the aircraft hit a power line and then crashed into a parking lot on a commercial corridor that is adjacent to residences. The pilot, the only person in the plane, was injured and is receiving medical care. No other people were injured. When the power lines were hit, power was lost in the area causing many homes and businesses to be disrupted. The crash has caused great consternation and concern in the community, as well.

The cause of the crash is not yet known. The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) are investigating. Since the FAA oversees and regulates civil aviation, they are an important partner in determining what safety measures need to be put in place. NTSB typically takes between 6 to 18 months to produce the final report that identifies the probable cause of the incident and any safety recommendations. The County must expeditiously get answers from our federal government partners to have complete information on the causes and what additional actions the County can take, if any, to enhance community safety.

MOTION

MITCHELL _____

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In June 2024, the County took important steps by introducing unleaded fuel and implementing a voluntary nightly curfew from 10pm to 6am. Building on these strategies, the County must continue to evaluate what other actions can be taken to further increase safety and protect the community. Given the urgency and importance of always ensuring the County is doing everything possible to further increase safety, it is critical that the County proceeds expeditiously to continue to ensure safety and well-being.

I, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors:

1. Suspend Section 22.1 of the Rules of the Board for the limited purpose of considering this motion.
2. Direct the Department of Public Works to identify immediate actions the County can take to further strengthen safety at Whiteman Airport, building on the recommendations developed by the Community Advisory Committee. These recommendations should include timelines, costs and revenue sources in a written report back in 7 days.
3. Direct Department of Public Works to report back in writing in 7 days on:
 - a. An outline of responsibilities across jurisdictions, including the FAA, NTSB, Los Angeles County Department of Public Works, City of Los Angeles, and Los Angeles Department of Water and Power.
 - b. FAA regulations specifically related to aircraft and pilots.

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