

Enhanced Safety Measures at Whiteman Airport

On April 20, 2026, a single-engine propeller aircraft crashed in Pacoima, outside of Whiteman Airport, while attempting to land. During its descent, the aircraft struck a power line and subsequently crashed into a parking lot along a commercial corridor adjacent to residential neighborhoods. The pilot, the sole occupant of the aircraft, was injured and transported to a local hospital.

On May 5, 2026, the Board of Supervisors approved a [motion](#) entitled “Enhancing Safety at Whiteman Airport,” which directed the Department of Public Works (Public Works) to identify immediate actions the County can take to further strengthen safety at Whiteman Airport by building upon recommendations developed by the Community Advisory Committee.

Public Works released its report back on May 18, 2026, identifying four safety recommendations that can be implemented immediately: (1) enhance pilot safety by sponsoring and coordinating quarterly Pilot Safety Seminars; (2) enhance airfield safety by completing a Capital Improvement Project to maintain runway and taxiway pavement

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conditions; (3) enhance community outreach regarding airport safety by utilizing media and other communications tools to improve public education, outreach, and collaboration; and (4) enhance aircraft operations compatibility and safety by conducting a Noise Compatibility Study for the airport.

Given the severity of this crash and the significant community concern regarding airport safety, the Board should receive a verbal update on the status of these recommendations and their anticipated implementation timelines.

I, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors direct the Department of Public Works to provide a verbal report on June 30, 2026, on the status of the safety measures proposed to be implemented pursuant to the May 5, 2026, motion, including anticipated timelines for completion, funding availability, implications for airport operations, and any barriers to implementation.

I, FURTHER, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors direct the Department of Public Works to immediately begin implementation of the following recommendations contained in its May 18, 2026 Board Report:

- 1) Enhance pilot safety by sponsoring and coordinating quarterly Pilot Safety Seminars;
- 2) Enhance airfield safety by completing a Capital Improvement Project to maintain runway and taxiway pavement conditions; and
- 3) Enhance community outreach regarding airport safety by utilizing media and other communications tools to improve public education, outreach, and collaboration.

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