



CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE

**AVIATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES
FORT LAUDERDALE EXECUTIVE AIRPORT
RED TAILS CONFERENCE ROOM
6000 NW 21 AVENUE, FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA
THURSDAY, JANUARY 25, 2024 – 1:30 P.M.**

Board Members	Attendance	Cumulative Attendance 7/2023 - 6/2024	
		Present	Absent
Mark Volchek, Chair	P	3	1
William Gilbert, Vice Chair	A	3	1
David Ash	A	2	2
Kelly Gordon	A	3	1
Dr. Jeff Johnson	P	3	1
Dr. Ed Kwoka	A	3	1
Robert Laughlin	P	4	0
Kevin Macelhaney	P	4	0
Valerie Vitale	P	4	0
John Vratsinas	A	3	1
Non-Voting			
Commissioner Marlon Bolton	P	3	1
Jeff Helyer, City of Oakland Park	P	3	1

Airport/City Staff

- Rufus A. James, Airport Director
- Carlton Harrison, Assistant Airport Director
- Chelsea Jones Finley, Airport Programs Manager I
- Khant Myat, Project Manager II
- Krystal Permanan, Airport Business Development Administrator
- Angelia Basto, Senior Financial Administrator
- Miguel Laca, Financial Administrator
- Linda Blanco, Senior Administrative Assistant
- Yadisel Ortiz-Rodriguez, Senior Administrative Assistant
- Katharine Lee, Intern

Others

- Michael Ray, National Lawyers Guild
- Tom Rowe, Atlantic Aviation
- Hugo Cortez, W Aviation
- Lionel Leon, W Aviation
- Debbie Puia, Lofts of Palm Aire
- Stephen Martin, AOPA
- Travis Werth, JM Family Enterprises
- Don Campion, Banyan Air Service
- George Desher, Resident of Lofts of Palm Aire

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Volchek called the meeting to order at 1:32 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Roll was called and a quorum was determined to be present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- **December 7, 2023**

Motion made by Mr. Laughlin, seconded by Mr. Macelhaney, to approve the minutes of the December 7, 2023, meeting as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

VOTING ITEMS

1. Public Transportation Grant Agreement with FDOT for the Design of Aviation Equipment Safety Building Pavement Rehabilitation Project

Mr. Myat provided the presentation and recommended Board approval.

Motion made by Dr. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Laughlin, to approve the Public Transportation Grant Agreement with FDOT for the Design of Aviation Equipment Safety Building Pavement Rehabilitation Project in the amount of \$87,000. Motion passed unanimously.

2. Public Transportation Grant Agreement with FDOT for the Design of Taxiway Echo Pavement Rehabilitation Project

Mr. Myat provided the presentation and recommended Board approval.

Motion made by Mr. Macelhaney, seconded by Mr. Laughlin, to approve the Public Transportation Grant Agreement with FDOT for the Design of Taxiway Echo Pavement Rehabilitation Project in the amount of \$204,800. Motion passed unanimously.

UPDATE ITEMS

A. Noise Compatibility Program

Ms. Permanan reported that in November, there were six aircraft exceeding the recommended decibel level at Noise Monitor 2 on Runway 9, but none generated any noise reports from the community. Ms. Permanan said in November, there were a total of 43 noise reports from residents. In December, there were two aircraft exceeding the recommended decibel level at Noise Monitor 2 on Runway 9, but these did not generate any reports from the community. In December there were a total of 22 noise reports from residents.

Ms. Permanan provided an update on the status of Noise Monitor 1. It had been inspected and approved by the City of Oakland Park. There was a delay regarding the permit sign-off because the pole had no physical address. Once the pole has an address, the permit will be approved by Broward County and the meter will be powered on by the contractor at which time the vendor will be able to install the noise monitor. She anticipated completion in March or April. The Monitor had been out of service since December 2020.

Mr. James remarked on the number of cold fronts in south Florida this year, resulting in more people opening windows and spending time on their patios, leading to an uptick in noise complaints, specifically on Runway 27.

B. Development and Construction

Mr. Harrison reported the Midfield Run-Up Expansion Project was progressing. He anticipated paving in the next few weeks and confirmed that the project was on schedule.

Regarding the Runway 9 Run-up Area Relocation and West end Improvements, Mr. Harrison said they had demolished the blast fence and were reshaping the end of Taxiway Alpha-1, which was closed. The next phase would begin in roughly 45 days.

Operational data was included in the Board packet. Mr. Harrison noted growth in operations and customs and that helistop use was the same.

C. Arrearages

There are currently no rent or fuel flowage arrearages.

D. Communication to the City Commission

None

E. Other Items

I. 2024 Achievements in Community Excellence Awards

Ms. Jones Finley said the Airport hosted the 2024 Achievements in Community Excellence Awards on January 18, which provided them the opportunity to express gratitude to anyone who assisted the Airport in becoming a premier global general aviation airport. It was also an opportunity to recognize companies and individuals who significantly impacted the Airport, the City and neighbors.

Ms. Jones Finley reported this year's Green Champion award was presented to WeatherTech, for its commitment to Green initiatives. The ACE award was presented to Atlantic Aviation for its outstanding support of the Airport, the community and general aviation. Ms. Jones Finley displayed several photos from the event.

Ms. Jones Finley said Captain Barrington Irving, a trailblazer in aviation and the owner of Flying Classroom, a Miami-based non-profit organization, had addressed the attendees. Mr. James stated Mr. Irving had been one of the youngest people to fly solo around the world. After that, he started the Flying Classroom, flying around the county and introducing kids to STEM studies. He created the Barrington Irving Technical Training School just last year, and the first class of 15 graduated in December 2023. Mr. James said every graduate had a job in aviation waiting when they graduated. At the ACE event, Mr. Irving announced he wanted to bring the Flying Classroom to FXE. He was in discussion with tenants for

classroom and shop space, as well as aircraft for the kids to work on. Mr. James showed a brief video about the school.

Mr. James announced that Challenge Air would host its annual event on Saturday, January 27. He thanked Banyan and Don Campion for allowing them to use hangar and ramp space for this activity. Mr. James said this event was open to youngsters with physical challenges and offered them the opportunity to experience flight. He appreciated watching the kids start out being nervous but seeing joy on their faces when they returned from the flight.

Mr. James announced Dr. Johnson now has a doctorate.

Mr. James introduced Katharine Lee, intern. Ms. Lee said she is studying Aviation Management at Lynn University, she currently holds her private pilot certificate, and is working on her instrument rating.

Mr. James requested Board members allow time to visit the three current Airport project sites and some tenant improvements after the next meeting.

II. Public Comments

Don Campion, Banyan Air Service, said 17 planes, 23 pilots and over 100 kids signed up for the Challenge Air event. Mr. Campion said Banyan Air was entering its 45th year and it is a privilege and their duty to provide services that benefit the community. He thanked the Board for providing ideas and approvals for the investments in the Airport. He noted Banyan was voted #1 in America by the Pro Pilots' survey in 2023 and thanked FXE management and the Board for making the Airport what it is.

Michael Ray said he lives in Palm Aire Lofts by the water plant and stated the planes that flew over his home made a lot of noise and dropped lead. He asked about flight paths. Mr. James described the noise studies the Airport had conducted and said they considered all ways to fly safely and to avoid flying over residential communities. He noted that it is up to the FAA to determine which proposals were mandatory and which would be voluntary. He stated that FXE is the first airport in the county to have a noise abatement program. Mr. James noted that there is a number of operators who use the Airport but are not based here therefore, they may not be aware of the Airport's noise abatement program. He also mentioned that the majority of planes that are based at the Airport do follow the noise abatement program.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 2:10 p.m.

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING DATE: Thursday, February 22, 2024, at 1:30 P.M.

Any written public comments made 48 hours prior to the meeting regarding items discussed during the proceedings have been attached hereto.

VOTING ITEM 1

DATE: February 22, 2024
TO: Aviation Advisory Board
FROM: Rufus A. James, Airport Director
SUBJECT: First Amendment to Lease Agreement- Parcel 8H JM Family Automotive LLC



JM Family Automotive LLC (JM Family) leases Parcel 8H at Fort Lauderdale Executive Airport (FXE) which consists of 5.13 acres (223,561 square feet) of General Aviation Airport zoned property located on the northwest portion of the Airport (Exhibit 1). The Lease originally commenced on April 1, 1985, for a 40-year term, and was amended in 2023 under new terms that include a twelve-year extension and two ten-year options to extend.

The property has been improved with the construction of two large hangars totaling approximately 27,600 square feet, approximately 7,800 square feet of office space, a fuel farm, and associated aircraft and automobile parking. The current annual rent for the property is \$644,569 and is subject to annual Consumer Price Index (CPI) Adjustments.

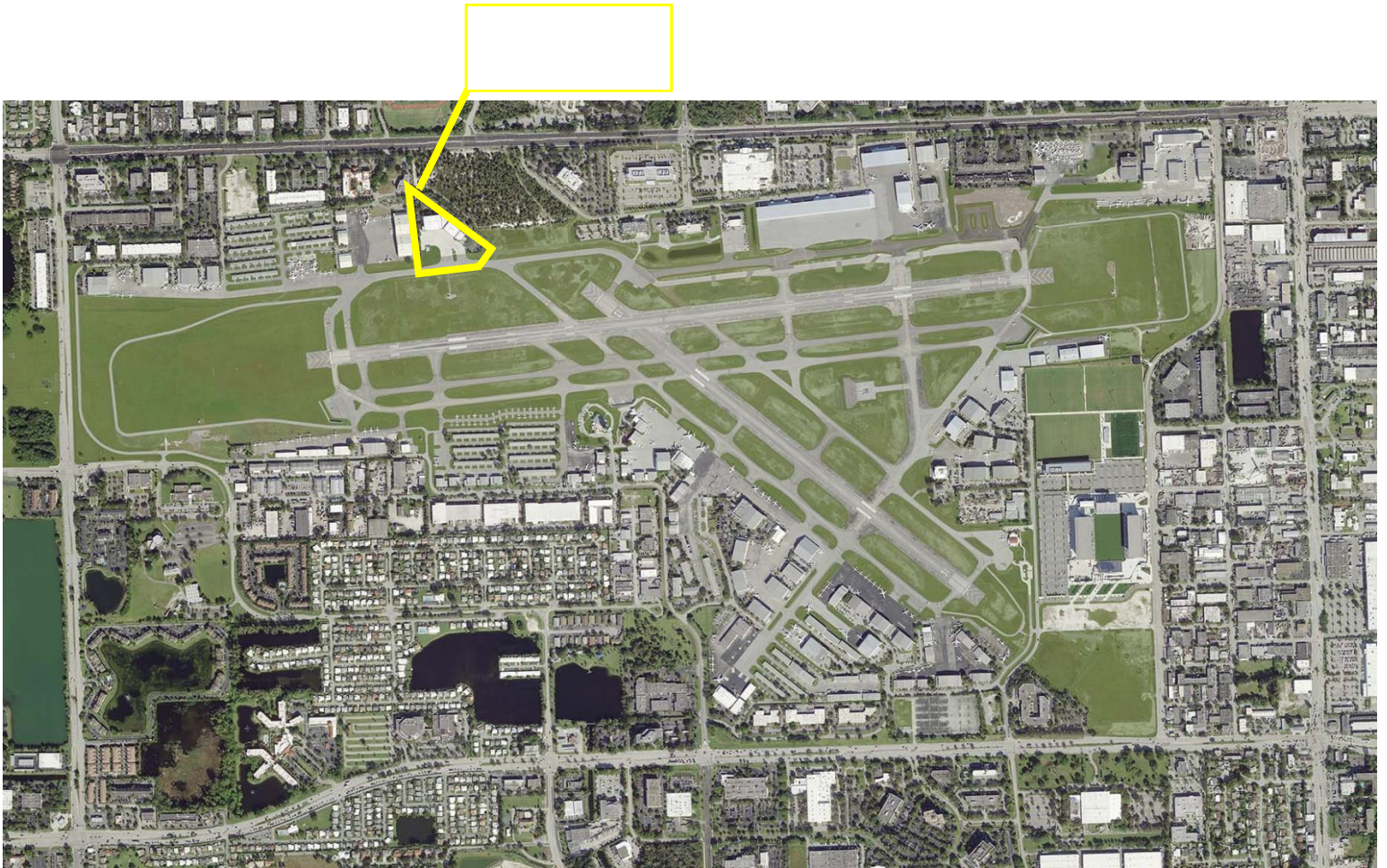
A First Amendment to the Lease Agreement is being proposed which entails the addition of approximately .24 acres (10,454 square feet) of Airport right-of-way. Currently, the right-of-way road provides access only to Parcel 8H, which is used as a vehicle entryway to the JM Family leasehold. The addition of this road will allow the tenant to make additional improvements with enhanced landscaping and a secure gate system and ensure uninterrupted access to their leasehold (Exhibit 2).

The Airport will benefit from this lease amendment, which will generate additional revenue totaling approximately \$6,273.40 annually, and is subject to annual CPI adjustments. Additionally, this does not require capital investment from the Airport but will fulfill the long-term goals for JM Family to have a defined and secure entrance to their leasehold, which is inherent to their long-term operations at FXE.

Staff Recommendation

Staff recommends approving the Lease amendment with JM Family Automotive LLC for Parcel 8H which will include the addition of approximately .24 acres (10,454 square feet) of an existing Airport right-of-way access road.

**VOTING ITEM 1
EXHIBIT 1**

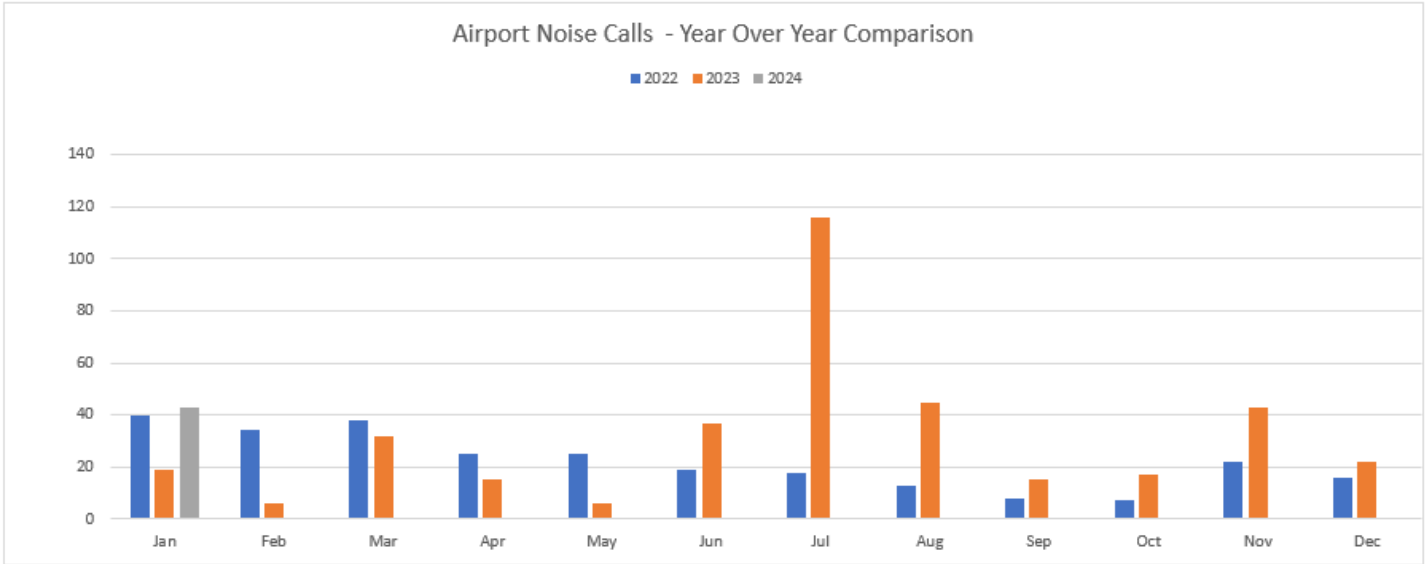


**VOTING ITEM 1
EXHIBIT 2**



Airport Noise Calls: Year-Over-Year Comparison

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Totals
2022	40	34	38	25	25	19	18	13	8	7	22	16	265
2023	19	6	32	15	6	37	116	45	15	17	43	22	373
2024	43												43



COOPERATIVE NOISE ABATEMENT EFFORT

Month of January, 2024

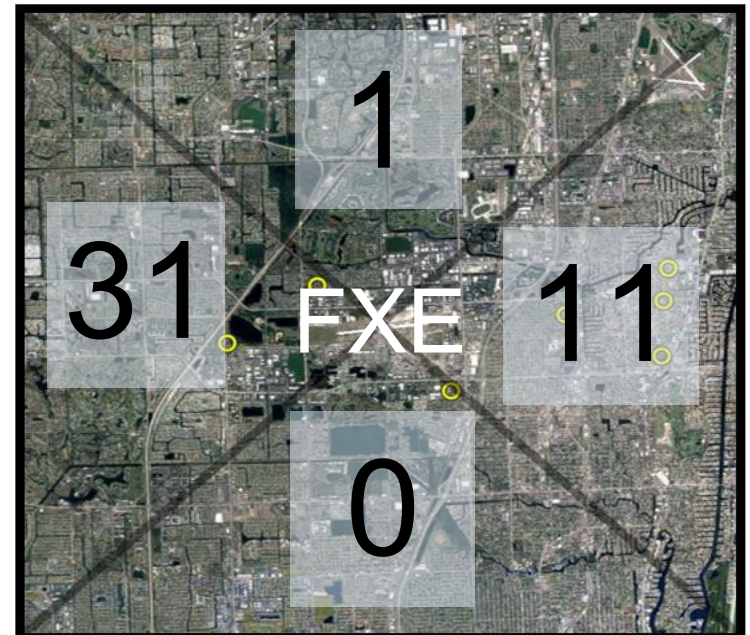
February 22, 2024

Jet Departures and Noise	Dec-23	Jan-24
Total Departures	1279	1282
Runway 27 Jet Departures	583	547
Runway 9 Jet Departures	693	727
Runway 13/31 Jet Departures	3	8
Runway 9 Jet Departures, I-95 Turns	427	371
Runway 9 Jet Departures %, I-95 Turns	62%	51%
Jet over 80dB at Monitor #1	*	*
Jet over 80dB at Monitor #2	2	8

Noise Reports	Dec-23	Jan-24
Number of Households - FXE Noise Only	11	10
Number of Reports - Jets	7	17
Number of Reports - Propellers Single-Engine	12	13
Number of Reports - Propellers Multi-Engine	3	11
Number of Reports - Helicopters	0	0
Number of Reports - Unknown AC Category	0	2
Number of Reports - Unmatched	0	1
Number of Reports - DT1	0	0
Total Number of Noise Reports for FXE ¹	22	43

¹ The Total Number of Noise Reports for FXE excludes Number of Households and Unmatched Reports.

Noise Reports By Quadrant



Note: The equipment for Noise Monitoring Terminal (NMT) # 1 was removed on 12/12/2020 for deconstruction of Broward County's water tank tower. Broward County to reinstall noise monitor upon coordination with FXE, FPL and Envirosuite.

UPDATE ITEM B

DATE: February 22, 2024
TO: Aviation Advisory Board
FROM: Rufus A. James, Airport Director
BY: Benjamin J. Gatti, Airport Operations Specialist
VIA: Carlton M. Harrison, Assistant Airport Director
SUBJECT: Development and Construction



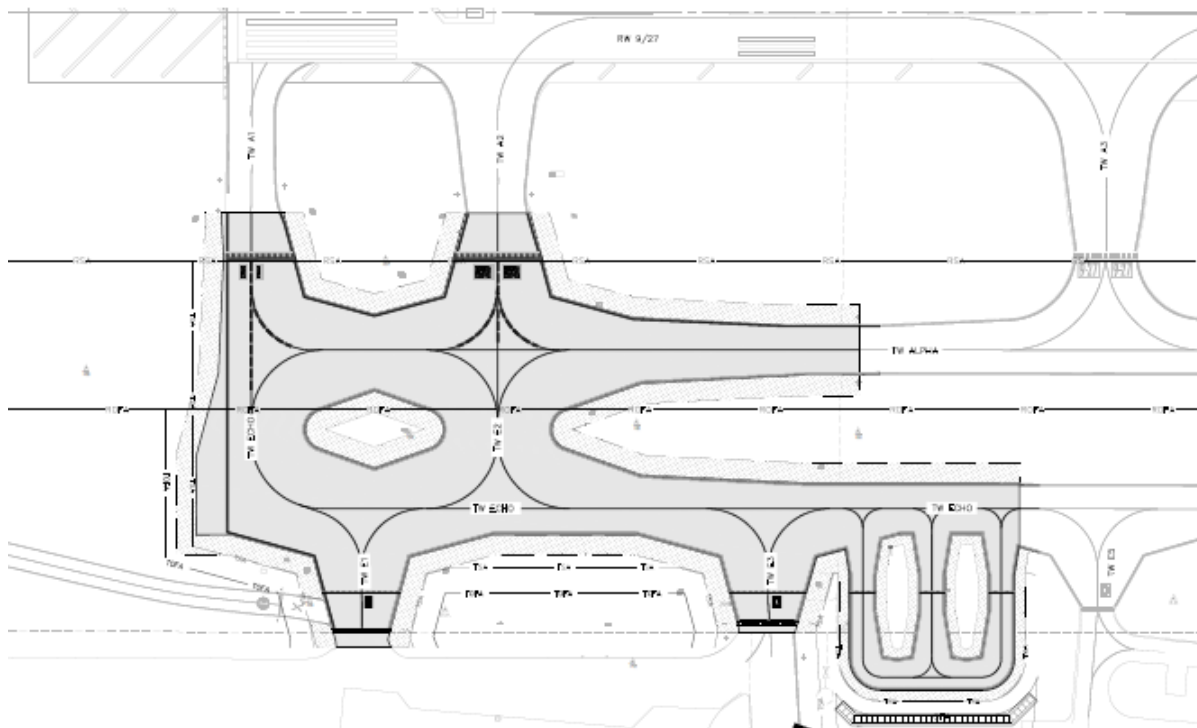
12474 – FXE Midfield Runup Area Project

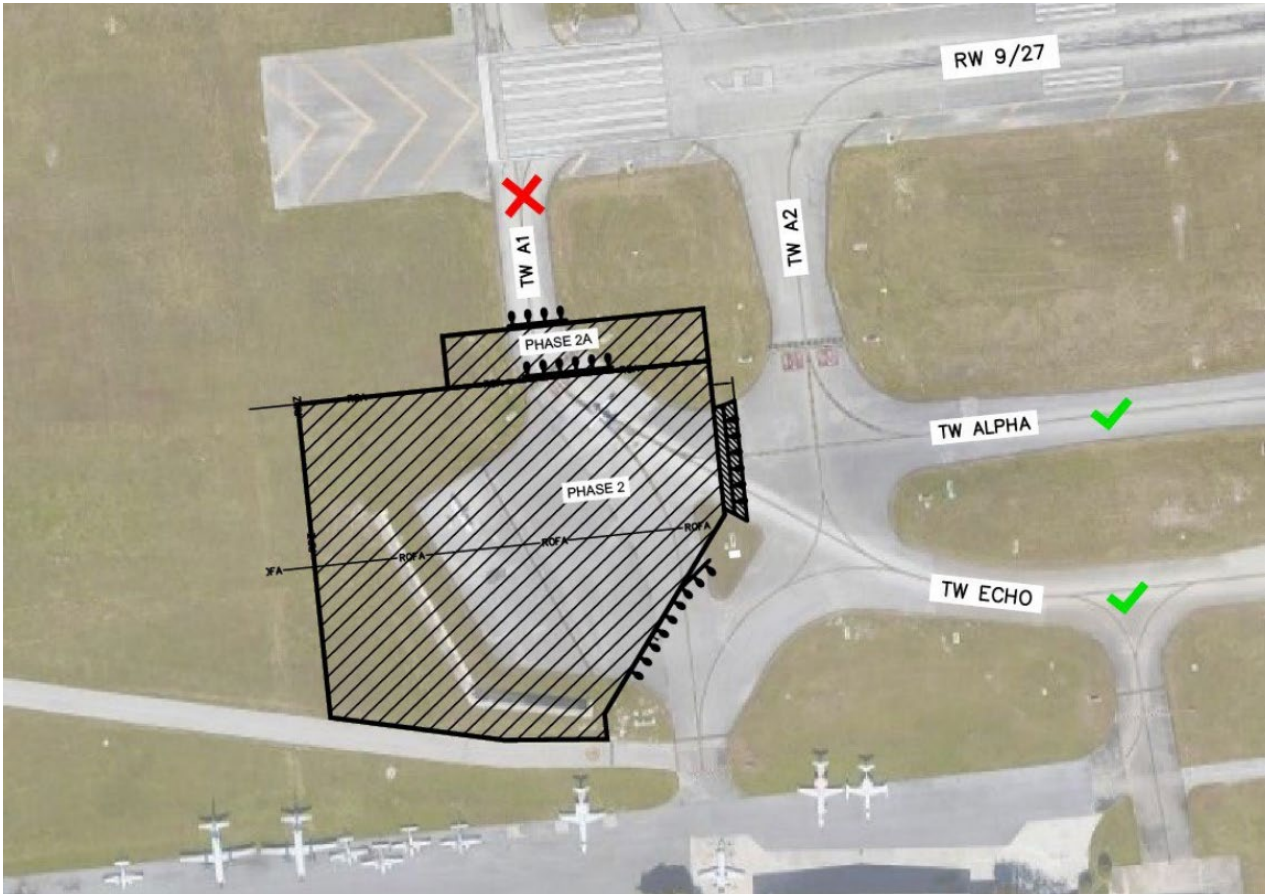
The expansion of the Midfield Runup Area from 54,000 square feet to 89,000 square feet with the addition of jet blast deflectors began on Monday, September 4, 2023. During the seven-month construction period, the Midfield Runup Area is closed to all operations. An alternate runup area for jets and large turbo-prop aircraft has been established on Taxiway Echo, between Taxiway November and Taxiway Delta or as designated by Air Traffic Control. Within the current phase, the two jet blast deflector concrete foundations have been poured along with the two concrete staging pads. Lime rock has been graded and compacted for all areas that will be supporting asphalt, and sod installation has begun.



12708 – FXE Runway 9 Runup Area Relocation and Southend Taxiways Project

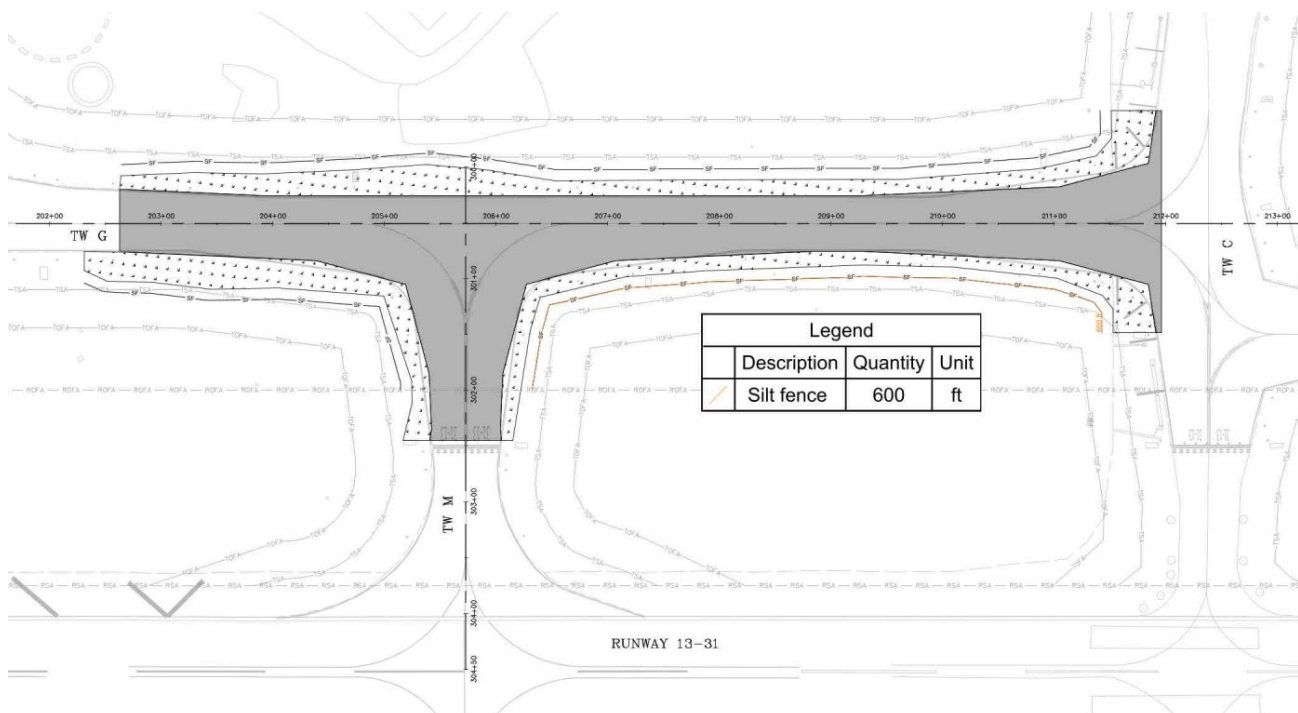
The purpose of the Runway 9 Runup Area Relocation and Southend Taxiways Project is to realign Taxiway Echo to adhere to modern FAA Advisory Circular standards for taxiways that intersect a runway. Construction began on December 11, 2023, with the closure of the Runway 9 Runup Area and the removal of the existing blast fence. The concrete slab under the existing blast fence has been removed, and re-grading is in progress. On Monday, January 8, 2024, Phase 2 of the project began. This phase will include the closure of Taxiway Alpha 1 in preparation for paving. Aircraft requiring a full-length Runway 9 departure can request to line up at Taxiway L on the north side or back taxi from Taxiway Alpha 2.

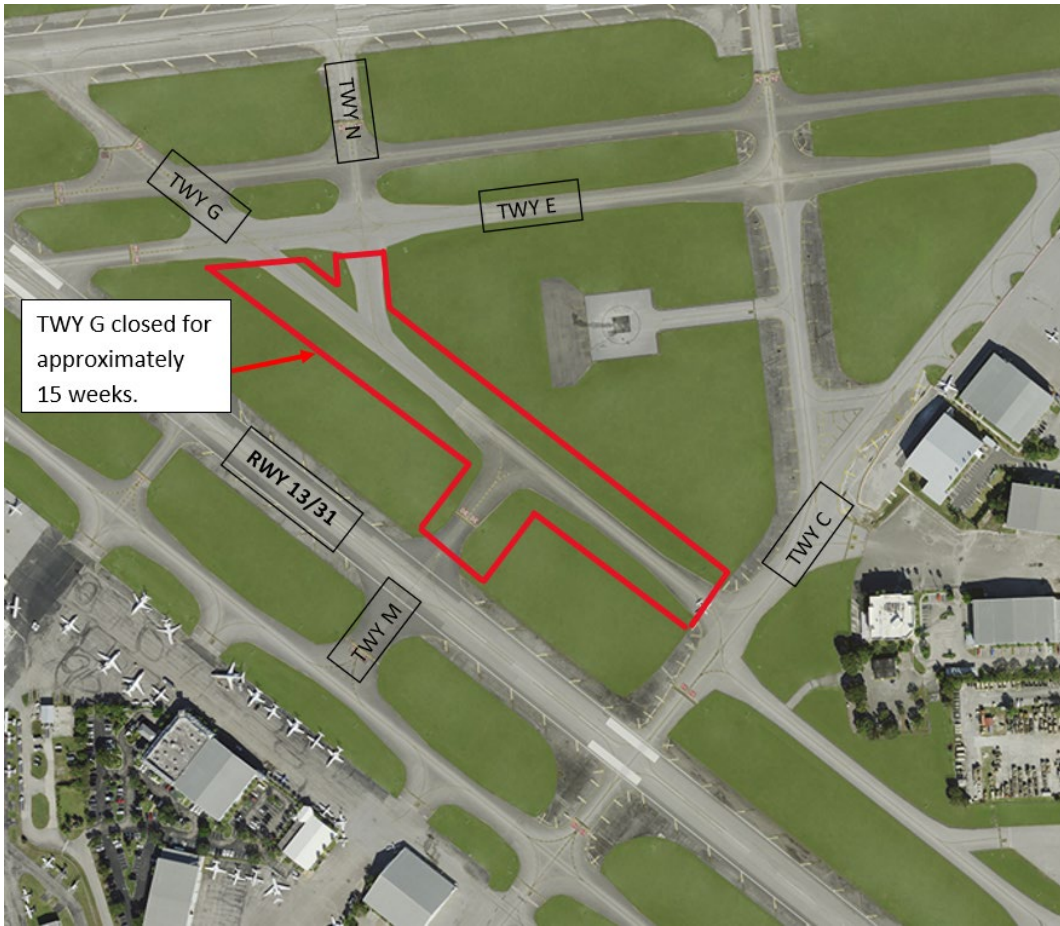




12539 – FXE Taxiway Golf Rehabilitation Project

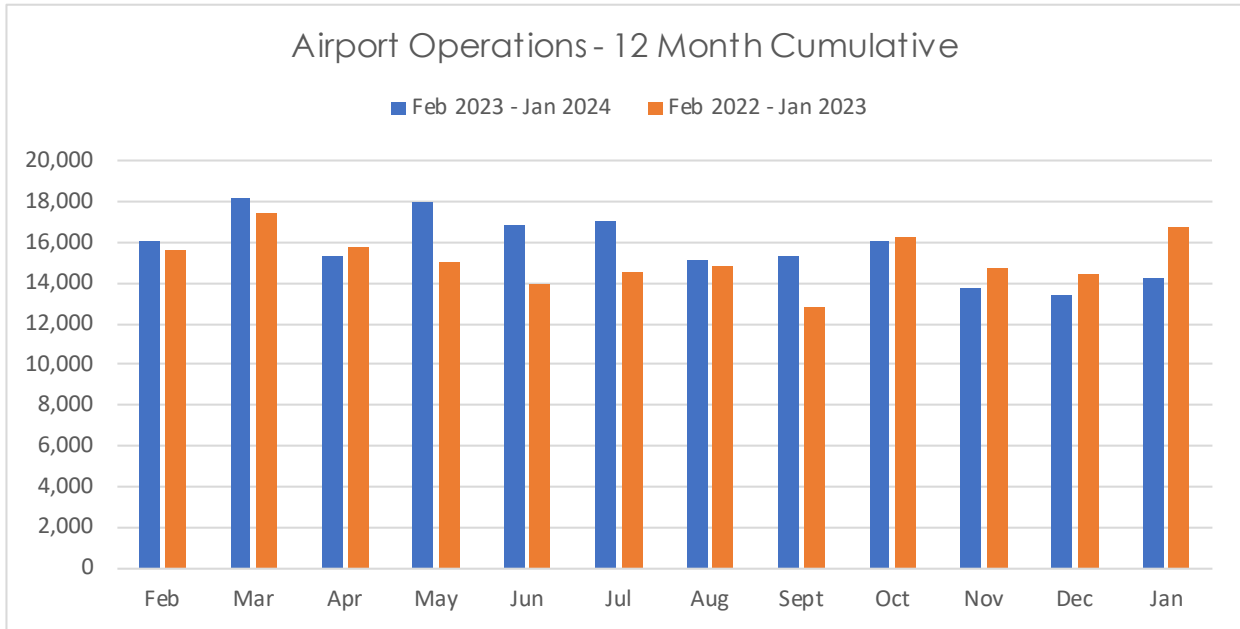
On February 5, 2024, Phase 1 of the Taxiway Golf Rehabilitation Project began. This project will involve the milling and resurfacing of Taxiway G between Taxiway November and Taxiway Charlie. The Phase 1 closure will last for approximately 15 weeks. Taxiway Golf between Taxiway Echo and Taxiway Charlie has closed. Taxiway November between Taxiway Echo and Taxiway Golf has closed, and Taxiway Mike between Taxiway Golf and Runway 13/31 has closed. This project began with the removal of electrical infrastructure, installation of silt fencing, and milling of the existing asphalt. The project budget is \$1,283,172.00, with an FDOT Public Transportation Grant Agreement providing \$1,020,537 of the project costs.





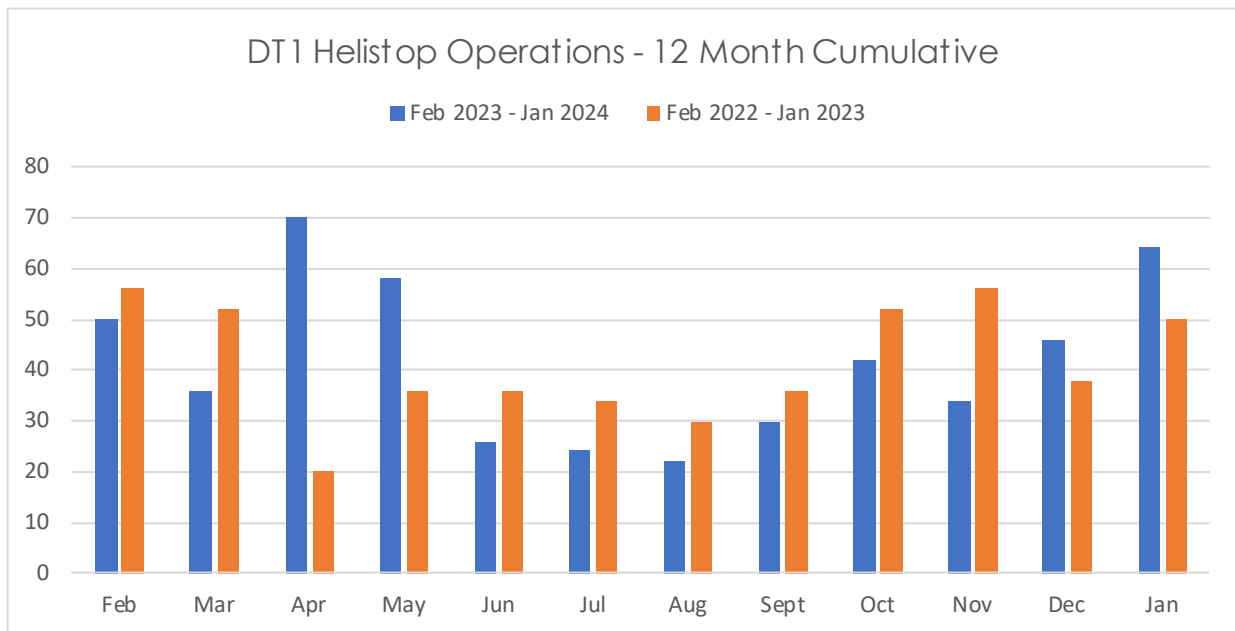
Airport Operations - 12 Month Cumulative

Feb 2023 - Jan 2024	16,037	18,158	15,321	17,980	16,802	17,016	15,145	15,294	16,020	13,692	13,431	14,231	189,127
Feb 2022 - Jan 2023	15,680	17,474	15,760	15,044	13,895	14,505	14,870	12,822	16,286	14,738	14,451	16,790	182,315



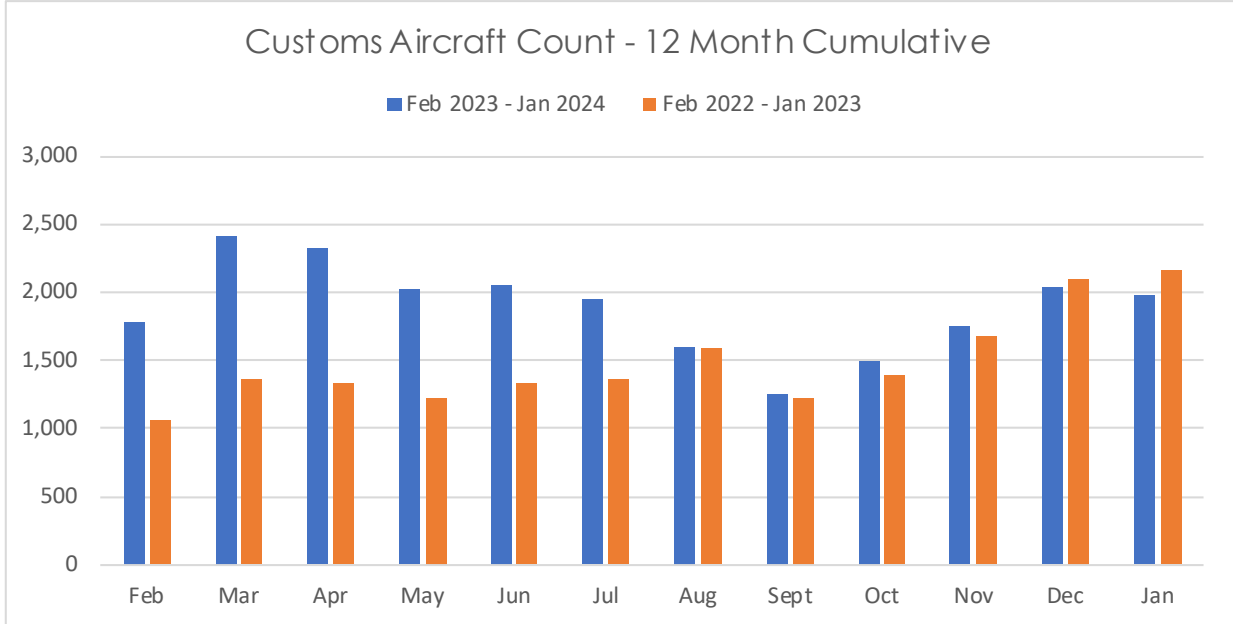
DT1 Helistop Operations - 12 Month Cumulative

Feb 2023 - Jan 2024	50	36	70	58	26	24	22	30	42	34	46	64	502
Feb 2022 - Jan 2023	56	52	20	36	36	34	30	36	52	56	38	50	496



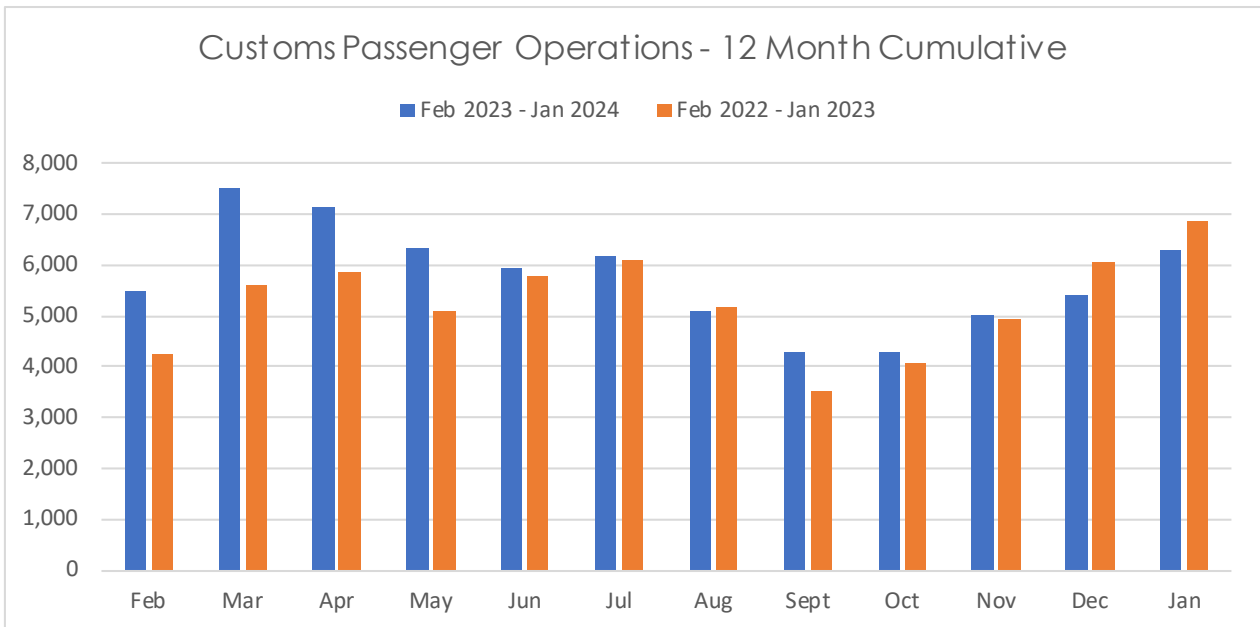
Customs Aircraft Count - 12 Month Cumulative

	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Totals
Feb 2023 - Jan 2024	1,787	2,410	2,316	2,021	2,055	1,951	1,603	1,257	1,488	1,749	2,041	1,984	22,662
Feb 2022 - Jan 2023	1,053	1,364	1,324	1,223	1,325	1,354	1,591	1,226	1,391	1,674	2,090	2,162	17,777



Customs Passenger Operations - 12 Month Cumulative

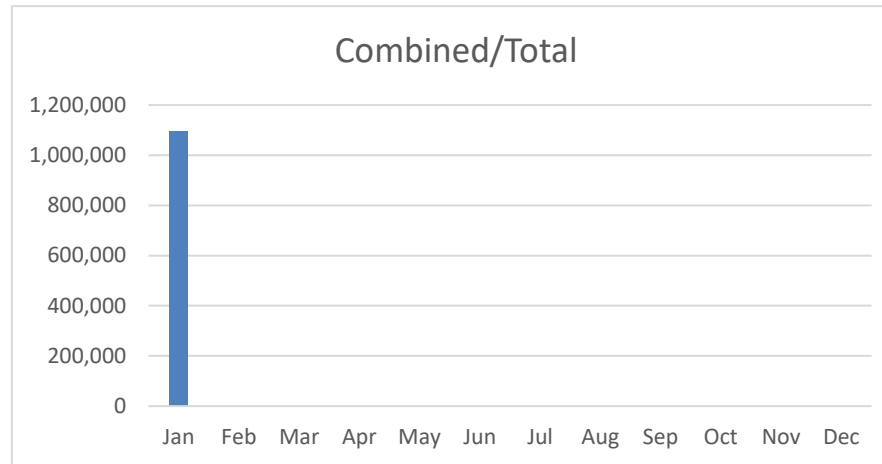
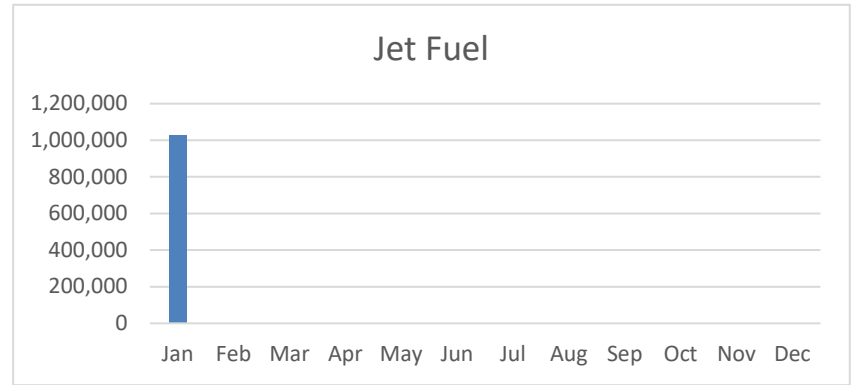
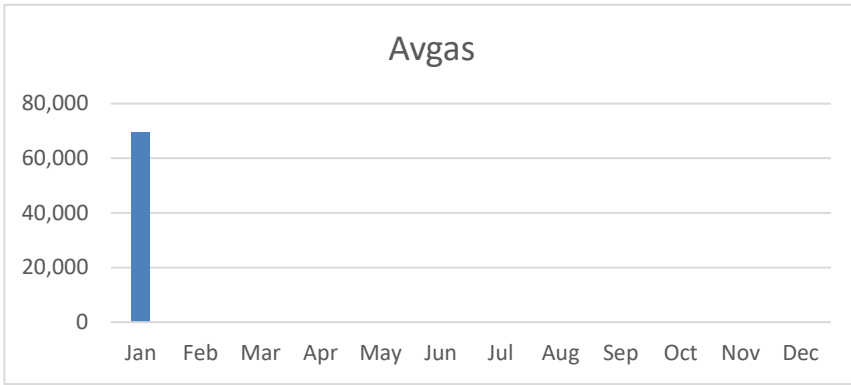
	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Totals
Feb 2023 - Jan 2024	5,498	7,489	7,158	6,338	5,947	6,169	5,070	4,284	4,299	5,016	5,420	6,300	68,988
Feb 2022 - Jan 2023	4,256	5,623	5,856	5,076	5,787	6,115	5,167	3,532	4,081	4,945	6,040	6,850	63,328



Date	Alert Level	Aircraft Type	Description
1/3/2024	II	Cessna 402	Electrical Systems Malfunction
1/10/2024	III	Velocity V-Twin	Collapsed Nose Gear
1/24/2024	III	Cessna Caravan (Floatplane)	Gear Up Landing
1/29/2024	I	Cirrus SR22	Flat Left Main Gear

2024 Monthly Fuel Flowage (Gallons)

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Totals
Avgas	69,394												69,394
Jet	1,026,986												1,026,986
Total	1,096,380	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,096,380



UPDATE ITEM C

DATE: February 22, 2023
TO: Aviation Advisory Board
FROM: Rufus A. James, Airport Director
SUBJECT: Arrearages



Rent

There are no arrearages to report.

Fuel Flowage

There are no arrearages to report.

UPDATE ITEM E.I.

DATE: February 22, 2024
TO: Aviation Advisory Board
FROM: Rufus A. James, Airport Director
VIA: Carlton Harrison, Assistant Airport Director
BY: Chelsea Jones Finley, Airport Program Manager
SUBJECT: Fort Lauderdale Executive Airport Community Events: Challenge Air Fort Lauderdale Fly Day, Claim Your Future Showcase, Banyan Aviation Expo and Neighbor Support Night



Challenge Air for Kids and Friends - Fort Lauderdale Fly Day

On Saturday, January 27, Banyan Air Service, in collaboration with Challenge Air for Kids and Friends, hosted the 2024 Fort Lauderdale Fly Day at Fort Lauderdale Executive Airport (FXE). This annual event provides children and youth with special needs a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to experience the magic of flight.

This year, over 100 volunteers and 24 pilots generously donated their time and aircraft (16 aircraft) to offer complimentary 30-minute plane rides to 84 co-pilots (children) and their families. The event received overwhelmingly positive feedback, with many participants calling it the best year yet. FXE is honored to be one of the event sponsors, and our team was present to show our support.

We acknowledge and appreciate the invaluable contributions of Banyan Air Service, the Rotary Club of Fort Lauderdale, the Civil Air Patrol, the pilots, co-sponsors, and the Air Traffic Control Tower in making the event memorable for its participants.

[View the 2024 Fort Lauderdale Fly Day recap.](#)



Image 1: The 2024 Challenge Air pilots brought the gift of flight to 84 co-pilots and their families.



Image 2: FXE sponsored the 2024 Challenge Air Fort Lauderdale Fly Day

Claim Your Future Showcase

The FXE team joined the 2024 Claim Your Future Showcase on Wednesday, January 31, at the Amerant Bank Arena in Sunrise. Organized by the Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance and Broward County Public Schools, the industry-oriented career fair attracted over 900 enthusiastic high school juniors seeking to explore the diverse career prospects available within our community.

The annual Claim Your Future Showcase aims to assist students in transforming their aspirations into tangible goals. Its mission is to raise awareness about specific industries in South Florida and highlight career opportunities that can retain talent in the region. This year, FXE joined the event as both a sponsor and exhibitor.

Key event highlights included the Exhibitors' Showcase, providing students with opportunities to interact with representatives from more than 51 industry partners. There, they explored career aspirations, gained initial insights into potential career pathways, and acquired essential qualification details. The event also featured Mock Interviews simulating real experiences and Workshops and Panel Discussions that focused on soft skills for workplace effectiveness.

[View the 2024 Claim Your Future recap.](#)



Image 3: FXE exhibitor's table show-ready featuring Careers in Aviation.



Image 4: Team members Krystal Permanan and Giovanni Miranda connected with students.



Image 5: Greg Chavarria, City Manager of Fort Lauderdale, and co-panelists addressed this year's participants.



Image 6: FXE sponsored the 2024 Claim Your Future Showcase

Banyan Aviation Expo

On Saturday, February 3, Banyan Pilot Shop brought together 19 of South Florida's partner agencies, including flight schools, universities, technical colleges, and aviation organizations, at FXE to host the 2024 Banyan Aviation Expo. The event attracted over 250 attendees, primarily high school and college students.

The main objective of the expo was to acquaint young individuals with the myriad of career opportunities available in the aviation industry and to inspire them to pursue careers as future aviators. Attendees were provided valuable insights on translating their passion for aviation into promising career paths.

We acknowledge the Banyan team's commitment to helping introduce the endless possibilities in business aviation to the next generation.

[View the Banyan Aviation Expo photos.](#)



Image 7: FXE team (from left to right): Giovanni Miranda, Carlton Harrison, Blaze Harrison (student volunteer), Chelsea Jones Finley and Ronald Aristide.



Image 8: Aviation Advisory Board Member, Kelley Gordon, helping to inspire youth for future careers in aviation.



Image 9: Banyan's team members Linda Li and Chris Oquist presenting the pilot shop display.



Image 10: OSM Aviation Academy, based at FXE, offered students the opportunity to experience flight simulators, and gifted discovery flights.

Neighbor Support Night

The City of Fort Lauderdale and the Council of Fort Lauderdale Civic Association hosted the 2024 Neighbor Support Night (NSN) on Thursday, February 15. NSN is a family-friendly event held annually to give neighbors the opportunity to interact with community leaders, learn about City initiatives, and explore potential career paths. This year's theme was Get to Know Your City and Learn About Big Projects Citywide.

FXE utilized the occasion to showcase its completed, ongoing, and future projects. Attendees, including City staff, participated in the Airport's trivia for prizes and explored the airport runway core sample. The event also allowed the FXE team to reconnect with existing and meet new City personnel.



Image 11: FXE Team (from left to right) Carlton Harrison, Khant Myat, Rufus James, Krystal Perमान, Chelsea Jones Finley, Ronald Aristide, Mickaelle Bouchereau and Linda Blanco.



Image 12: FXE team pictured with Greg Chavarria, City Manager of Fort Lauderdale (center).



Image 13: City personnel celebrating his Airport trivia win after spinning the wheel.



Image 14: Neighbors waiting in line to spin the wheel and test their Airport knowledge.