Alisa Clairet
Anthony Brown
Eli Wells
Gerardo Barrienos
Isaac Vanegas
Josie Zarate
Judy Trijillo
Kevin J Davis
Leslie McGee
Marshallyn Brown
Pat Miller
Raya Gayton
Roy Zarate
Tiser Turner
Yvonne Sucich
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Foothill Trails District
NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

September 29, 2026

The Foothill Trails District Neighbor Council voted **10** Yes **0** No **2** Abstain at its September 22, 2026 General Meeting to oppose:

(1) the County's expenditure of taxpayer funds on studies evaluating the closure and redevelopment of Whiteman Airport.
(2) the ongoing freeze on the use of Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) capital improvement funding for critical airport infrastructure.
(3) any closure or redevelopment of Whiteman Airport.

These actions divert public resources away from immediate and necessary investments in a facility that remains legally required to operate and that plays an essential role in emergency response, public safety, and the local economy.

The FTDNC urges the County Board of Supervisors to redirect its focus toward maintaining and improving Whiteman Airport as a vital County asset rather than pursuing speculative and potentially unimplementable alternatives.

Portions of the Whiteman Airport property were acquired using federal Airport Improvement Program funds in the 1990s, obligating the County to continue operating the property as an airport unless and until the FAA formally releases the County from those commitments. As such, the County cannot unilaterally close, redevelop, or re-purpose the airport. As a result, the County has spent – and potentially wasted – nearly $2 million of taxpayer money on its "Land Use Study and Economic Impact Analysis", a study premised upon an outcome that may never be legally viable.

The reasons FTDNC supports keeping Whiteman Airport open include:

(1) It serves as a strategically located base for emergency operations during fire and other emergencies: Whiteman Airport serves as a critical public safety asset during wildfires and other emergencies – not only for the Foothill Communities, but for the entire Southern California
(2) It provides economic benefits to the greater San Fernando Valley. Beyond its public safety functions, the airport supports a network of aviation-related businesses, including aircraft maintenance providers, flight training operations, fueling services, and other small enterprises that generate jobs, tax revenue, and

economic activity throughout the region. Whiteman Airport contributes approximately $110 million annually to the local economy and sustains more than 500 direct and indirect jobs, supporting local families and businesses that rely upon the airport's continued operation.

Should you have any questions or require additional information to support our position on this important issue, please do not hesitate to reach out via email at board@ftdnc.org

Sincerely,



Kevin J Davis
President, FTDNC