


Date: April 13, 2026

To: Thomas B. Modica, City Manager 

From: Cynthia Guidry, Director, Long Beach Airport 

For: Mayor and Members of the City Council

Subject: **Long Beach Airport Inaugural 2025 Fly Friendly Program Recognition**

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The Long Beach Airport (Airport or LGB) finalized development of a formal Fly Friendly Program ([FFP](#)), with an official launch in January 2025 and issued a memorandum on June 10, 2025, of the First Quarter 2025 results. This memorandum provides an update on the Airport's inaugural FFP program for the full 2025 calendar year. Annual recognitions are given in Gold, Silver, and Bronze categories for most friendly, most improved and most engaging, respectively.

The Airport's FFP is a voluntary initiative for flight schools based at the Airport to encourage and recognize improvement in key performance metrics (average altitude, average noise level, evening operations, nighttime operations, and day of week operations), engagement, education and training, and the transition to unleaded fuel. The key performance metrics were developed based upon concerns expressed by the communities and quantifiable parameters that have the potential to provide meaningful improvements.

Throughout 2025, quarterly recognition was provided as part of our [Monthly Noise Reports](#) and presented to the Airport Advisory Commission for LGB-based flight schools that improved upon at least two of their key performance metrics. Recognition was provided for 1) those who went above and beyond and 2) those who made some improvement that deserved honorable mention.

In addition to making improvements throughout the year in key performance metrics, several participating LGB-based flight schools made significant efforts in engagement, education/training and obtaining Supplemental Type Certificates (STCs) for their aircraft that are compatible to accept unleaded fuel. The Airport met with multiple flight schools including their Certified Flight Instructor's (CFI) to review key performance metric data and provide education on the Noise Ordinance. These engagement efforts have enhanced collaboration, providing meaningful opportunities, within local authority, to address community noise concerns.

The inaugural recognitions for the 2025 Fly Friendly Program at Long Beach Airport were presented at the Airport Advisory Commission Meeting on March 19, 2026. The following LGB-based flight schools received recognitions.

**Gold Award Winner - Most Friendly**



**Silver Award Winner – Most Improved**



**Bronze Award Winner – Most Engaging**



Refer to the Attachment for a list of noted accomplishments made by each awardee.

While the inaugural year of the Fly Friendly Program focused specifically on LGB-based flight schools, the Airport will expand the program to include other LGB-based operators (air carriers, helicopters, etc.) for participation. The Airport remains committed to encouraging and recognizing improvement by all LGB-based operators in performance, engagement, and education/training.

The Airport continues its work with aviation industry organizations and federal partners to support local and national efforts to eliminate lead emissions from GA aircraft operations. On October 14, 2025, the City Council approved an extension to the Airport's [Supplemental Type Certificate \(STC\) fee reimbursement program](#) and [Subsidized Aviation Fuel for the Environment \(SAFE\) subsidy program](#) through December 31, 2027.

Should you have any questions, please contact Cynthia Guidry, Airport Director, at (562) 570-2605.

ATTACHMENT

CC: DAWN MCINTOSH, CITY ATTORNEY  
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TYLER BONANNO-CURLEY, DEPUTY CITY MANAGER  
KEVIN LEE, CHIEF PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER  
MONIQUE DE LA GARZA, CITY CLERK  
DEPARTMENT HEADS

**Gold Award Winner – Most Friendly  
Sling Pilot Academy**

- Improved upon 5 out of 5 key performance metrics for Runway 26L when compared to 2024 baseline data.
- Improved upon 4 out of 5 key performance metrics for Runway 26R when compared to 2024 baseline data.
- Created [FlyFriendlySoCal.com](https://FlyFriendlySoCal.com) for CFI's and pilots to quickly find references to noise abatement resources in the Southern California region.
- Developed and launched the "[Whisper Sling](#)," which is a new pilot training aircraft designed with community concerns about GA noise in mind.
- Included noise abatement training within their curriculum for every CFI and pilot.
- Every aircraft binder has noise abatement notes included.
- LGB specific noise ordinance times incorporated into their aircraft reservation schedule.
- Created [FlyFriendly.SlingPilotAcademy.com](https://FlyFriendly.SlingPilotAcademy.com) for CFI's and pilots to quickly find noise abatement information by time of day for multiple airports, including LGB.
- Entire aircraft fleet can utilize unleaded fuel.
- 100% unleaded fuel purchased and utilized.

**Silver Award Winner – Most Improved  
Pacific Air Flight School**

- Improved upon 5 out of 5 key performance metrics for Runway 26L when compared to 2024 baseline data.
- Improved upon 5 out of 5 key performance metrics for Runway 26R when compared to 2024 baseline data.
- Invited the Noise and Capacity Management Office to discuss the Fly Friendly Program and answer questions at one of their reoccurring CFI meetings.

**Bronze Award Winner – Most Engaging  
Aces High Aviation**

- Improved upon 2 out of 5 key performance metrics for Runway 26L when compared to 2024 baseline data.
- Improved upon 3 out of 5 key performance metrics for Runway 26R when compared to 2024 baseline data.
- Quarterly noise data shared at their reoccurring CFI meetings.
- Entire Cessna aircraft fleet can utilize unleaded fuel.
- Approximately 2,000 gallons of unleaded fuel purchased and utilized.