

The Friends of WHP leadership feels that it's time to go more on the offensive with our political leaders and begin writing to them about the value of the airport rather than merely rebut those who want to shut the airport down.

Please compose your own letter—letters that are obviously form letters or copied and pasted aren't at all as effective. Feel free to word the suggestions below as you see fit, but please don't change the facts. You may write to any politician you want, of course, but only those who represent the area or district where you live will pay any attention to you. See the guide below to figure out who is right for you.

Be sure you are polite and don't stoop to name calling or bad-mouthing those who take different views from ours, as it will earn more enmity than respect or sympathy for our positions. You may want to share a few of these now and a few in another letter you write 3 or 4 months from now. These people count numbers of letters more than ideas contained in them.

- Whiteman is an important base in the case of emergency operations, such as fire, medical, search and rescue, accident, earthquake, and law enforcement. As a smaller airport than nearby Burbank or Van Nuys it is well situated for refueling operations during emergencies as well.
- Whiteman has been developing youth interest in aviation for 30 years now—less than half of its existence—by giving free airplane rides, having teens actually build an airplane (STEM), sponsoring Aviation Explorers, , women in aviation through the 99s, and several other groups.
- Civil Air Patrol, the official Auxiliary of the United States Air Force, has been present at Whiteman Airport since it opened 76 years ago, providing Search and Rescue/Disaster Relief, Aerospace Education and Developing Tomorrow's Aerospace Leaders (Youth Leadership and Aviation Program) the whole time.
- Many serious projections about employment point to a pilot shortage in the near future—the Air Force is already way below their desired number of pilots. Mechanics are also becoming in critically short supply, and the training environment at Whiteman leads to lucrative careers, much better paying than most—the median career pilot salary exceeds \$160,000.

- Whiteman is home to over 30 businesses that employ nearly 500 people. The direct payroll of over \$39 million has a multiplier effect on other businesses and jobs that is significantly larger than that. The total economic output; direct, indirect and induced; exceeds \$112 million.
- Many businesses base their helicopters here, providing a home for many news and traffic reporters. The noise they make is shunned at Van Nuys and Burbank, but they do their best to fly as quietly as possible whether here or elsewhere.
- You can probably estimate the property, sales, use, business, and employee income taxes better than can I.
- As a reliever airport Whiteman houses over 600 aircraft, which if transferred to Burbank or Van Nuys would not fit well with the type of aircraft operations those airports support.
- Leaded fuel is a technically complex issue, but is within a year or more likely two of being phased out at Whiteman. There are already a number of electrically or solar powered airplanes operating here, which are perfect for a training environment, and that fleet will only grow.

Below is a list of Federal, State, County and City Officials who are elected from the area including Whiteman Airport. Some of them, Robert Hertzberg in particular are running for elected office this year for positions which will have a large influence on the airport's future. Make sure our voices are heard loud and clear.

Contact:

**Federal**

**Dianne Feinstein Senator (D) CA**

Los Angeles Office

11111 Santa Monica Boulevard

Suite 915

Los Angeles, CA 90025

Phone: (310) 914-7300

Senate Subcommittee on **Commerce**, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies

Senate Subcommittee on **Transportation**, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies

**Alex Padilla Senator (D) CA**

Los Angeles Office

255 East Temple Street

Edward R. Roybal Center and Federal Building, Suite 1860

Los Angeles, CA 90012

Phone: (310) 231-4494

Senate Subcommittee on **Transportation** and Infrastructure

Senate Committee on **Homeland Security** and Governmental Affairs

**Tony Cardenas Representative (D) CA-29**

Panorama City Office

9612 Van Nuys Boulevard

Suite 201

Panorama City, CA 91402

Phone: (818) 221-3718

House Subcommittee on Consumer Protection and **Commerce**

**California**

**Gavin Newsom Governor (D) CA**

1303 - 10th Street

State Capitol, Suite 1173

Sacramento, CA 95814

(916) 445-2841

**Bob Hertzberg State Senator (D) CA-18**

Van Nuys Office

6150 Van Nuys Boulevard

Suite 400

Van Nuys, CA 91401

Phone: (818) 901-5588

**Luz Rivas State Assemblymember (D) CA-39**

Arleta Office

9300 Laurel Canyon Boulevard

First Floor

Arleta, CA 91331

Phone: (818) 504-3911

House Committee on Assembly Select Committee on the **Non-Profit Sector**

House Committee on Assembly Select Committee on **Emerging Technologies and Innovation**

House Committee on Assembly Select Committee on **Career Technical Education and Building a 21st Century Workforce**

Joint Legislative Committee on **Emergency Management**

House Subcommittee on Subcommittee No. 3 on Resources and **Transportation**

House Committee on Assembly Select Committee on **Jobs and Innovation in the San Fernando Valley**

**Los Angeles County**

**Sheila Kuehl** Board Chair Pro Tem (D) **Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors District 3**

500 West Temple Street

Hall of Administration, Room 821

Los Angeles, CA 90012

(213) 974-3333

**City of Los Angeles**

**Eric Garcetti Mayor** (D) City of Los Angeles CA

200 North Spring Street

City Hall, Room 303

Los Angeles, CA 90012

(213) 978-0600

**Monica Rodriguez Council Member Los Angeles CA-District 07**

200 North Spring Street

City Hall, Room 470

Los Angeles, CA 90012

(213) 473-7007

To get addresses for your Congressperson, State Assembly and Senate office holders, County and City offices, go to <https://www.laforward.org/who-represents-me?>  
Enter your address, worked well for me

Note: Although they may not have authority over Whiteman Airport, many elected officials sit on committees which do. It is important that we let all elected officials we vote for know our positions on closing Whiteman Airport.