



LEE'S SUMMIT MISSOURI

Date: May 26, 2026

To: Mark Dunning, City Manager

Through: Michael Park, Director of Public Works *MP*

From: Joel Arrington, Airport Manager

RE: **Kansas City - Lee's Summit Regional Airport Staff Report April/May 2026**

Terminal Building Construction

Terminal Building construction is progressing. As of 5-26-26, approximately 85% of the structural steel is in place. The building is estimated to be completed in January 2027.



Airport Incidents & Noise Complaints

On May 16, during an EAA Young Eagles Event, a helicopter experienced what appeared to be a mechanical malfunction after take-off. The helicopter reached an altitude of approximately 25ft when the malfunction occurred, resulting in a hard landing on the side of a hill next to a ramp. There were three occupants on board. Two of the occupants were transported to the hospital.

There was one noise complaint from a resident on the north side of the Airport who called to voice concern with the Blackhawks flying over their house. The Blackhawks were in town doing a practice run for their flight to Royals Stadium on Memorial Day.



Community Outreach

On April 2, Joel Arrington, Airport Manager, gave a presentation at the Lee’s Summit Rotary Club.

Other items of interest

Larry Bauman, Airfield Maintenance, retired after 24 years of service with the Airport.

Upcoming Events:

World Cup Update To date, the Airport has received approximately 20 reservations for all games. While this number is lower than anticipated across the KC area airports, we expect the majority of reservations to come in during the 7–10 days leading up to each game. Staff have been working closely with the FAA to implement a Prior Authorization Requirement (PAR) for the first game and all knockout-round games. This requirement will apply to all arriving and departing transient aircraft. However, the Airport will remain open without prior permission (no PPR) for local traffic, including flight schools and VFR operations.

MKC Runway Closure Beginning August 1, the Downtown Airport’s main runway will close for 45 days. The airport’s remaining 5,000-foot runway will stay operational, but based aircraft requiring longer runway lengths will temporarily relocate to Lee’s Summit Airport. We currently have 15–20 aircraft scheduled to relocate during this period.

This closure presents an excellent opportunity to showcase our airport and newly upgraded facilities to operators we don’t typically engage with. To support increased activity, the Airport’s hours of operation will be extended to 10:00 PM, with a strong likelihood of 24/7 operations during peak periods. Additional staffing from Public Works has been arranged, and training for these personnel is already underway.

