



Chapter of California Pilots Association
1745 Sessums Dr. Ste. 1
Redlands CA. 92374-1907

Redlands City Council Candidate Questions-Submitted by the Redlands Airport Association

1. Have you ever been to Redlands airport for travel, to pick up visitors or to attend an event?
Please share a little about your experience at the airport.

I have been to the airport a couple of times to visit a friend at his hangar and most recently to take a tour so I could see what was going on at the airport firsthand.

2. Have you ever reviewed any of the planning documents about the airport? Please share what you have reviewed.

Yes. I reviewed the business plan.

3. Some small businesses that have opened or contemplated opening at the airport have complained the City of Redlands is not “business friendly”. Recent airport fee schedules being considered by city staff include new “Environmental Impact” fees for businesses at the airport. These include a new annual \$150 Maintenance Operation Environmental fee and a \$200 Fueling Operation Environmental fee. These fees are in addition to existing San Bernardino County Business taxes, Redlands Business Licenses fees, and Redlands Fire Department Inspection fees. Revenue generated at the airport cannot be used elsewhere in the city by law. Even though the airport generates enough revenue to pay its own expenses, additional revenue could be used to improve airport facilities and maintenance. What are your ideas to increase airport revenue while encouraging a “business friendly” climate at the airport?

I agree with that sentiment whole heartedly. I have owned two small businesses in Redlands and now one currently. It took me four years to open up due to restrictions that were imposed on myself while watching others open up without making the same changes that were required of me. It is very hard to encourage fellow potential business owners to open up anywhere in Redlands because of the permits and fees required. Once we are open there is little to no support so it is up to us to come together and create a business friendly environment through networking and cross promotion.

I think that if we offer more amenities like a washing station and multiple fueling options that would help entice more people to want to operate out of our airport. Some nice signage and a overall landscape makeover would be nice. We do not need to change everything but it does need to be cleaned up especially in the city complex portion.

We need to offer some kind of shuttle service from the airport. Of course there is Uber but when you go to other airports such as Catalina, they offer transportation into the city and are much more welcoming. We want people to want to come to Redlands.



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Maybe have people clean up their old planes that are not in working order anymore or cover them. We cannot hope to make money if we do not look like money.

I know that events have to be aviation specific but it would be nice to figure out a way to put on more events that would help generate revenue. With the amount of shutdown that occurs with the Airfest, I believe that more money should go to the airport since it is my understanding that very little has been contributed in years past.

4. The City of Redlands does not have an active economic development program involving the airport. Hangar development that facilitates basing more aircraft, attracting airport businesses such as a restaurant and new fueling facilities could significantly increase airport revenue. What is your plan, if any, to develop the airport?

It would be nice to extend the runway in order to attract more aircraft if we feel that there is a need. Again, I believe that if we offer more amenities and become more welcoming then people will make stops at our airport. Right now we do not offer much for people to want and come see.

A restaurant is mandatory. Every time I fly with my brother in-law we eat at the destination and fly back. With Hangar being across the street I think it would be amazing. I also believe that it would be a success because it would be supported by the neighborhood.

Proper signage is a must. I didn't have a clue where I was going when I came to visit. A social media presence is vital and also attending market night with information would be a good start as far as promotion goes. Fresh branding will be a huge plus and will attract a new generation of aviation enthusiasts.

Fuel options will also attract more visitors and renters I believe. Not much has changed at the airport for a while so we need to bring it to life with a few new things. Yes it will require some capital but it will benefit us tremendously in the near future. There are resources that we can utilize as far as grants go as well.

5. Do you think aviation or airport management experience is necessary to supervise/manage municipal airport operations?

Absolutely! I think that anyone that is in charge of any department should have experience in the field that they are responsible for. They should know what is and isn't necessary to avoid the misuse of funds. I would think that the airport association should play a huge role in figuring out who the best choice for this position would be.



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6. The City of Redlands has an Airport Advisory Board (AAB) which acts in an advisory role to the Redlands City Council. Please share your thoughts on why they have this advisory role and how their recommendations will impact you as a future councilmember.

I would hope this board exist as a way for the council to figure out what is best for the airport. Since we cannot be everywhere and see everything, these kind of advisory boards are vital to proper decision making. I believe that our relationship should be a close one built on trust and I would take the recommendations of the board very seriously. I don't not see a point in having such a board if their voice is not heard and their recommendations should be taken very seriously.

7. In your opinion, what is currently the most pressing issue at the airport?

Support. We must support all of our businesses in the city and the airport should be no different. It deserves the same respect as state street does and the same could be said for the rest of Redlands. It should be an attraction and a place for families to come with their kids to watch planes land and take off. Who doesn't love that. It would be great to have a little playground in place to make it a fun place for all to come and enjoy.

Thank you for your time.