SUPPLEMENTAL AGENDA ITEM
AGENDA STAFF REPORT

Control: 26002231

MEETING DATE:	12/01/2026
LEGAL ENTITY TAKING ACTION:	Board of Supervisors
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS DISTRICT(S):	Board of Supervisors
SUBMITTING AGENCY/DEPARTMENT:	Chair Chaffee
DEPARTMENT CONTACT PERSON(S):	Al Jabbar, 714-834-3440 Emma Fisher, 714-834-3440

SUBJECT: CHANGE THE NAME OF JOHN WAYNE AIRPORT BACK TO ORANGE COUNTY AIRPORT

CEO CONCUR	COUNTY COUNSEL REVIEW	CLERK OF THE BOARD
N/A	No Legal Objection	DISCUSSION 3 Votes Board Majority

RECOMMENDED ACTION(S):

1. Rescind Board Resolution no. 79-950.
2. Change the name of John Wayne Airport back to **Orange County Airport** and authorize and direct the County Executive Officer and Airport Director to take all necessary action to implement the name change, including notification of the federal government.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

John Wayne Airport (JWA or Airport) serves as Orange County's primary commercial airport and an important gateway for residents, businesses, and visitors traveling to and from the region. It serves approximately 11.7 million passengers annually and operates nonstop flights to more than 40 destinations in the U.S., Mexico, and Canada. The Airport is served by eleven commercial airlines, two air cargo airlines, and is home to nearly 500 general aviation (private, non-commercial) aircraft. In 1939, the Airport became known as the Orange County Airport. The name remained in use for approximately 40 years. In 1979, the Board of Supervisors voted to rename it John Wayne Airport in honor of the actor and Newport Beach resident. The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) also assigned the Airport the identifier "SNA" in 1939, based on the nearby city of Santa Ana. That identifier has remained unchanged ever since. Renaming the facility **Orange County Airport** would establish a name that directly reflects the airport's geographic location, recognizes its historical roots, and reinforces its role in serving the entire County. The proposed name would provide a broader regional identity, strengthen the Airport's connection to the communities it serves, and promote Orange County as a destination for business, tourism, and economic development.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

Staff shall identify any anticipated costs associated with implementation and seek appropriate budget adjustments.

ATTACHMENTS:
Attachment Resolution 79-950