

# DOWNTOWN FORT LAUDERDALE HELISTOP

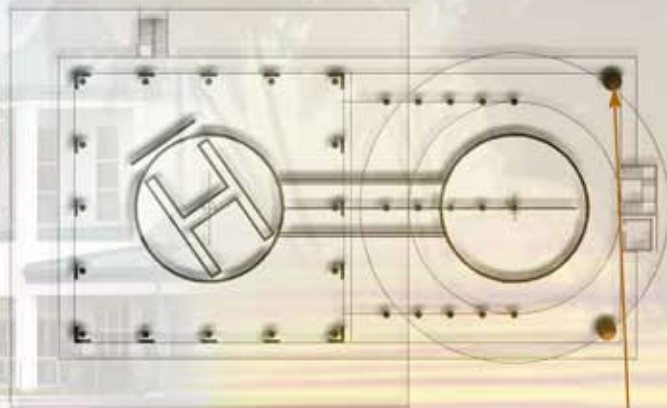
FT. LAUDERDALE  
GENERAL AVIATION AIRPORT



## AIRPORT LOCATION



The Downtown Fort Lauderdale Helistop is located in the heart of the central business district of Fort Lauderdale on top of the Central Park Mall Parking Garage. It is convenient to other major aviation facilities in the South Florida area and is just three miles north of Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport and six miles south of Fort Lauderdale Executive Airport. Miami International Airport is 25 miles to the south and easily accessible by air.



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## Existing Facilities

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In partnership with the Florida Department of Transportation, the City of Fort Lauderdale has completed construction of a \$3.6 million Downtown Heliport to meet the corporate community's growing transportation needs. This facility is the only Public-Use Heliport in the State of Florida located in a Central Business District.

The Fort Lauderdale Downtown Helistop is designed to accommodate intermediate category general aviation helicopters with a maximum takeoff weight of 11,900 pounds and a 46-foot rotor diameter used by today's corporate and charter operators.

The Helistop features a landing area and one helicopter parking position on a 14,500 square-foot elevated platform. A fully furnished lobby located just below the elevated platform on the sixth floor of the garage provides travelers with a comfortable area to converse and conduct short business meetings. The lobby serves as a meeting room/pilot briefing area and has access to plentiful parking and convenient ground transportation. The platform is wheelchair accessible by elevator from the lobby level.

## Current and Forecast Demand

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### GENERAL AVIATION

The Helistop opened in June 2002 and operates 24 hours a day, seven days a week with no fees to users. It has averaged approximately 250 operations per 12 month period since it opened.

### COMMUNITY SERVICES

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Helicopters are fast becoming a preferred method of travel among businesses because they can access a smaller landing area and are faster and more efficient than surface transportation. Nationally, heliports and helistops have contributed to the economic growth and vitality of a number of progressive cities such as New York, New Orleans, Portland and Indianapolis.

## Other Airport Characteristics

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## CURRENT AND FUTURE SYSTEM SERVICE REQUIREMENTS / RECOMMENDATIONS

The City of Fort Lauderdale and the management staff of the Fort Lauderdale Executive Airport undertook a lengthy planning and public awareness process for the establishment of this facility with the purpose of improving access to the downtown business district for major corporations. The Helistop also allows a staging platform for disaster relief helicopters. This analysis indicates that the Helistop is best suited for Recreational/Sport services, but that is contrary to the intended purpose of the facility. The heliport will provide corporate services, as intended, for the foreseeable future.

COMMERCIAL SERVICE ROLE	<u>Current Service</u>	<u>Future Service</u>
Tourism		
Business		
Air Cargo		
International		
GENERAL AVIATION AIRPORT ROLE		
Flight Training		
Corporate	X	X
Tourism	X	X
Recreational / Sport		
Business / Recreational	X	X