



LAX/COMMUNITY NOISE ROUNDTABLE

Recap of the Regular Meeting of September 15, 2021

In conformity with the Governor's Executive Order N-29-20 dated March 17, 2020 and due to concerns over COVID-19, the Roundtable meeting was conducted via video conference using the Web Ex platform.

Roundtable Members Present

Denny Schneider, Chair, Alliance for a Regional Solution to Airport Congestion
Jeff Moskin, 1st Vice Chair, Raintree Condo & Townhouse Association
Göran Eriksson, City of Culver City
Carl Jacobson, City of El Segundo
Geoff Thompson, City of Los Angeles – Council District 11
Yvonne Yiu, City of Monterey Park
Blake LaMar, City of Palos Verdes Estates
Robert Nemeth, City of Rancho Palos Verdes
Allen Wu, San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments
Danna Cope, LAX Area Advisory Committee
Jim Robilotta, 360 at Southbay Homeowners Association
Martin Rubin, North Westdale Neighborhood Association
John Arnold, United Neighborhoods Neighborhood Council
Marty Lipkin, Woodland Hills Warner-Center Neighborhood Council
Jacqueline Hamilton, U.S. House Representative – 37th District
Kathryn Pantoja, Los Angeles World Airports

FAA

Tamara Swann, Deputy Regional Administrator
Durre Cowan, Presenter, Agenda Item 4
Larri Frelow

Airlines

Spirit Airlines – Carl Stallone
United Airlines – Alison Kehrer

LAWA and Consultant Staff

David Chan, Secretary, LAWA
Esteban Moledo, Virtual Meeting Host, LAWA
René Spencer, Environmental Supervisor, LAWA
Gene Reindel, Facilitator, HMMH
Doreen Stockdale, Scribe, HMMH

A quorum of the members was present.

1. Welcome/Review of the Meeting Format

Welcoming of the Roundtable membership and the public occurred at 1:30 pm. The meeting was conducted similar to in-person meetings with the Chair running the meeting with assistance from the Facilitator. The public was provided with a phone number to provide public comment. General public comment was invited as scheduled on agenda item 3.

2. Call to order, Pledge of Allegiance, and Identification of Those Present

The meeting was officially called to order at 1:40 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Comments from the Public

A resident in the Hermon area located near South Pasadena reported a substantial increase in noise since 2019. He reported that before that time there was no air traffic over his home, but now there is. Kathryn Pantoja provided the LAWA noise hotline and website for the resident to submit noise comments.

4. Briefing on FAA Noise Complaint Portal

FAA representative, Durre Cowan, presented on the FAA's Noise Complaint Portal. The FAA initiative, which resulted in the development of the Portal, has two parts: 1) Implement and improve the FAA's response system, i.e. the Portal, and find airports to partner with, like LAX; and 2) Collect ample data to help the FAA identify possible actions that will help them address the underlying concerns raised by the residents, particularly regarding performance-based operations and procedures. The Portal will have been in existence a full year on September 30, 2021. The ultimate expectation of the Portal is to find that sweet spot in efficiently managing the FAA's internal resources to provide residents with an effective, thoroughly researched response within a reasonable time period.

Ms. Cowan explained that if a complaint is similar to one previously submitted and responded to, the FAA will simply reference that previous response. She said that the response process is not based on the uniqueness of the sender, but on the uniqueness of the issue, and added that the FAA reviews, counts and tracks all complaints received. She stated that the FAA's portal is not meant to be a silver bullet and is not meant to replace more robust systems like the one that LAX already has in place. It is meant to work together with the systems that airports already have.

Roundtable Alternate Member, Timi Romolini, reported that she has received complaints from citizens that the FAA's Portal has a lot of glitches. Ms. Cowan recommended that citizens let the FAA Regional Office or the Noise Ombudsman know of such technical issues so that they can be addressed, and added that citizens can also call the FAA noise hotline.

Roundtable Member, Danna Cope, asked what the best method was for the Roundtable members to contact the FAA when they have a noise complaint. Ms. Cowan responded that the best way is to go to the FAA's Portal (faa.gov/noise) or search "FAA complaint form" on Google.

Roundtable Chair, Denny Schneider, asked if the Roundtable will get information on the noise complaints that the FAA is receiving. Ms. Cowan responded that the Roundtable will not get such information because the FAA is bound by privacy issues.

Roundtable Member, Marty Lipkin, suggested establishing a threshold on the number of complaints received by FAA related to a specific issue and reporting on those issues that exceeded the threshold including the area(s) of such complaints and next steps to address the issue raised in the Portal. That way people can keep track of their issues rather than continuing to submit the same complaint, which may reduce frustration that a lot of people have that are complaining.

Roundtable Chair suggested a conference call be set up with LAWA, the FAA and himself to further discuss how to potentially provide increased visibility into what is being complained about and what is happening around our communities.

5. Report from LAX Metroplex/Wide Area Ad Hoc Committee

Metroplex Ad Hoc Committee Chair, Geoff Thompson, provided an update on noise issues discussed at a recent Ad Hoc Committee meeting. He briefly reviewed the altitude trends for the DAHJR and GADDO waypoints on the north downwind arrival route and indicated that the percentages of aircraft meeting the minimum altitude at these two waypoints fluctuate slightly from month to month. He noted there was an increase in flight operations for May through July due to travel restrictions easing. He mentioned that the Roundtable received a preliminary response from the FAA indicating that they are looking into the feasibility of the North Downwind Option B proposal.

He mentioned that the Committee heard concerns and answered questions from city council members and homeowners in Monterey Park regarding aircraft flying over this city. While the Ad Hoc committee sympathizes with this community, no additional action was recommended to address this issue as the North Downwind Option B Proposal, if approved by the FAA, could reduce low flights over Monterey Park by approximately 31%.

He mentioned that the Committee also heard the LADYJ modification proposal from the Woodland Hills Warner Center Council and agreed to move forward with bringing this proposal to the full Roundtable for consideration.

The Committee Chair then asked Roundtable Alternate Member, Timi Romolini, to present the proposal for the LADYJ departure modification. She discussed the proposal in detail, which involves reverting the initial northbound segments of the LADYJ departure route to historical locations. This proposal involves using a hybrid procedure that combines the LADYJ and CASTA departure routes. Waypoints from the previously published CASTA SID are used for the initial segments up to the OROSZ waypoint and from there waypoints for the LADYJ SID are used. Ms. Romolini also discussed the environmental assessment, community outreach, and other factors regarding this proposal known as the CASTA Hybrid.

Roundtable Member, Danna Cope, inquired about the next steps being sought with this proposal. Committee Chair suggested that the Roundtable may put forth the proposal to the FAA for consideration. Roundtable member discussion ensued. Roundtable Member, Jacqueline Hamilton, reminded the group that it may not be as easy as “just put it back”, since the proposal attempts to return flight paths to pre-Metroplex conditions.

The Roundtable approved, by acclamation with one abstention from LAWA, for the LAX Metroplex/Wide Area Ad Hoc Committee to prepare and submit a letter, along with the

PowerPoint, to the FAA requesting consideration of implementing the CASTA Hybrid procedure as proposed by the Woodland Hills Warner Center Neighborhood Council.

6. Update on LAX Fly Quieter Program

LAWA Environmental Supervisor, René Spencer, presented an update on the LAX Fly Quieter Program, which LAWA launched in 2020. It is a public education and recognition program designed to increase operator and pilot awareness of the community noise concerns and adherence to the voluntary noise abatement procedures at LAX. The program is intended to encourage aircraft operators to fly as quietly as possible when arriving and departing the Airport. Operators are scored and ranked on their performance and those that perform the best each year, based on the ranking system, are acknowledged publicly with awards of achievement.

Roundtable Chair asked if cargo carriers compete on the same criteria. Ms. Spencer responded that all operators are part of the program using the same criteria.

7. Roundtable Member Discussion

Blake LaMar thanked Ms. Romolini for the detailed presentation.

Jeff Moskin explained that he was on a JetBlue flight into Boston that must have used a RNP procedure that reduces noise for residents. He wonders if there is a way to encourage airlines to expedite the usage of RNP.

Roundtable Chair announced that UC Davis is soliciting potential topics for their May 2022 Aviation Noise and Emissions Symposium and requested that the Secretary provide all members with the recently released survey so that they may provide topics of interest to submit for consideration.

8. Review of Roundtable Action Items

Roundtable Facilitator reviewed the formal actions and member requests.

9. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:28 pm. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 17, 2021 at 1:30 pm with the same virtual platform.