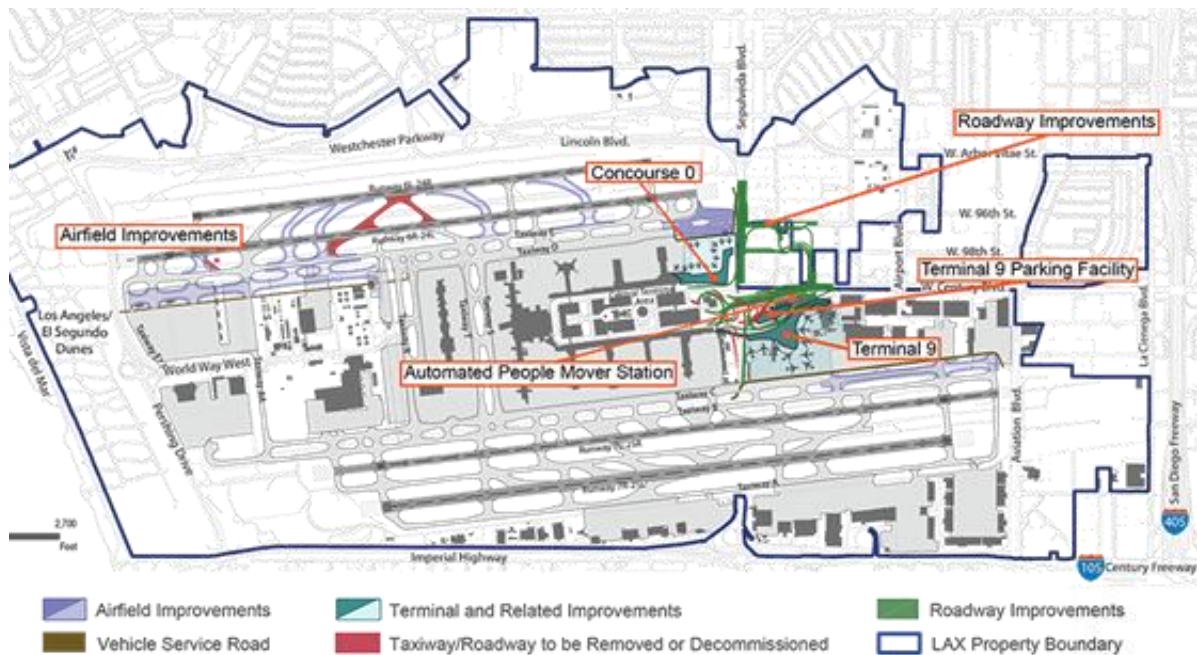


COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Issues Finding of No Significant Impact for LAX Airfield and Terminal Modernization Project (ATMP)

On December 14, 2021, the Los Angeles World Airports (LAWA) issued a press release informing interested parties that the FAA issued a Finding of No Significant Impact and Record of Decision for the LAX ATMP pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act, which allows the project to proceed forward based on Federal review. As previously reported, the LAX ATMP proposed the construction of a new aerial roadway, a new concourse next to Terminal 1, and a new terminal (Terminal 9) with improvements to the North Airfield as outlined in the aerial map below.



As part of the LAX ATMP environmental assessment review, the City expressed concerns that LAWA did not conduct an aircraft noise assessment on the Palos Verdes Peninsula and that the project will cause an increase in aircraft overflights. As cited in the Final Environmental Impact Report, LAWA dismissed these concerns because aircraft noise assessments and mitigation measures are confined to noise-producing aircraft heard in communities closest to the airport. On October 7, 2021, the Board of Airport Commissioners adopted Resolution No. 27351, which approved LAX ATMP and certified the Final Environmental Impact Report.

Torrance City Council Re-establishes Local Noise Monitoring System

In 2020, City Staff reported that the Torrance City Council defunded an aircraft noise monitoring system at Torrance Municipal Airport. The data generated from the system was used to investigate and enforce aircraft noise complaints at the Torrance airport. On December 14, 2021, the Torrance City Council voted to re-establish funding (\$284,000) for a newer noise monitoring system that monitors decibel levels and identifies noise violating aircraft. The re-established noise monitoring system will primarily benefit Torrance residents closest to the airport because the Torrance aircraft noise ordinance involves controlling aircraft decibel levels produced by aircraft engines on the ground and when aircraft depart from the Torrance airport. The new system is expected to be operational around June 2022. Additional information is available in the attached Daily Breeze news article.



Peafowl Trapping Program Update



The Peafowl Trapping Program concluded on December 31, 2021, with a grand total of 50 birds safely captured and relocated to a permanent environment.

The Peafowl Trapping Program was created to control the overall peafowl population throughout the City and reduce property damage caused by these birds. The City's goal for 2021 was to use humane trapping methods to safely capture and relocate a total of fifty birds from two targeted neighborhoods, Sunnyside Ridge and Vista Grande. For more information and resources, please visit the City's website at:

<https://www.rpvca.gov/337/Peafowl>

LOCAL NEWS • News

No more noise: City Council approves new Torrance Airport noise monitoring system



A light aircraft comes in for a landing at Torrance Airport. (Wednesday, Feb 24, 2021 photo by Chuck Bennett, contributing photographer)

By **KRISTY HUTCHINGS** | khutchings@SCNG.com |

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Torrance will pay \$284,000 to install a new noise monitoring and reduction system at its municipal airport, after the City Council OK'd a contract with a third-party contract — more than a year after nixing its previous system because of financial concerns.

The City Council recently approved a contract with Casper Airport Solutions Inc. to install the new



Besides the one-time installation costs, which will include relocating two noise monitoring stations that are difficult to access because of vegetation overgrowth, the city will also pay Casper \$70,212 annually for system maintenance, licensing and support. The annual costs will pay for noise violation monitoring, identifying violating aircrafts and generating violation letters.

“We need to make clear that this project does not make use of General Fund monies,” said Linda Cessna, Torrance’s deputy community services director. “The funds for the project come from the airport operating budget and from a fee that had been established for the purpose of replacing the noise abatement system.”

The news comes as a relief to dozens of Torrance residents who live near the airport.

In September 2020, the City Council voted to cancel Torrance’s previous long-term noise monitoring program — which cost \$148,000 annually — citing budgetary concerns. That vote came as the city dealt with the financial fallout from the coronavirus pandemic and the subsequent business closures.

The system was fully taken out of operation on Oct. 1 of that year.

There was no backup system in place to monitor noise. So the city was left without a way to monitor or investigate noise incidents — and because there was no data to prove an increase in noise, residents were left without any effective means to address their complaints.

But by the end of 2020, the Torrance Airport Commission had received a considerable increase in complaints, the panel said — upwards of 500 more than the previous year.

“It should be noted that complaints began a sharp increase during the COVID19 lockdown period,” the report said, “which likely reflects in part the fact that more residents are at home and are more aware of aircraft overflights.”

Of the 854 total complaints lodged in the fourth quarter of 2020, Airport Commission staff said, only 114 were submitted by unique individuals.

“Regular reporting parties,” otherwise known as repeat complainers, were responsible for 740 of the filed grievances.

Still, concerned locals called and wrote in to the City Council’s Tuesday, Dec. 14, meeting to show their support for implementing a new noise abatement program.

Residents may have to wait a bit longer for peace and quiet, though: City officials and a representative from Casper said that it could take as long as five to six months to have the new system fully installed and operational.

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