



## **LAX/COMMUNITY NOISE ROUNDTABLE**

Recap of the Regular Meeting of May 9, 2012

### **Roundtable Members Present**

Denny Schneider, Chairman, Westchester Neighbors Association  
Carl Jacobson, Vice Chairman, City of El Segundo  
Blake LaMar, City of Palos Verdes Estates  
Beverly Ackerson, PANIC  
Matt Waters, Staff, City of Rancho Palos Verdes  
Chad Molnar, City of Los Angeles - CD 11  
Danna Cope, LAX Area Advisory Committee  
Yvonne Bedford, Ladera Heights Civic Association  
John Bailey, Southeast Torrance Homeowners' Association  
Steve May and Rolan Morel, Federal Aviation Administration  
Michael Feldman, LAWA

### **LAWA, Roundtable, and Consultant Staff**

Kathryn Pantoja, LAWA  
Scott Tatro, LAWA  
Georgiana Streeter, LAWA  
Steve Alverson, Roundtable Facilitator

A quorum of the members was present.

### **1. Welcome/Review of the Meeting Format**

Roundtable Facilitator Steve Alverson welcomed everyone to the meeting and reviewed the meeting format.

### **2. Call to order**

Roundtable Chairman Denny Schneider called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm in the Samuel Greenberg Boardroom at LAX.

### **3. Comments from the Public**

Chairman Denny Schneider opened the public comment portion of the meeting. No comments were offered. The public comment period was closed.

Member Ackerson mentioned that she had heard a lot of aircraft over the Peninsula. She made calls to the FAA and it stopped.

#### **4. Consideration of New Membership Request from Southeast Torrance Homeowners Association**

The Roundtable considered the membership request by the Southeast Torrance Homeowners' Association (SETHA). Member Cope moved and member Ackerson seconded that the Roundtable accept the SETHA's membership request. The motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Schneider requested that a Roundtable Member binder be provided to SETHA representative John Bailey at the July meeting. He also requested that an updated membership roster reflecting the recent membership changes be provided to the members at the July meeting.

#### **5. Work Program Item B5: Status Report on Soundproofing Program**

LAWA staff member Scott Tatro provided a briefing on the status of LAWA's Land Use Mitigation Program (LUMP). Scott explained that LAX has an approved Federal Aviation Regulation Part 150 Noise Compatibility Program (NCP), which permits LAWA and the affected jurisdictions to apply for noise mitigation funding from the Federal Aviation Administration's Airport Improvement Program. LAWA also provides supplemental funding for residential sound insulation programs and some school programs.

[For clarification, please note that the LUMP program provides funding to the affected jurisdictions and school districts to insulate homes and schools within the 65 CNEL noise contour. Each jurisdiction can also apply for additional noise mitigation funding from the FAA as part of the approved Part 150 NCP.]

Scott reviewed the typical sound insulation techniques and the target interior noise level (45 CNEL) and decibel reduction (5 decibels) as well as the parameters of the residential acquisition programs. Scott explained that there are six separate programs at LAX: four residential and two school districts. [Please note that residential sound insulation programs are managed by the affected jurisdictions (Cities of Los Angeles, El Segundo, Inglewood and County of Los Angeles), while school sound insulation programs are managed by the affected school districts (Lennox and Inglewood School Districts).]

Member Cope said that she understood that there were issues with schools in the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) and wasn't sure if they had received sound insulation. Scott said that there was a settlement years ago where LAWA provided funding and received easements over all of the schools, so the LAUSD schools are considered compatible. He also went over the program's regulatory guidance, which includes federal, state, and Los Angeles Board of Airport Commissioners' guidance as well as direction from the 2006 Stipulated Settlement Agreement and the 2005 Community Benefits Agreement.

Scott provided a status update for each of the jurisdictions' residential sound insulation programs in detail including the total funding to date, the number of units completed, the number of units remaining, and the average cost per unit.

Scott then reviewed the two school programs. He explained that per the Settlement Agreement with Lennox School District, thirteen (13) schools will receive up to \$111 M in treatments. FAA has approved a Passenger Facility Charge (PFC) application of \$35 M to be used on this program. Lennox School District has received \$11.2 M to date for sound insulation.

A separate Settlement Agreement with Inglewood School District provides for up to \$118 M for ten (10) schools within that District. LAWA is working with the district to obtain the information required to complete the PFC application in order to receive funding

Chairman Schneider remarked that a hurdle for homeowners is that homes need to be brought up to code before they can receive treatment. Chairman Schneider asked if new homes would receive treatment. Scott said that new construction must be built to the current building code, which means they would already meet the 45 CNEL requirement and therefore would not be eligible.

Member Ackerson asked when the Inglewood School District PFC application would be completed. LAWA representative Mike Feldman said that LAWA is doing everything possible to work with the Inglewood School District to get the PFC completed and approved. Member Ackerson added that sometimes school districts need help. LAWA representative Feldman said the school districts can reach out to LAWA for any assistance they need. Member Ackerson suggested that perhaps an outline could be provided to the Inglewood School District. LAWA representative Feldman replied that the approved Lennox PFC application had been provided to the Inglewood School District.

Member Molnar asked that the presentation be e-mailed to the members. Scott Tatro replied that all of the presentations would be available on the LAX Roundtable website a few days after the meeting.

Member Molnar also said that Council District 11 is hearing from new homeowners that would like to be in the program, but have been told their applications were submitted after the deadline. Scott Tatro said that LAWA must make a good faith effort to reach out to homeowners and they have made multiple notifications. LAWA representative Feldman added that the program is voluntary, so LAWA cannot force people to sign up.

Chair Schneider said that soundproofing wears out and would like to know if there will be funding in the future for the replacement of worn out treatments. Chairman Schneider said that he understands that the FAA had funded a study in Boston and asked FAA representative Steve May if he would follow-up on this issue. Roundtable Facilitator Steve Alverson said that since there are still many homes to be treated at airports throughout the United States, it will likely be many years before funding would be available to repair previously treated homes.

Member Ackerson said that a study had been performed that indicated that there were cancer clusters near LAX and that young baby's lungs were not developing due to air quality issues. LAWA Representative Feldman reminded the members that the Roundtable is charged with addressing noise issues not air quality issues, but since topic had been raised, he wanted the Roundtable to know that LAWA was undertaking the largest and most comprehensive air quality study near an airport in the United States ever. He said the results would be available in early 2013. Representative Feldman added that it is important to keep

in mind that there are many air emission sources in the vicinity of LAX including refineries, the freeways, and other stationary sources.

Persons interested in reviewing Scott's full Status Report on Soundproofing Program presentation may access it in the "Presentations" section of the [LAX Roundtable website](#).

## **6. Aviation Noise 101**

Roundtable Facilitator Steve Alverson provided a presentation on the basics of aviation noise that was intended to serve as a primer for new Roundtable members and a refresher for Roundtable members that have been involved for many years. Steve covered the following topics in his presentation: Aircraft Noise Roles and Responsibilities; Regulatory Framework; Aircraft Noise Metrics; Quantifying Noise Exposure; Propagation of Noise; and Noise "Rules of Thumb".

Persons interested in reviewing Steve's full Aviation Noise 101 presentation may access it in the "Presentations" section of the [LAX Roundtable website](#).

## **7. Windsor Hills Noise Investigation**

Since Member JoAnn Williams who had requested an investigation of aircraft noise in Windsor Hills was absent, Chairman Schneider entertained a motion to table the presentation until the July meeting. Vice Chair Jacobson made the motion, which was seconded by member Cope and carried unanimously.

## **8. Aviation Noise News Update**

Steve Alverson gave a presentation on several current aviation noise news topics. Steve reported on FAA's 2012 Plan on NextGen implementation, which includes specific goals including the creation of tailored arrivals for aircraft arriving from oceanic crossings, a user consultation program to receive input from stakeholders, and a financial incentive program for aircraft that are first equipped with NextGen technology. The complete implementation plan can be found at: [www.faa.gov/nextgen/implementation/plan](http://www.faa.gov/nextgen/implementation/plan).

Steve also reported on discussions at the 2012 U.C. Davis Aviation Noise and Emissions Symposium indicating that Satellite-based Performance-Based Navigation (PBN) procedures need to be created as a collaborative process between airports and communities. It was also noted that Congress set June 30, 2015 as the deadline for having all RNP/RNAV procedures in place at 35 of the Country's busiest airports.

As has been discussed with the Roundtable in the past, Steve reported that the FAA and Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) are trying to determine how to comply with Categorical Exclusion language in the recently passed FAA funding reauthorization bill. The bill requires that the FAA Administrator give CATEX's from environmental review to PBN procedures if they result in reductions in fuel consumption, CO2 emissions, and noise. The CATEX provision requires the FAA to measure fuel, CO2, and noise on a *Per Flight Basis* against operations on existing instrument flight procedures.

Finally, Steve discussed the policy statement issued March 28, 2012 by the FAA's Office of Environment and Energy that detailed the conditions under which the agency's new Aviation Environmental Design Tool (AEDT) must be used in place of older emissions and noise

models such as the Emissions Dispersion Modeling System (EDMS). The policy states that AEDT Version 2a will be required when modeling noise, fuel burn, and emissions where “the study area is larger than the immediate vicinity of an airport, incorporates more than one airport, or includes actions above 3,000 feet above ground level.” AEDT will replace the Integrated Noise Model as the FAA-approved noise model in a couple of years.

Persons interested in reviewing Steve’s full Aviation News Noise presentation may access it in the “Presentations” section of the [LAX Roundtable website](#).

## **9. Roundtable Member Discussion**

FAA representative Steve May told the Roundtable that the Southern California Metroplex project will commence its design and implementation phase in October of this year. Once a local project manager has been assigned, that person will work with the local jurisdictions to receive input and hear concerns.

Member Cope expressed concern regarding the closure of the gate to the parking lot prior to the start of the Roundtable meetings and asked if the gate could be left open on Roundtable meeting nights. Other members explained that there is a pedestrian gate with a call box that is available for Roundtable members to gain access to the facility.

## **10. Review of Roundtable Actions and Requests from Members**

### **Formal Actions**

The Roundtable approved the membership request from the Southeast Torrance Homeowners Association as an at-large representative.

The Windsor Hills Presentation was tabled and will be rescheduled for the July 11, 2012 Roundtable meeting.

### **Requests from Members**

Chairman Schneider requested that a Roundtable Membership Binder be provided to the Southeast Torrance Homeowners Association and that a new, updated membership roster reflecting the recent membership changes be provided to all Roundtable members for inclusion in their binders.

Chairman Schneider also requested FAA representative Steve May to report back on the FAA-funded study that examined worn out soundproofing treatments and any future FAA actions to address this issue.

## **11. Adjournment**

Chairman Schneider noted that the next LAX Roundtable meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, July 11, 2012 and adjourned the meeting at 8:44 PM.