



September 24, 2012

Mr. Joe Hebert, APP-500
Mr. Ralph Thompson, APP-400
US Department of Transportation
Federal Aviation Administration
800 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20591

Re: LAX Roundtable Objection to Federal Aviation Administration Program Guidance Letter
12-09 - Eligibility and Justification AIP Requirements for Noise Insulation Projects

Dear Mr. Hebert and Mr. Thompson:

I am writing to you on behalf of the Los Angeles International Airport/Community Noise Roundtable (LAX Roundtable) to express LAX Roundtable's concern and disappointment regarding the Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA) August 17, 2012 release of Program Guidance Letter (PGL) 12-09 – Eligibility and Justification AIP Requirements for Noise Insulation Projects.

The LAX Roundtable is a voluntary and independent body that consists of membership from local elected officials and staff, representatives of congressional offices, members of recognized community groups, the airlines, the Federal Aviation Administration, and Los Angeles World Airports. These parties work together to identify noise issues that affect communities surrounding LAX and to seek feasible solutions to reduce noise over those affected communities.

The LAX Roundtable is concerned because as it is written, FAA PGL 12-09 fundamentally changes the manner in which FAA has historically administered funding for Residential Sound Insulation Programs (RSIPs), which will impact the RSIPs in the communities near LAX. PGL 12-09 creates a second criterion, a 45 dB or greater interior level, which makes it more difficult for homes to qualify for sound insulation treatment. We anticipate that this change will result in the elimination of many homes that previously qualified under the original 65 dB CNEL criterion. The criterion also has the potential to further delay the installation of sound insulation treatments as additional acoustical testing is required under FAA's new guidance. Residents who have waited for many years to receive treatment will now have to wait even longer and may face removal from the program.

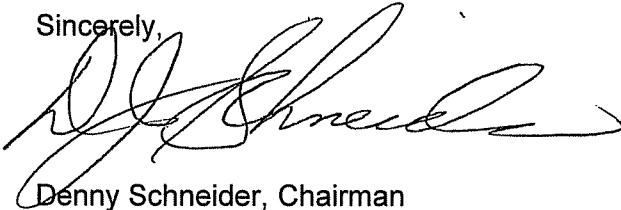
Mr. Joe Hebert and Mr. Ralph Thompson
Federal Aviation Administration
September 24, 2012
Page 2

The LAX Roundtable is disappointed because FAA did not provide an opportunity for the residents affected by the FAA's action to provide comment on the PGL prior to its release. There are hundreds of residents near LAX that are expecting to participate in one of several RSIP programs, who may now learn that their homes do not qualify because FAA changed the eligibility requirements midstream. This change in FAA policy will erode the public's trust and good will that has been built up over the years.

The LAX Roundtable respectfully requests that FAA suspend PGL 12-09 until a series of public hearings are held throughout the United States to permit residents an opportunity to comment on the FAA's proposed action and congressional representatives have an opportunity to query FAA about its actions. The LAX Roundtable further requests that at least one of the public hearings be held in one of the communities receiving sound insulation near LAX. Finally, the LAX Roundtable also requests a written response to this letter.

The LAX Roundtable appreciates your attention to this important matter that impacts thousands of residents who are affected by noise from aircraft operations at LAX every day. The position stated in this letter is the opinion of the majority of the membership of the Roundtable and is not the official position of the Federal Aviation Administration, the City of Los Angeles or Los Angeles World Airports.

Sincerely,



Denny Schneider, Chairman
LAX/Community Noise Roundtable

cc: The Honorable Maxine Waters, 35th Congressional District
The Honorable Janice Hahn, 36th Congressional District
The Honorable Dianne Feinstein, United States Senate
The Honorable Barbara Boxer, United States Senate