



June 11, 2015

Robert Henry
Manager, SoCal Metroplex
Western Service Center
Federal Aviation Administration
1601 E. Valley Road
Renton, WA 98057

RE: Request 60-Day Public Comment Period for FAA's Southern California Metroplex Project

Dear Mr. Henry:

The Los Angeles International Airport/Community Noise Roundtable (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, airlines, Los Angeles World Airports (LAWA), and the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) as a non-voting member. These parties work together to identify noise issues that affect communities surrounding Los Angeles International Airport (LAX) and to seek feasible solutions to reduce aircraft noise in those affected communities.

A few years ago, the FAA informed the Roundtable of the plan to optimize airspace and flight procedures in Southern California to provide more efficient, direct routes for air traffic. The Roundtable understands that this Southern California (SoCal) Metroplex Project is part of a national program to implement satellite-based navigation flight procedures that will improve upon existing, but less efficient, ground-based radar navigation procedures. The results of this project will be new approach and departure procedures that change where and how aircraft fly today.

The FAA indicated that the proposed flight procedures will be available for review after the Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) is released. The Roundtable now received notification that the FAA has published the Draft EA to document FAA's analysis of the environmental impacts resulting from the implementation of the SoCal Metroplex Project. The *Public Notice of Availability: FAA Southern California Metroplex Draft Environmental Assessment Release* stated that the public will have 30 days (June 10, 2015 through July 10, 2015) to review and submit comments to the FAA with regards to the potential environmental impacts of the project.

Given that this is the first opportunity for the Roundtable and the public to review the proposed flight procedures, and due to the large scale of the project with many procedures proposed for Southern California airports, additional time is necessary to thoroughly review all proposed procedures, evaluate potential noise implications, and submit comments accordingly. Therefore, the Roundtable respectfully requests that the FAA extend the 30-day public comment period by an additional 30 days. Extending the public comment period to 60 days will allow the FAA to receive valuable input on the potential noise effects that the new procedures may have on residential communities. The FAA will then have the opportunity to make refinements to

Robert Henry, FAA
June 11, 2015
Page 2

procedure designs, based on community input, to minimize noise exposure prior to implementation. These efforts will help the FAA achieve a higher level of success with the project's implementation.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. 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: Elizabeth L. Ray, FAA
Glen A. Martin, FAA
Ryan Weller, FAA
Roundtable Members