



LAX/COMMUNITY NOISE ROUNDTABLE

Recap of the Regular Meeting of March 8, 2017

Roundtable Members Present

Carl Jacobson, City of El Segundo
Robert Acherman, Westchester Neighbors Association
Robert Nemeth, City of Rancho Palos Verdes
Margaret Peters, City of Los Angeles – Council District 8
Geoff Thompson, City of Los Angeles – Council District 11
Danna Cope, LAX Area Advisory Committee
JoAnn Williams, United Homeowners Association
Martin Rubin, North Westdale Neighborhood Association
Laurie Smith, Bluff Park Neighborhood Association
Stephen Murray, City of Culver City
Ron Bow, City of Monterey Park
Jim Withrow, City of Inglewood
Polly Low, City of Rosemead
Terry Boyle, Federal Aviation Administration
Scott Tatro, LAWA

LAWA and Consultant Staff

Kendrick Okuda, LAWA
Kathryn Pantoja, LAWA
David Chan, LAWA
Steve Alverson, ESA
Karen Calderon, ESA

A quorum of the members was present.

1. Welcome/Review of the Meeting Format

Roundtable Facilitator Steve Alverson welcomed members and informed all to stay on topic and on schedule. Alverson noted: Acting Roundtable Chair may permit comments on other agenda items as time permits and asked speakers to complete comments within 3 minutes.

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

Acting Chairman Carl Jacobson called the meeting.

3. Comments from the Public

A resident of Santa Monica indicated that he analyzed flight data using a small sample near the Santa Monica VOR and found an increase in operations, late night flights, and aircraft flying at lower altitudes.

4. Consideration of United Homeowners Association's Request for Reappointment in Roundtable Membership

LAWA staff member David Chan presented the request for Roundtable membership reappointment of United Homeowners Association (UHA) for consideration. Member Cope's motion to reappoint and confirm the UHA membership was seconded by Member Withrow, and unanimously approved by the Roundtable.

5. Consideration of Supporting H.R. 598 Airplane Impacts Mitigation Act of 2017

Facilitator Steve Alverson reviewed the Airplane Impacts Mitigation Act of 2017 (H.R. 598), a bill that directs the FAA to conduct a study of health impacts of airplane flights on affected residents in certain metropolitan areas such as Boston, Chicago, New York, the Northern California Metroplex region, Phoenix, and up to three additional cities.

Mr. Alverson recommended that the Roundtable send a letter to Transportation and Infrastructure Committee Chairman Schuster with copies to the Committee Members and the 18 co-sponsors, supporting the bill's passage and requesting that the bill include the Los Angeles Region as one of the three additional areas in the study. He also recommended that if the bill passes, the Roundtable send a letter to FAA Administrator Michael P. Huerta requesting that the Los Angeles Region be selected as one of the study areas.

Roundtable members discussed Mr. Alverson's recommendations and decided in favor of sending the aforementioned letter(s) to the recommended recipients as well as to local congressional and senatorial representatives. After discussion, Member Acherman made a motion to send a letter supporting H.R. 598 as suggested. The motion was seconded by Member Murray and unanimously approved by the Roundtable.

6. Briefing on UC Davis Noise Symposium (Postponed)

Postponed to the May 10, 2017 meeting, to allow Member Cope to prepare her briefing.

7. Work Program A1 – Review/Discussion of Key SoCal Metroplex Flight Procedures Scheduled for implementation in March/April 2017

LAWA representative Scott Tatro reviewed key changes in flight procedures that are a part of the FAA SoCal Metroplex project. Mr. Tatro showed two Metroplex videos then compared the current procedures to the new Metroplex procedures using flight track density maps. Mr. Tatro closed by noting that the implementation of the Metroplex project may cause some communities to notice a concentration of flight tracks, an increase or a decrease in aircraft overflights and noise, an increase or decrease in aircraft altitudes, aircraft on different flight tracks, and/or no change at all.

Member Low requested that, for future presentations, LAWA include altitude information for the Metroplex flight procedure graphics and use colors that would make the flight tracks easier to see when projected on the screen. Scott Tatro indicated that altitudes for certain

waypoints are included in the presentation graphics and that staff had examined several options before finalizing the colors to represent the flight track density.

Member Murray suggested that LAWA may want to look at aircraft types that tend to fly through the “top of the window” versus those aircraft that fly through the “bottom of the window” when flying the Metroplex procedures.

Member Smith requested information on the percentage of aircraft fleet at LAX that is currently equipped to fly the Metroplex procedures as well as a forecast of future equipage.

The complete presentation related to “A1 – Review/Discussion of Key SoCal Metroplex Flight Procedures” can be found on the Roundtable webpage at <http://www.lawa.org/LAXNoiseRoundTable.aspx>.

8. Roundtable Member Discussion

LAWA representative Scott Tatro indicated that in order to handle the increasing volume of noise complaints, LAWA is currently reevaluating its noise complaint response process with the goal of creating a system that is more effective, uses best management practices, employs new technologies (such as videos and graphics), and utilizes other resources to inform the public in a more efficient manner.

Member Peters suggested lowering aircraft noise level standards to less than the Day-Night Average Sound Level (DNL) of 65 dB to decrease the number of complaints. Mr. Alverson noted that the FAA is in the process of a multi-year investigation to determine whether DNL 65 is still the correct noise level for land use compatibility planning.

Member Withrow commented that it seems unfair that the FAA directs aircraft where to fly but LAWA is the one who receives complaints and is responsible for responding to them.

Other Roundtable members suggested increasing the use of automated responses and partnering with FAA representatives to consolidate responses for community members.

Member Smith suggested that the Roundtable place this discussion on a future agenda to solicit feedback on improving the noise complaint handling system. Mr. Tatro indicated that LAWA will do so once the internal process is completed.

9. Review of Roundtable Formal Action Items

Mr. Alverson reviewed the formal actions taken at tonight’s meeting.

- Member Cope’s motion to reappoint and confirm the membership of the United Homeowners Association was seconded by Member Withrow and unanimously approved by the Roundtable.
- Member Acherman’s motion to send a letter to Chair Schuster supporting H.R. 598 was seconded by Member Murray and unanimously approved by the Roundtable.

10. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m. PST. The next regular Roundtable meeting is scheduled for May 10, 2017 and will be held in the Samuel Greenberg Boardroom at LAX.