



LAX/COMMUNITY NOISE ROUNDTABLE

Recap of the Regular Meeting of September 12, 2018

Hawthorne Memorial Center – Venus Room
3901 W El Segundo Boulevard
Hawthorne, CA 90250

Roundtable Members Present

Denny Schneider, Westchester Neighbors Association
Carl Jacobson, City of El Segundo
Blake LaMar, City of Palos Verdes Estates
Robert Nemeth, City of Rancho Palos Verdes
Roxanne Ferebee, City of Redondo Beach
Albizaal Del Valle, City of Los Angeles – Council District 8
Jeff Camp, City of Los Angeles – Council District 10
Geoff Thompson, City of Los Angeles – Council District 11
Danna Cope, LAX Area Advisory Committee
Michael Salman, United Neighborhoods Neighborhood Council
Goran Eriksson, City of Culver City
Teresa Real Sebastian, City of Monterey Park
Olivia Valentine, City of Hawthorne
Jim Withrow, City of Inglewood
Jim Robilotta, 360 at South Bay Homeowners Association
Kendrick Okuda, LAWA

Guest Speaker

Joe Czech, HMMH

LAWA and Consultant Staff

Kathryn Pantoja, LAWA
David Chan, LAWA
Steven Alverson, ESA
Karen Calderon, ESA

A quorum of the members was present.

1. Welcome/Review of the Meeting Format

Roundtable Facilitator Steve Alverson welcomed the members and public and indicated his role was to ensure all participants stay on topic so that the meeting stays on schedule.

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

Chairman Schneider called the meeting to order. Roundtable Members said the Pledge of Allegiance and introduced themselves.

3. Comments from the Public

Chairman Schneider called for public comments with one-minute allotted for each speaker.

A representative from Huntington Beach described how residents are affected by aircraft noise due partly to the geographic location of Huntington Beach in relation to three airports.

A resident from Culver City asked for more information on how Rancho Palos Verdes managed to get flight paths adjusted for their city as announced in the previous Roundtable meeting.

A resident from Moorpark commented on the concentration of aircraft over his home due to the IRNMN waypoint and recommended aircraft fly over agricultural land instead of residences.

A representative from West Adams thanked the LAX Metroplex/Wide Area Ad Hoc Committee for their hard work.

4. 360 at South Bay Community Noise Evaluation

Mr. Czech briefed the Roundtable on the aircraft noise evaluation for the 360 South Bay Community, consistent with Work Item A15. His presentation included the objective and scope of the study, background information, and results. He noted the study's results suggest the leading factors of noise variation in the community were temperature inversions and unfavorable winds. Mr. Czech indicated that there was no correlation between the number of aircraft operations and increased noise in the 360 Community. He added that there are no feasible noise mitigation measures.

Roundtable members raised questions regarding the methodology used, including whether the study accounted for arrivals and departures, humidity, ground noise, noise frequency, and aircraft types. Mr. Czech responded that factors such as direction of flight/traffic flow pattern, humidity, and noise frequency were included in the full report, but were determined not to be significant factors and were not included in the presentation. Ground noise and cargo operations were included as part of the average noise levels. He noted that the study did not include segregate noise levels by aircraft types.

A roundtable member asked about the contract under which the work was performed and the contract value. Mr. Czech noted that HMMH, the company hired to conduct this study, is a sub-consultant to a company that has an on-call contract with LAWA. He estimated that the contract amount for this study was approximately \$50,000.

The resident from 360 at South Bay Community who helped collect data for this study, questioned averaging the noise levels over the course of the day because noise was very

high from 6 PM to midnight, while the remaining 18 hours of the day were relatively quiet. Mr. Czech explained that noise averages are logarithmic and therefore averages are weighted by the high peaks. He also noted hourly noise data is included in the forthcoming full report.

Members of the Roundtable requested that a copy of the full report for the 360 at South Bay Community Noise Evaluation be distributed to the full Roundtable membership when it becomes available.

5. Report from LAX Metroplex/Wide Area Ad Hoc Committee

The Chair of the LAX Metroplex/Wide Area Ad Hoc Committee, Geoff Thompson, briefed the Roundtable on altitude data trends for the DAHJR waypoint, the Ad Hoc Committee's meeting with the FAA on September 5, 2018, and efforts to raise altitudes of North Downwind Arrivals through charted visual flight procedures (CVFPs).

Key points of Member Thompson's presentation are as follows:

- July and August data for the DAHJR waypoint showed a slight decrease in the percentage of flights flying at or below 5,700 feet (representing the 6,000-foot minimum altitude at DAHJR with a +/- 300-foot variation).
- As of August 30, 2018, all flights are assigned at a minimum altitude level of 5,000 feet between 1 AM and 5 AM. However, after further discussions with FAA representative Michael Valencia, the FAA agreed to increase that minimum altitude level to 6,000 feet during 1 AM to 5 AM.
- The Ad Hoc Committee expressed its desire to further expand timeframe beyond 1 AM to 5 AM for altitude restrictions.
- The FAA provided the Southern California TRACON Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) to the Ad Hoc Committee as requested previously.
- LAWA has begun the process of working with the FAA on investigating the viability of CVFPs.

6. Report from By-Laws Ad Hoc Committee

The Chair of the By-Laws Ad Hoc Committee, Carl Jacobson, informed the Roundtable that he is working on amending the bylaws to create a second Vice-Chair position as well as any other updates the members wish to see. He indicated that he will send out a draft of the proposed revision to the Bylaws to the Roundtable members for review and for a vote at the next meeting. Member Real Sebastian expressed interest to be part of the By-Laws Ad Hoc Committee.

Member Real Sebastian made a motion to continue the By-laws Ad Hoc Committee discussion to the next Roundtable meeting, which was seconded by Member LaMar and passed unanimously.

7. Report from Administrative Support Ad Hoc Committee

The Chair of the Administrative Support Ad Hoc Committee, Goran Eriksson, discussed ways in which the member cities could provide administrative support to the Roundtable's operation, such as hiring an independent consultant and providing administrative support,

web hosting, and meeting venues. He asked for participation or support from the Roundtable members. Member Eriksson noted the purpose of this Ad Hoc Committee is to develop a concrete estimate of how much money would be required for the Roundtable to obtain such services and requested participation or support from the Roundtable members. Member Salman offered to forward the FAR Part 161 contract to Chair Eriksson for reference.

8. Update on LAX Noise Comment Process

Member Okuda briefed the Roundtable on LAWA's efforts to improve the LAX noise comment process. LAWA has been working with a consultant to improve the timeliness and content of responses to public comments using available staff resources and automation tools. He noted that as of September 1st, LAWA has been able to respond to new individuals within three business days and existing individuals within five business days. Actual response time for both new and repeat individuals is approximately 2 business days. He added that LAWA is also exploring the creation of a noise web portal that will integrate information relating to aircraft noise issues.

9. Roundtable Member Discussion

Chairman Schneider opened the floor for general Roundtable member discussion.

Member Salman noted a problem with sharing information, citing that a study Steve Alverson authored on ground noise had not been reviewed by the HMMH consultant prior to conducting the aircraft noise evaluation for the 360 South Bay Community. Mr. Alverson later stated that the study Mr. Salman cited was conducted over 15 years ago.

Member Salman also noted that there was a misunderstanding regarding the Metroplex Ad Hoc Committee's discussions with the FAA. He clarified the Ad Hoc Committee did not consider the 5,000-foot altitude threshold acceptable and has taken strategic steps to further increase altitudes and expand quiet hours beyond 1 AM to 5 AM. Member Salmon also informed the Roundtable members that this was his last meeting as the Roundtable representative for UNNC.

Member Valentine restated the 360 at South Bay Community concerns regarding the study's use of average versus hourly noise levels and the fact that complaint data from LAX was not included in the study. She requested this Work Program item be left open. Mr. Alverson noted that all Work Program items remain open until the Roundtable decides to close them.

Member Real Sebastian requested the TRACON SOPs be distributed to the to the full Roundtable membership. She also suggested the LAX Metroplex/Wide Area Ad Hoc Committee next logical point of focus should be the Extended Downwind Approach.

Member Eriksson provided an update about the City of Culver City vs. FAA lawsuit. Oral arguments will be presented October 18, 2018 and the deadline to submit one is September 30, 2018. He encouraged members and the public to write a letter of support to demonstrate that aircraft noise affects communities beyond Culver City.

Member Eriksson also noted the Senate version of the FAA Reauthorization Bill is being amended and that the aviation industry group has written a letter to the Senate requesting no noise amendments for the Senate Reauthorization Bill because noise impacts have dropped since the 1980s. Member Eriksson encouraged members to write to their senators, either as a group or as individuals, to request the inclusion of noise amendments. Members requested the aviation industry group letter be distributed to the full Roundtable membership.

A resident from Culver City commented that the Metroplex Ad Hoc Committee should bring forward all recommendations to the full Roundtable for consideration/approval as stated in the By-Laws to ensure transparency and that all members have input on decisions affecting their communities.

10. Review of Roundtable Action Items

Mr. Alverson reviewed the formal actions taken, which are noted earlier in this meeting recap.

11. Adjournment

Chairman Schneider adjourned the meeting at 8:43 pm PDT.