



LAX/COMMUNITY NOISE ROUNDTABLE

Recap of the Regular Meeting of September 11, 2019

Los Angeles International Airport
Clifton A. Moore Administrative Building
Samuel Greenberg Board Room
1 World Way, Los Angeles, CA 90045

Roundtable Members Present

Denny Schneider, Alliance for a Regional Solution to Airport Congestion
Carl Jacobson, City of El Segundo
Blake LaMar, City of Palos Verdes Estates
Robert Nemeth, City of Rancho Palos Verdes
Jeff Camp, City of Los Angeles – 10th District
Danna Cope, LAX Area Advisory Committee
JoAnn Williams, United Homeowners Association
Gavin Abercrombie, United Neighborhoods Neighborhood Council
Ron Bow, City of Monterey Park
Olivia Valentine, City of Hawthorne
Jim Withrow, City of Inglewood
Roxanne Ferebee, City of Redondo Beach
Jim Robilotta, 360 at South Bay Homeowners Association
Brian Clark, Raintree Condominium & Townhouse Association
Stacey Armato, City of Hermosa Beach
Kathryn Pantoja, LAWA

FAA

Tamara Swann
Faviola Garcia

LAWA and Consultant Staff

David Chan, LAWA
René Spencer, LAWA
Steven Alverson, ESA
Aaron Weiner, ESA

A quorum of the members was present.

1. Welcome/Review of the Meeting Format

Roundtable Facilitator Steve Alverson welcomed the members and the 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 and asked Roundtable members to introduce themselves.

3. Comments from the Public

Chairman Schneider called for public comments. A representative from the Santa Monica Canyon Civic Association commented that sometimes she hears near-constant aircraft noise, but at other times does not hear any noise, despite observing similar numbers of aircraft flying overhead. She requested that more airlines and pilots practice quiet flying techniques over the communities that immediately surround LAX.

Later in the meeting, Chairman Schneider solicited additional comments from members of the public that arrived late. One resident of West Adams and three residents of the City of Inglewood commented on the increase of aircraft noise over their communities as well as the health risks and quality of life impacts associated with noise pollution. The residents from Inglewood commented that they did not qualify for the sound insulation program and, therefore, are subject to consistent aircraft noise disruption. One of the residents requested that the FAA acknowledge the ongoing overhead aircraft noise and suggest solutions.

4. Election and Appointment of 2nd Vice Chair

Member Cope reported that no nominations were submitted for the position of 2nd Vice Chair. At Chairman Schneider's request, nominations will continue to be accepted and, voting and appointment of the 2nd Vice Chair would be deferred and brought forward at the next Roundtable meeting.

5. Roundtable 101 Educational Briefing

Mr. Steve Alverson provided an overview of the Roundtable's main characteristics. The topics he covered included: Roundtable meeting conduct; funding and technical support for the Roundtable; the various Roundtable stakeholders; realities of tackling aircraft noise issues; current bylaws; and guidelines for effective Roundtable participation.

Member Camp encouraged other Roundtable members to regularly review the Airport Noise Reports.

The complete presentation related to "Roundtable 101 Educational Briefing" can be found on the Roundtable webpage at <http://www.lawa.org/LAXNoiseRoundTable.aspx>.

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

Member Camp, as the Acting Ad Hoc Committee Chair, briefed the Roundtable on the Ad Hoc Committee report. He reviewed the altitude trends at DAHJR between 1 AM and 5 AM, and noted noticeable improvement as of March 2019 when the FAA agreed to assign a minimum altitude of 6,000 ft. to flights passing through this waypoint during this time period. He also noted that due to a recent lawsuit filed against the FAA by the City of Los Angeles,

FAA representatives are not able to participate in Roundtable discussions regarding the North Downwind Arrival until the lawsuit is resolved. He added that the FAA can still continue working on improving the altitudes at DAHJR between 1 AM and 5 AM as this effort was started before the lawsuit was filed.

The complete presentation related to “Report from LAX Metroplex/Wide Area Ad Hoc Committee” can be found on the Roundtable webpage at <http://www.lawa.org/LAXNoiseRoundTable.aspx>.

7. Status Update on Roundtable Facilitator Contract

LAWA staff, Mr. David Chan, noted that the Roundtable Facilitator contract is approaching expiration at the end of this year. Mr. Chan reported that the RFP for the Roundtable Facilitator contract was released on August 19th and that interested contractors would have 30 days to reply. No proposals had been received at the time of this Roundtable meeting.

Mr. Chan explained that after the RFP submission period has concluded, the Evaluation Committee would review the proposals and conduct oral interviews to determine the best firm to provide this service. The evaluation panel members include Ron Bow, David Chan, Kathryn Pantoja, LAWA Deputy Executive Director Samantha Bricker, and Gabby Pacheco from LAWA Community Relations Division.

Once the best firm is determined, LAWA will go to the board to request approval to award the contract to that particular firm. Mr. Chan stated that LAWA hopes to have a new contract in place before the end of the year.

8. Status Update on Technical Feasibility & Noise Evaluation of Community Proposal for North Downwind Arrival Route and Scheduling a Roundtable Meeting to Discuss Study Results

LAWA staff, Mr. David Chan, reported that three sub-consulting firms submitted proposals for conducting this study: ESA, CSDA, and HMMH. LAWA selected CSDA to work on this project and issued a Notice to Proceed to initiate the work on September 10, 2019. The study includes four main tasks: Task 1: Feasibility of the Two Alternatives; Task 2: Noise Evaluation of the Two Alternatives; Task 3: Presentation of Feasibility and Noise Evaluation findings; and Task 4: Prepare a Summary Report.

Member Bow inquired whether the study would involve reaching out to the San Gabriel Council of Governments and the Gateway Cities Council of Governments to see how they would receive the Community Proposal as it has the potential to shift noise to communities that are not on the Roundtable. Ms. Kathryn Pantoja explained that, since this is just a proposal, no community engagement would occur as a part of the Technical Feasibility and Noise Analysis work. She added that the Roundtable would need to decide what actions to take with regard to public outreach depending on the outcome of the study.

Member Clark inquired whether the consultants would provide adjustments to the original proposal to make the proposed changes more feasible. Ms. Pantoja noted that the study does not include developing alternative routes or making adjustments to the original proposal.

Mr. Chan noted that the study is expected to be completed in approximately 2 months and asked that the Roundtable provide LAWA with the flexibility to schedule the meeting either for November or December to discuss the study results. Members agreed.

9. Introducing LAX Fly Quiet Program

LAWA staff, Ms. René Spencer, provided an overview of the proposed LAX Fly Quiet Program that is scheduled for implementation at LAX by the start of 2020. Ms. Spencer explained that the LAX Fly Quiet Program would establish a monitoring and recognition system to encourage airlines to operate as quietly as possible. This Program is similar to the ones already in place at other airports including OAK, ORD, SAN, SEA, LHR, and SFO. However, Ms. Spencer explained that the LAX Fly Quiet Program would differ from those already in place by including bonus points for operators who put forth additional efforts to reduce noise.

Member LaMar suggested that there be some sort of financial incentive built-in to the program to encourage more airline participation and engagement with the program.

Member Clark suggested that the results of the program be made publically available so that community members are aware of which airlines cause the most noise.

Member Bow recommended that FAA air traffic controllers also be involved in the Program.

The complete presentation related to “Introducing LAX Fly Quiet Program” can be found on the Roundtable webpage at <http://www.lawa.org/LAXNoiseRoundTable.aspx>.

10. Work Program C1 – Briefing on Santa Clara/Santa Cruz Roundtable

Mr. Steve Alverson briefed the Roundtable on the Santa Clara/Santa Cruz Airport Community Roundtable (SCSC Roundtable) as part of the LAX Roundtable’s Work Program C1. Mr. Alverson explained that when the FAA instituted the Next Generation Aircraft Transportation System (Next Gen) at airports in that region, surrounding communities who previously were not affected by aircraft operations are now inundated with aircraft noise. Since no venue existed for the community to talk to the FAA, two temporary committees were formed: the Select Committee (SFO) and the Ad Hoc Advisory Committee (SJC). These committees created recommendations, provided them to the FAA, and dissolved thereafter.

However, in 2018, due to the ongoing aircraft noise complaints and demand for engagement with the FAA, the SCSC Roundtable was formed as a permanent committee. The SCSC Roundtable consists of representatives from thirteen regional jurisdictions including two counties and eleven cities. Mr. Alverson reported that the SCSC Roundtable has been meeting on a monthly basis, but recently decided to move to an every-other-month schedule.

Mr. Alverson summarized some of the noise issues that the SCSC Roundtable is currently dealing with the FAA’s implementation of the Select Committee and Ad Hoc Advisory Committee’s recommendations, changes to the SJC LOUPE FIVE departure procedure, and monitoring Instrument Flight Procedures (IFP) Gateway to identify flight procedure changes that may be problematic.

The complete presentation related to “Work Program C1 – Briefing on Santa Clara/Santa Cruz Roundtable” can be found on the Roundtable webpage at <http://www.lawa.org/LAXNoiseRoundTable.aspx>.

11. Roundtable Member Discussion

Chairman Schneider opened the floor for general Roundtable member discussion.

Member Camp mentioned covering environmental issues as part of the Roundtable's scope.

Mr. Chan noted the next meeting would take place in the Samuel Greenberg Board Room at LAX at 6:30 pm on Wednesday, November 13, 2019.

12. Review of Roundtable Action Items

Mr. Alverson noted that there were no formal actions taken at this meeting.

13. Adjournment

Chairman Schneider adjourned the meeting at 8:29 pm PDT.