

January 8, 2020

Raquel Girvin
Regional Administrator
Federal Aviation Administration
Western-Pacific Regional Office
777 S Aviation Blvd, Suite 150
El Segundo, CA 90425

Subject: Request to Release FAA's Noise Annoyance Survey Results

Dear Ms. Girvin:

The LAX/Community Noise Roundtable (Roundtable) is aware that the FAA initiated the National Noise Annoyance Survey over four years ago to examine public perceptions of aircraft noise around 20 airports in the United States. Similar social surveys were conducted in the 1970s that provided the scientific foundation for the development of the Day-Night Average Sound Level (DNL) noise metric. As the FAA's Aviation Noise Abatement Policy is based on data that are over 40 years old, it is our understanding that this current research is intended to provide updated data that could be used to re-evaluate the current approach of using DNL 65 dB as the threshold of significance in determining noise exposure in noise sensitive areas.

The Roundtable understands that the FAA has completed the study, but has not released the results as the agency is still conducting internal reviews of the study results. The Roundtable values the importance of this noise annoyance study and believes that it may offer noise reduction benefits to residents located outside the 65 DNL contour should the results warrant changes to the current policy pertaining to aircraft noise exposure. For this reason, the Roundtable encourages the FAA to release the results without any further delay.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. The Roundtable values the long history of working together with the FAA on aircraft noise issues and appreciates your continual support of our efforts to explore ways to reduce aircraft noise. We look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

Denny Schneider, Chairman

LAX/Community Noise Roundtable

cc: Roundtable Members