March 17, 2014

Board of Airport Commissioners
Los Angeles World Airports
PO Box 92216
Los Angeles, CA 90009

Subject: Opposition to Re-opening of the LAX Heliport

The Los Angeles International Airport/Community Noise Roundtable (Roundtable) is an organization that consists of local elected officials and staff, representatives of congressional offices, members of recognized community groups, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), and Los Angeles World Airports (LAWA). These parties work together to identify noise issues that affect the communities surrounding Los Angeles International Airport (LAX) and to seek feasible solutions to reduce noise over those affected communities.

One of those issues is the re-opening of the LAX Heliport. Noise stemming from helicopter operations is especially disturbing since the FAA has not established any stringent minimum altitude requirements for helicopters. As a result, helicopters can operate at low altitudes and fly over residential areas without any restrictions on the number of flights or the duration. This has resulted in serious quality of life issue for residents and as a result, elected officials in local, county, state and federal positions have supported legislation to address the problem.

Our elected congressional representatives have passed Federal legislation to require the Secretary of Transportation to review the impact of helicopter use on the quality of life and safety of the people of Los Angeles County. The proposed reopening of the LAX heliport is contrary to the legislation passed by the U.S. Congress to address the issue.

The additional annoying helicopter noise generated over the surround communities is not a compelling reason to reopen the heliport. Therefore, the LAX/Community Noise Roundtable recommends the LAX Heliport not be reopened.

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 FAA, the City of Los Angeles or Los Angeles World Airports.

Sincerely,

Denny Schneider, Chairman
LAX Community Noise Roundtable