

LAX Community Noise Roundtable

Aviation Noise News Update
January 9, 2013



LAX Passenger Traffic Up Slightly Over Last Year

- **Passenger traffic at LAX increased slightly in the first eleven months of 2012 as compared to 2011**
 - Overall traffic increased 2.53 percent
 - Total passengers totaled 58.3 million in 2012 as compared to 56.8 million in 2011
 - Both domestic and international traffic increased
- **Large network carriers continue to add passengers, while commuter airlines are cutting back at LAX**
 - The number of passengers flying on commuter flights fell by 8.6 percent
- **Aircraft operations at LAX remained relatively flat through November 2012, showing about a half percent increase over the same period last year**

LAX Board Approves Funding for Residential Sound Insulation

- **The Los Angeles Board of Airport Commissioners awarded a contract to Karabuild Development Inc. for a portion of the work to be undertaken as part of the LAX Residential Soundproofing Program for the City of Los Angeles**
 - The Board approved the contract on November 13, 2012
 - The contract (\$2,378,803) covers sound-insulation modifications on 112 dwellings
 - 43 Single-family Dwellings
 - 3 Duplexes
 - 5 Triplexes
 - 3 Apartment Buildings totaling 48 units
 - All units are located within Los Angeles City Council Districts 8 and 11
- **The LAX Residential Soundproofing Program for the City of Los Angeles includes approximately 9,400 residences**
 - Communities include: South Los Angeles, Westchester, and Playa del Rey with CNEL of 65 decibels or higher
 - The 112 dwellings bring the total number of units completed to 7,334
 - Owners of the other 2,066 residences were all notified of eligibility and missed the June 1, 2010 deadline, or declined to participate in the Program

LAWA Staff Recommends Moving North Runway 260 Feet

- **LAWA Staff presented the Board of Airport Commissioners with their recommended plan to separate the two north runways at LAX to add a taxiway that allows for more efficient handling of supersized jets**
 - The Plan was presented to the Los Angeles Board of Airport Commissioners on December 3, 2012
 - The northernmost runway would be moved 260 feet to the north closer to the Community of Westchester
 - Other recommendations from the Staff include adding an intermodal facility that would bring light rail to the Airport, and eventually adding a consolidated rental car facility and people mover
- **The recommendations presented to the Board were part of the ongoing LAX Specific Plan Amendment Study (SPAS) Report**
 - “. . .the recommended solution will entail no expansion of the footprint at LAX beyond its current boundaries and there will be no taking of any homes...Implementation of this recommendation will also clear the way for the development of the Northside property owned by LAWA in a manner highly beneficial to the local community,” said The Coalition to Fix LAX NOW, a group of Los Angeles business and labor organizations

Boeing 787 Conducts its first operations out of LAX

- **South America's LAN Airlines became the first airline to operate the new Boeing 787 Dreamliner out of LAX beating United by one day**
 - LAN Airlines Flight 603 left LAX at 2:32 pm bound for Santiago, Chile on January 2, 2013
 - United Airlines started Boeing 787 service from LAX to Tokyo on January 3, 2013
 - The 787 service replaces the larger 777 United had flown on the route
- **Less than 50 of the Boeing 787 Dreamliners have been delivered by Boeing to respective air carriers ,which are far more fuel efficient than most of the aircraft they are replacing**
- **United's 787 has 219 seats with 36 in business/first class, 70 in economy plus, and 113 in economy**

Top FAA Administrator for the West Coast has Retired

- **William C. Withycombe, the FAA's top administrator on the west coast retired on January 3, 2013 after more than four decades of experience in the aviation industry**
 - Retired after 16 years as the FAA's lead administrator for Arizona, California, Hawaii, Nevada, and Pacific Islands including American Samoa and Guam
 - Oversaw a division of roughly 5,000 employees
 - Had the ability to listen to and understand concerns from the public
- **One of Withycombe's greatest successes came at LAX working with officials to increase the distance between two parallel runways to allow the Airport to construct a taxiway between the two runways**
 - The new center taxiway made the airport considerably safer and dramatically limited the number of runway incursions at LAX
- **Withycombe also supported FAA staff participation in various noise roundtables including the LAX Community Noise Roundtable and the San Francisco International Airport Community Roundtable**
 - FAA staff such as Steve May have spent hundreds of hours addressing aircraft noise concerns
 - Withycombe would often speak before these forums and elected bodies

Congressman Schiff Will Reintroduce Helicopter Noise Bill

- **Congressman Adam Schiff (D-Burbank) says he plans to reintroduce a bill on regulating helicopter noise after initial attempts in congress stalled last year**
 - After meeting with FAA officials and several homeowners associations, Congressman Schiff said he would reintroduce the Los Angeles Helicopter Noise Relief Act
- **The bill would require the FAA to regulate helicopter flight paths, minimum altitudes and other helicopter operations in Los Angeles within a year of presidential signing**
 - Law enforcement, emergency, and military helicopter would be exempt from any new laws
 - “I think it’s important to have the legislation in the process in case we run into a logjam in terms of FAA action,” Schiff said, “Hopefully they can act without the necessity of legislation but if it is necessary we will be prepared to go forward.”
- **The FAA said representatives would continue to meet with stakeholders to hear their recommendations for proposed regulations**

FAA, Aviation Industry Face New Sequestration Deadline

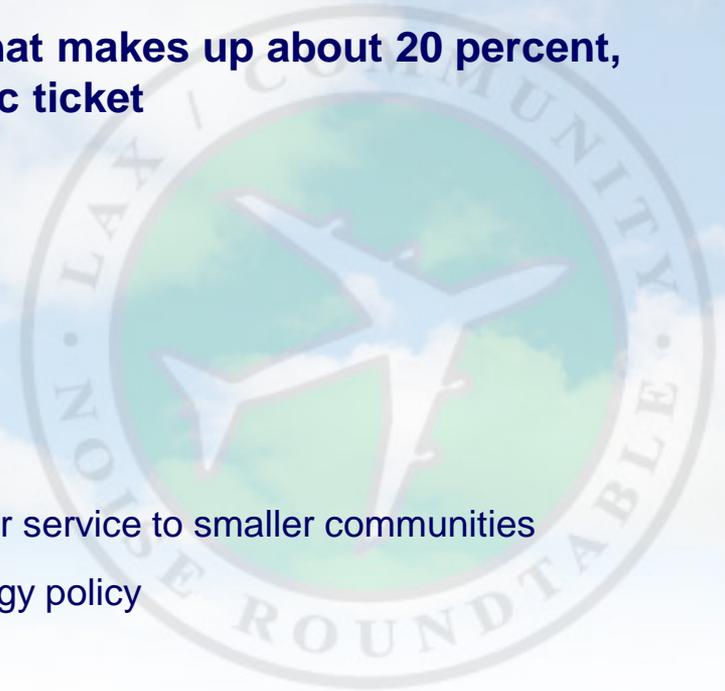
- **The FAA and U.S. aerospace industries were temporarily spared from the consequences of sequestrations as a result of the “Fiscal Cliff”**
- **The deal reached by Congress revised the U.S. tax rates, but postponed budget reductions that are now set to take place March 1, 2013**
 - The cuts, known as sequestration, are across the board Federal spending cuts that would have become law on January 2, 2013 if Congress did not reach a deal
- **The U.S. Aerospace Industries Association (AIA) spent much of 2012 lobbying against sequestration**
 - The planned cuts are “a slow motion catastrophe for our military forces, our space program, and virtually every critical function of our government from air traffic control and border security to food inspection and more...the clock has been reset and is ticking again,” the AIA noted
- **Reductions in federal funding could reduce the money available for sound insulation programs, airport noise and land uses compatibility studies, and noise mitigation programs**

Airlines For America (A4A) Launches Drive For a National Airline Policy

- **A4A has launched a campaign for a National Airline Policy to ensure the U.S. airline industry remains globally competitive**
- **The goals of the policy include:**
 - Reducing air travel taxes
 - Reforming regulatory burden on the airline industry
 - Modernizing the Air Traffic Control System
 - Ensuring U.S. carriers can compete globally
 - Stabilize energy prices
- **A4A stated that the U.S. airline industry transports 2 million customers and 50,000 tons of cargo everyday**
- **A4A added that the industry also creates \$1 trillion in economic activity and 10 million jobs**
 - President and CEO Nicholas Calio says, A4A will “take a holistic look at what impedes the industry from competing globally. He added, “We can do even more in an environment that recognizes the airlines as a national asset.”

Airlines For America (A4A) Launch Drive For National Airline Policy (cont.)

- **The aviation industry faces 17 different taxes, that makes up about 20 percent, or \$61 of a typical \$300 roundtrip ticket domestic ticket**
- **A4A said a National Airline Policy**
 - Keep ticket prices affordable
 - Reduce flight delays
 - Decrease missed connections and cancellations
 - Lower fuel burn and related emissions
 - Ensure U.S. carriers compete globally and maintain air service to smaller communities
 - Support a balanced and comprehensive national energy policy



Boeing and Airbus Celebrate Hitting 2012 Targets

- **An Airbus Officer told employees that the aircraft manufacturer will beat its targets for orders and deliveries in 2012, however, it will concede its industry crown to Boeing as the top aircraft manufacturer**
 - Airbus set a goal for 580 aircraft deliveries and orders of 650 units in 2012
- **For the first time in a decade, Boeing will end 2012 as the world's No. 1 plane-maker in sales and deliveries**
 - Boeing expects to deliver at least 585 commercial jets this year, and orders reached 1,121 airplanes
 - Boeing met its delivery goals for its 787 Dreamliner and 747-8 jumbo jets with just over a week left in the year
- **Both companies have objectives of increasing their aircraft sales in the future for both wide-body and narrow-body jets**
 - Airbus looks to flight test its first A350 wide-body aircraft in 2013 and is still ahead of Boeing 737 Max with its Airbus 320neo aircraft set to come on-line in 2016
 - Boeing is looking for real market returns come 2014 with its 747-8 freighters, and expects greater sales of its Boeing 737 Max

Open Rotors Louder Than Turbofans But Below Stage 4

- **NASA is studying open rotor engine technology because it is significantly more fuel-efficient than conventional jet engines**
 - Open rotor aircraft engines are about 11-12 dB louder than geared turbofans for a rear-mounted configuration but are predicted to be about 12.5 dB cumulatively below Stage 4 aircraft noise certification levels
 - The NASA report, Performance and Environmental Assessment of an Advanced Aircraft with Open Rotor Propulsion, was prepared at the Langley Research Center in Hampton, VA, and Glenn Research Center in Cleveland, OH
- **Open Rotor technology stemmed from the 70's and 80's when fuel prices rose significantly, however with recent volatility fuel prices, it is a technology that is coming back to surface**
- **The report indicates the open rotor engines provide significant reductions in fuel consumption and landing and take-off NOX emissions, and single-aisle class aircraft would be able to meet current noise regulations**
 - NASA is planning to conduct two more studies over the next year
 - An updated turbofan analysis to get a more “apples-to-apples” comparison with open rotor results
 - Planning to redo the open rotor analysis utilizing more advanced open rotor geometries

Open Rotors Louder Than Turbofans But Below Stage 4 (cont.)



← Open Rotor

Geared Turbofan →



ACRP Update: Project Seeks To Improve Helicopter Noise Modeling

- On December 18, 2012 the Transportation Research Board (TRB) issued a request for proposals (RFP) for ACRP Project 02-44 to improve guidance on helicopter noise modeling
- The project was funded at \$250,000 and is expected to take 16-months to complete
- Proposals are due February 7, 2013
- At its July 11, 2012 meeting, the LAX Community Noise Roundtable voted to send a letter to the TRB expressing support for the helicopter noise model guidance project as well as the development of a multimodal noise model
 - The multimodal noise model project was not approved by the TRB