Status Update on FAA’s LOOP Departure Test

March 11, 2015

LAX/Community Noise Roundtable
FAA LOOP Departure Test

• FAA authorized for a six-month test to examine the feasibility of operating the LOOP Departure on an extended timeframe from 9 PM to Midnight
  ➢ LOOP Departure procedure currently in use from 7 AM to 9 PM

• FAA established minimum altitude of 12,000 ft. for LOOPs operating during the test period from 9 PM to Midnight
  ➢ Minimum altitude for aircraft re-crossing the shoreline is 10,000 ft. from 7 AM to 9 PM

• FAA executed a Categorical Exclusion (Cat Ex) to conduct the LOOP Departure Test
LAWA’s Observations During Test Period

Six-month scheduled test period from September 1, 2014 through February 28, 2015

• LOOP Departures testing actually commenced October 1, 2014 and ended on January 31, 2015 (Four months)

• Number of LOOP departures during three hour nighttime test period (9PM – Midnight) ranged from 4 - 27 LOOP Departures per night with the average being 13 per night

• Several noise complaints associated with LOOP Departures were lodged during the four months of testing
• FAA recently informed LAWA that based on the recent test, LAX Tower, SCT, and Los Angeles Center support making the LOOP Departure available until midnight on a permanent basis

• FAA would need to conduct a separate environmental review for this implementation, very similar to the Cat Ex process they did for the testing – no public outreach is required