LAX/COMMUNITY NOISE ROUNDTABLE

Recap of the Regular Meeting of July 11, 2018

Culver City Transportation Department
Training Room, 2nd floor
4343 Duquesne Avenue
Culver City, CA 90230

Roundtable Members Present

Denny Schneider, Westchester Neighbors Association
Carl Jacobson, City of El Segundo
Blake LaMar, City of Palos Verdes Estates
Robert Nemeth, City of Rancho Palos Verdes
Roxanne Ferebee, City of Redondo Beach
Dinesh Ghiya, City of La Habra Heights
Albizael Del Valle, City of Los Angeles – Council District 8
Jeff Camp, City of Los Angeles – Council District 10
Geoff Thompson, City of Los Angeles – Council District 11
Danna Cope, LAX Area Advisory Committee
Jim Robilotta, 360 at South Bay Homeowners Association
JoAnn Williams, United Homeowners Association
Michael Salman, United Neighborhoods Neighborhood Council
Martin Rubin, North Westdale Neighborhood Association
Goran Eriksson, City of Culver City
Teresa Real Sebastian, City of Monterey Park
Olivia Valentine, City of Hawthorne
Jim Withrow, City of Inglewood
Jacqueline Hamilton, U.S. House of Representatives – 37th District

LAWA and Consultant Staff

Kendrick Okuda, LAWA
David Chan, LAWA
Chris Sequeira, ESA
Karen Calderon, ESA

A quorum of the members was present.
1. Welcome/Review of the Meeting Format

Roundtable Alternate Facilitator Chris Sequeira welcomed the members and public and indicated his role was to ensure all participants stay on topic to keep meeting on schedule.

2. Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance, and Identification of Those Present

Chairman Schneider called the meeting to order. Roundtable Members introduced themselves and said the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Comments from the Public

Chairman Schneider called for public comments with two-minutes allotted for each speaker.

A Rancho Palos Verdes resident commented on the reduction of aircraft noise in his community after working with the FAA directly, and also noted the importance of having an independent analysis of the noise issue.

A West Adams resident commented on concerns related to potential future expansion of LAX enabled by the implementation of Metroplex.

Three Culver City residents commented on how the sizes of planes, altitudes, and other factors increase aircraft noise and on the community’s initiation of an ad hoc committee.

A representative from the Southwest Neighborhood Council commented on a letter sent to LAWA and the South Coast Air Quality Management District regarding aircraft noise and pollution affecting his area.

4. Roundtable Membership

LAWA staff member David Chan acknowledged Roxanne Ferebee as the new representative from the City of Redondo Beach.

Mr. Chan presented the membership request from 360 at South Bay Homeowners Association listing Jim Robilotta as the representative.

Member Salman made a motion to approve the addition of 360 at South Bay Homeowners Association to the Roundtable, with Jim Robilotta as the representative. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

5. Election of Roundtable Chair and Vice-Chair for Two-Year Term

Member Salman introduced his role as Nomination Chair, explained the nomination and voting process for Chair and Vice-Chair, noted that those roles require greater efforts to be effective in addressing current noise issues, and called for nominations. He asked that each nominee present for two minutes on their vision for the Roundtable. Chair Denny Schneider and Vice Chair Carl Jacobson volunteered to continue serving in their current positions. A few other nominations were made by Roundtable members, but were declined by the nominees.

As Denny Schneider for Chair and Carl Jacobson for Vice Chair were the only standing nominations, the Roundtable approved the re-appointments of these two officers for another two-year term.
6. Discussion/Consideration of Amending By-Laws to create a 2nd Vice-Chair as another Officer of the Roundtable

Chairman Schneider stated his interest in amending the bylaws to create a second Vice-Chair to be in charge of communications and distributing information on behalf of the Roundtable. Member Real Sebastian suggested forming an ad hoc committee to review the bylaws in their entirety for other potential updates. Member Eriksson suggested that given the urgency to create the position of second Vice-Chair, the committee could work on amending the bylaws to create this position first and then focus on reviewing the bylaws in their entirety.

As a result of discussions, Chairman Schneider created a Bylaws Ad Hoc Committee to: 1) consider the need for a second Vice Chairman and recommend new Bylaws language if a change is needed, and 2) review the Bylaws in their entirety and propose language for any required updates. Member Camp volunteered to participate in this committee. Chairman Schneider requested that additional Roundtable members interested in volunteering on this committee email him directly.

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

The Chair of the Ad Hoc Committee, Member Thompson, briefed the Roundtable on altitude data trends for the DAHJR waypoint, the Ad Hoc Committee’s meetings with the FAA on May 8th, May 17th and July 9th, and potential ways of raising altitudes of North Downwind aircraft arrival operations through charted visual flight procedures (CVFPs).

Key points of Member Thompson’s presentation are as follows:

- May and June data for the DAHJR waypoint did not show a significant change in the percentage of flights flying at or below 6,000 ft.
- The FAA started advertising the Required Navigation Performance (RNP) approach via ATIS as the preferred approach between 1 AM and 5 AM in May 2018 as a way to promote usage of this procedure.
- Starting August 31, 2018, the FAA will begin assigning all arrival flights at a minimum of 5,000 ft. over DAHJR between 1 AM and 5 AM.
- The FAA would not advance the timeline for implementing the Terminal Sequencing and Spacing (TSAS) tool at So Cal TRACON in order to increase usage of the RNP approach.
- The FAA has not analyzed the flight audio recordings to determine why altitude restrictions are not being met.
- The Ad Hoc Committee has filed a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request to obtain a copy of the FAA’s So Cal TRACON Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) to better understand the air traffic control procedures. Member Hamilton is also working with the two California senators and three local U.S. Congress members to submit a joint letter requesting the SOP from the FAA.
- Member Thompson noted that a CVFP can potentially be used for to improve altitudes for aircraft not equipped to fly RNP procedures. He noted that LAX had CVFPs such
as the Stadium Visual Rwy 24L/R, but these procedures were discontinued. The Ad Hoc Committee has requested an explanation from the FAA as to why these CVFPs were discontinued.

David Chan noted that a CVFP may not be effective in promoting more aircraft to follow prescribed route or altitude since the airlines and the FAA are moving toward using satellite-based navigation procedures and air traffic controllers always have the option of vectoring aircraft off any procedures as necessary to coordinate air traffic flow and maintain aircraft separation requirements. Certain members noted that they are aware of the air traffic control vectoring requirements.

Member Salman made a motion to the Roundtable to request that FAA revive or create LAX north arrival CVFPs. The motion was seconded and passed.

Member Salman made a second motion that would have the Roundtable ask LAWA to request that FAA revive or create LAX north arrival CVFPs. Members discussed whether it was premature to request for the CVFP to be reinstated without knowing why it was discontinued. Member Real Sebastian made a motion that replaced Member Salman’s second motion that gives the Metroplex Ad Hoc Committee the authority to act on behalf of the Roundtable to request that LAWA ask the FAA to revive or create new LAX north arrival CVFPs after receiving clarification from FAA regarding the discontinuation of these CVFRs. The motion was seconded and passed.


Mr. Sequeira briefed the Roundtable on the status of the FAA Reauthorization Act of 2018 in Congress and asked the Roundtable to consider supporting the inclusion of some of the House bill aircraft noise provisions into the Senate version of the FAA Reauthorization Bill.

Member Hamilton made a motion for the Metroplex Ad Hoc Committee to draft a letter to the Senate recommending aircraft noise provisions in the US House version of the FAA Reauthorization Act of 2018 be considered and/or modified for the US Senate version of the bill. The motion was seconded and carried.

9. Identification and Selection of Upcoming Roundtable Meeting Locations

Members discussed altering meetings locations in order to visit the different jurisdictions that compose the Roundtable.

After discussion, the Roundtable decided to hold the September 12th meeting in Hawthorne (pending availability) at 6:30 pm PDT and the November meeting at 6:30 pm PDT in Monterey Park.

10. General discussion of administrative support by the Roundtable

Chairman Schneider discussed ways in which the member cities could provide administrative support to the Roundtable operation, such as hiring a technical consultant, and asked for support from the Roundtable members. Member Eriksson suggested the Roundtable should come up with a concrete sum of how much money would be required to hire a consultant and suggested creating an Ad Hoc Committee for this purpose. Member Eriksson also agreed to
Chairman Schneider created the Administrative Support Ad Hoc Committee and asked for additional volunteers to serve on this committee.

11. Status Update on 360 at South Bay Community Noise Evaluation

LAWA staff noted the full report should be ready for the September 12th Roundtable meeting.

12. Roundtable Member Discussion

Chairman Schneider opened the floor for general Roundtable member discussion.

Member Nemeth noted that the number of departure overflights of Palos Verdes has dropped to pre-Metroplex levels and that the FAA recently reached out to the City regarding the overflight issue. Member Nemeth requested that LAWA provide statistics on PV overflights for July and August 2018.

Member Ghiya indicated that the number of noise complaints has increased in his jurisdiction and requested that Chairman Schneider attend a City Council meeting.

The City Attorney from Culver City provided an update about the City of Culver City vs. FAA lawsuit regarding the Metroplex Environmental Assessment. The City of Los Angeles and other entities filed Amicus briefs. The next step is for the Court to determine whether it will be accepting additional briefs/documents and to set a date for oral arguments.

13. Review of Roundtable Action Items

Mr. Sequeira reviewed the formal actions taken, which are noted earlier in this meeting recap.

14. Adjournment

Chairman Schneider adjourned the meeting at 9:07 pm PDT.