



LAX/COMMUNITY NOISE ROUNDTABLE

Recap of the Regular Meeting of July 10, 2019

Los Angeles International Airport
Clifton A. Moore Administrative Building
Samuel Greenberg Board Room
1 World Way, Los Angeles, CA 90045

Roundtable Members Present

Denny Schneider, Alliance for a Regional Solution to Airport Congestion
Carl Jacobson, City of El Segundo
Blake LaMar, City of Palos Verdes Estates
Robert Nemeth, City of Rancho Palos Verdes
Danna Cope, LAX Area Advisory Committee
JoAnn Williams, United Homeowners Association
Gavin Abercrombie, United Neighborhoods Neighborhood Council
Jim B. Clarke, City of Culver City
Ron Bow, City of Monterey Park
Olivia Valentine, City of Hawthorne
Jim Withrow, City of Inglewood
Roxanne Ferebee, City of Redondo Beach
Jacqueline Hamilton, U.S. House of Representatives – 37th District
Jim Robilotta, 360 at South Bay Homeowners Association
Brian Clark, Raintree Condominium & Townhouse Association
Hildy Stern, City of Manhattan Beach
Kathryn Pantoja, LAWA

FAA

Dave Foyle
Tamara Swann
William Freeman

LAWA and Consultant Staff

David Chan, LAWA
Kendrick Okuda, LAWA
Steven Alverson, ESA
Karen Calderon, ESA

A quorum of the members was present.

1. Welcome/Review of the Meeting Format

Roundtable Facilitator Steve Alverson welcomed the members and the public, and indicated his role was to ensure all participants stay on topic so that the meeting stays on schedule.

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

Chairman Schneider called the meeting to order and asked Roundtable members to introduce themselves.

Member Okuda announced that this was his last Roundtable meeting and Ms. Kathryn Pantoja would be taking over as LAWA's representative at the Roundtable.

3. Comments from the Public

Thirteen residents from Santa Monica Mountains, West Adams, Culver City, and Agoura commented on the increase of aircraft noise over their communities since the implementation of the Southern California Metroplex flight procedures and regarding the health risks associated with noise pollution.

A resident noted that the recent wildfires have also increased aircraft noise by removing the brush that used to absorb some of the sound.

Several residents expressed their support for the community proposal regarding higher altitudes during the North Downwind Arrival and requested Roundtable support of this proposal. A representative of the Santa Monica Canyon Civic Association recommended that the community proposal receive a technical review.

4. Acknowledgement of New Representatives from City of Manhattan Beach

Roundtable Executive Secretary, Mr. David Chan, announced that the City of Manhattan Beach is once again a member of the Roundtable, with Councilmember Hildy Stern serving as the representative and Councilmember Suzanne Hadley as the alternate.

5. Appointment of Nomination Chair to Preside over Election of 2nd Vice Chair

At Chairman Schneider's request, Member Cope volunteered to serve as the nomination chair to help find a candidate for the Second Vice Chair position and bring forward the nomination for a vote at the next Roundtable meeting.

6. Selection of One Roundtable Member to Participate in the Evaluation Panel for Roundtable Facilitator Contract

Roundtable Executive Secretary, Mr. David Chan, noted that the Roundtable Facilitator contract is approaching expiration and requested the Roundtable select a member to participate in the selection process. Mr. Chan noted that LAWA's procurement regulations require that the Evaluation Panel member be an elected official or staff person representing a city or governmental agency. Member Bow volunteered to represent the Roundtable on the Evaluation Panel for the Roundtable Facilitator contract.

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

Chairman Schneider announced that the Chair of the Metroplex/Wide Area Ad Hoc Committee, Member Thompson, will be unable to fulfill this role for the next several months. Member Camp will be chairing the Ad Hoc Committee meetings in the meantime. Chairman Schneider then briefed the Roundtable on the Ad Hoc Committee report. He indicated the altitudes at DAHJR continue to improve and are getting close to 100 percent of reaching at or above 6,000 feet MSL at DAHJR for all North Downwind Arrivals between 1 AM and 5 AM. He also noted that due to a recent lawsuit filed against the FAA by the City of Los Angeles, FAA representatives are not able to participate in Roundtable discussions regarding the North Downwind Arrival until the lawsuit is resolved. He added that the FAA can still continue working on improving the altitudes at DAHJR between 1 AM and 5 AM as this effort was started before the lawsuit was filed.

8. Report from Administrative Support Ad Hoc Committee

Member Jim Clarke noted that the Chair of the Administrative Support Ad Hoc Committee, Member Eriksson, had worked to see how the Roundtable could handle the receipt and disbursement of funds to contract with its own consultant to provide technical expertise. Member Clarke indicated that the Roundtable is not an incorporated entity and therefore cannot receive or distribute funds. He recommended that the Roundtable disband the Administrative Support Ad Hoc Committee as the work cannot continue until such time the Roundtable becomes a legal entity. Member Jim Clarke's motion to disband the Administrative Support Ad Hoc Committee was seconded by Member LaMar and passed unanimously by the Roundtable.

9. Community Proposal Regarding North Downwind Arrival Procedure Altitudes

Member Brian Clark briefed the Roundtable on the Community Proposal created by Quiet Skies LA. The proposal includes two options that are intended to provide noise relief for residents of Malibu, Santa Monica Canyon, Santa Monica, Mar Vista, Culver City, West Adams, Downtown L.A., and other areas. Option A increases the altitudes of aircraft on the North Downwind Arrival Route and extends the route farther east to San Bernardino. Option B creates a new arrival procedure that directs aircraft to follow a different path than the North Downwind Arrival Route to join the final approach in the San Bernardino area. Member Clark indicated that this proposal would not impact other areas located farther east as the proposed altitudes would be much higher. Member Clark also noted that the goal is to obtain support from the Roundtable and others on this proposal to move forward.

David Reich from the City of Los Angeles Mayor's Office indicated that the Mayor supports this proposal and suggested to have a feasibility study conducted prior to submitting to the FAA for consideration.

The Roundtable members agreed that the proposal should be technically reviewed before they take any action on it. Chairman Schneider announced that LAWA agreed to hire a consultant to review the Community Proposal.

Member Robilotta suggested the consultant should have both an environmental and operational background.

Member Bow noted that the proposal shifts noise to communities that are not on the Roundtable and suggested reaching out to the San Gabriel Council of Governments and the Gateway Cities Council of Governments to inform them of this proposal and obtain feedback.

After discussion of this item, Member Bow made a motion to request that LAWA hire a third-party consultant to provide an environmental and operational review of the Community Proposal regarding 1) increasing the North Downwind Arrival altitudes and 2) creating an alternative route for the North Downwind arrivals. The motion was seconded by Member Brian Clark and passed unanimously by the Roundtable.

Member Hamilton made a motion requesting that LAWA report back to the Roundtable providing an update when the consultant is hired and a timeframe for completing the work that is expeditious without compromising the quality of the work, in order to allow the Roundtable to determine the appropriate date for scheduling a special meeting to discuss the results. The motion was seconded by Member Brian Clark and passed unanimously by the Roundtable.

10. Aircraft Noise 101

Mr. Steve Alverson briefed the Roundtable on the basics of aircraft noise, which will be presented in two parts. The topics he covered in the first part included acoustic principals, the decibel scale, the propagation of noise, A and C frequency curves, single event metrics, cumulative noise exposure, noise regulations and standards, and noise abatement.

Members from the public requested that the second part of this presentation include a discussion of how topographical features, such as canyons, affect noise and the impacts of noise pollution on public health. Member Hamilton also requested a comparison between American and European aircraft noise regulations.

11. Work Program Item C2 - Update on Emerging Aircraft Technologies

Mr. Steve Alverson briefed the Roundtable on emerging aircraft technologies. The aircraft technologies he covered included electric and hybrid-electric powered engines, liquid-hydrogen fuel cell powered engines, and electric engines for rotary aircraft, drones, and UAVs. He also briefed the Roundtable on electric propulsion and aircraft noise, future air traffic, and the return of supersonic transports.

12. Roundtable Member Discussion

Member Nemeth noted that overflights of the Palos Verdes Peninsula have increased since last year and asked the FAA to look into reducing or delaying the vectoring of aircraft when possible as a way to minimize overflights over the Peninsula.

Member Jim Clarke indicated that Member Goran Eriksson was appointed as Chair of the Aviation Policy Committee of the National League of Cities and would like to share information pertaining to this committee at the next Roundtable meeting.

Mr. Chan noted the next meeting would take place in the Samuel Greenberg Board Room at LAX at 6:30 pm on Wednesday, September 11, 2019.

Member Hamilton requested that the Roundtable Chair send an expression of sympathy to the family of Dan Delane, a pilot and former member of the Roundtable, who recently passed away. She also requested that the meeting be adjourned in memory of Mr. Delane.

13. Review of Roundtable Action Items

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

14. Adjournment

Chairman Schneider adjourned the meeting at 8:57 pm PDT.