LOS ANGELES INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
AREA ADVISORY COMMITTEE (LAXAAC)

MINUTES OF THE JULY 14, 2022 VIRTUAL MEETING

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting began at approximately 4:08 by John Wahlert. A Quorum was not reached.

- IN ATTENDANCE: John Wahlert, Chair (Culver City); Luciano Nocera, Vice Chair (Culver City); Guido Fernandez (Hawthorne); Sergio Paz (Lennox); Danna Cope (Westchester); Corrie Zupo (El Segundo)

- LAW A STAFF: Amy Imamura, Harold Johnson, Sarah Cash, Darcy Driscoll

- EXCUSED ABSENCE: Kevin Klowden (Culver City); Henry Brown (Inglewood)

1. INTRODUCTIONS

Malina Brown of the Sugarman Communication Group (representing The Kimmelman Foundation) was introduced by Amy Imamura.

2. COMMENTS FROM GUEST AND PUBLIC

A. Presentation about Proposed Northside Open Space Development Project

Malina Brown stated that LAWA has officially begun lease negotiations with a non-profit benefit corporation, called the Carol Kimmelman Athletic and Academic Campus (CKAAC), for the development of a proposed Community and Recreational Development project that would be situated on the Northside Open Space area adjacent to LAX in Westchester.

Ms. Brown cited that the estimated $100 million, world-class recreation facility and open space project was consistently designed in accordance with the LAX Northside Design Guidelines and Standards. She indicated that the concept for the development includes athletic fields/courts, a learning center, picnic area and overlook, dog park, community gardens, and open green space. She emphasized that the proposed project will allow LAWA to deliver on the community’s priorities that have been long discussed with neighbors.

She then referred to a PowerPoint presentation that featured a map of the proposed location and displayed an artist rendering of the main conceptual aspects of the development plan. For reference, she indicated that the Northside Development Area is comprised of roughly 30 acres on two areas, Area 1 and Area 2A, which are situated north of LAX on Westchester Pkwy on either side of Falmouth Avenue.

Lastly, Ms. Brown indicated that the project is being fully funded by philanthropic dollars as put forth by The Kimmelman Foundation. She stated Doug Kimmelman, founder of the Kimmelman Foundation, is building the project in honor of his late wife (nicknamed Lulu) who was an avid tennis player and teacher in South Los Angeles.

In response to Danna Cope’s and Corrie Zupo’s inquiry about safety at the project site, Ms. Brown stated that there will be tremendous focus placed on safety. She said there will be perimeter fencing or landscaping around the property and that the area will be well-lit.
B. Review of Written Report from Robert Nemeth Regarding UC Davis Noise Symposium

Robert Nemeth, LAX/Community Noise Roundtable, was unable to attend due to his travel schedule. He submitted the report electronically. John Wahlert, LAXAAC Chair, confirmed that all members received the written report via email. However, Danna Cope advised she did not receive a copy due to email problems. Harold Johnson advised that he will get Danna a hard-copy for her review. Mr. Wahlert then stated that he found the report to be very interesting with useful commentary.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes from previous meeting of June 9, 2022 were not approved due to lack of a Quorum.

4. OFFICER’S REPORT – JOHN WAHLERT, LAXAAC CHAIR

There was no report.

5. MANAGEMENT REPORT – HAROLD JOHNSON, LAX COMMUNITY RELATIONS

Harold Johnson, LAWA Principal Public Relations Representative, announced that the U.S. Secretary of Transportation’s Pete Buttigieg visited LAX for a special national announcement about the first round of federal funding for airports under President Biden’s Bipartisan Infrastructure Law. The announcement was made that LAX will receive $50 million from the infrastructure law to further help modernize facilities by rebuilding nearly eight miles of roads leading to and within the terminal area, including a reconfiguration of the main entrance.

Mr. Johnson reported that LAX Airport Operations hosted a successful walk to clear foreign object debris (FOD) from the airfield. The event took place at the West Gates at Tom Bradley International Terminal and included helping hands from many stakeholders and LAWA teams.

He then announced that Airport Commissioner Karim Webb and the LAX Community Relations team hosted 16 students from the Brotherhood Crusade for a special Aviation Career Day. Students began the day attending the Board of Airport Commissioners meeting, followed by a meet-and-greet session with LAWA executives and aviation representatives. The group then visited Southwest Airlines at Terminal 1, followed by lunch provided by Greg Plumber of Concord Collective, which is the business that operates concessions in Terminal 1 and a few other LAX terminals. Lastly, students were given an airfield tour where Mayor Garcetti met the group and posed for a photo before the students visited the Ramp Control Tower at the West Gates at Tom Bradley International Terminal.

Mr. Johnson reported that LAWA welcomed Terri Mestas as its new Chief Development Officer. In this role, Ms. Mestas will oversee LAWA’s development projects including the Landside Access Modernization Program (LAMP), Terminal Development Improvement Program, and Airfield and Terminal Modernization Project, among others. Mestas most recently held the position of Senior Director for Capital Projects, Modernization, Planning, Design and Construction at The California Institute of Technology, and brings with her a wealth of experience in project management and sustainability.

LAX’s passenger traffic continues to hit its summer stride and is hovering around 100,000 departing passengers during our peak summer days, with an overall average of 93,200 passengers per day through the first 10 days of July. Mr. Johnson indicated that is about 74% compared with the same time in 2019 – which was the busiest LAX has ever been.
Lastly, Mr. Johnson stated that LAX’s latest international cargo and trade numbers for May 2022 show that, once again, we had a record-setting individual month. LAX’s trade with the world increased 15 percent from the same month last year and was up nearly 1 percent from April. Trade at LAX was valued at $63.78 billion, an increase of 21 percent through May 2022. Hence, LAX maintained its position as the No. 3 U.S. airport for total cargo by value so far this year.

6. **NOISE ROUNDTABLE REPORT** – Danna Cope, LAX Area Advisory Committee Member

Danna Cope spoke about the relocation of JUUSE waypoint presentation that the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) made at the LAX/Community Noise Roundtable meeting.

As background, Ms. Cope said the LAX/Community Noise Roundtable group requested relocation of the JUUSE waypoint approximately one mile south or southwest of the current location, described as whichever direction would more directly line up with the CLIFY waypoint.

The FAA agreed to conduct a preliminary examination of the new track location and provided information on its viability and design, and also identified communities that might be affected by the change.

Ms. Cope discussed the plans with the LAXAAC while reviewing the PowerPoint presentation the FAA had presented during the Noise Roundtable meeting. She said the proposed change would affect a lot of people, and that people who are concerned about the change should attend LAX/Community Noise Roundtable meetings to voice those concerns.

LAXAAC members subsequently discussed the FAA’s proposal and highlighted some concerns of their own.

7. **DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION**

No discussion took place.

8. **UNFINISHED/OLD BUSINESS**

Wahlert confirmed that there are four subcommittees the LAXAAC wants to staff: 1) Environmental Issues; 2) Transportation Issues; 3) Health and Safety Rules, and 4) LAX Master Plan and Expansion.

9. **NEW BUSINESS**

Based on plan to need to staff four subcommittees, Mr. Wahlert indicated that he would like the LAXAAC to send out a request for participation and then have an action to appoint at next LAXAAC meeting (9/8/2022).

Congratulations and best wishes were given to Sarah Cash, LAWA Secretary, who is promoting to a new City position, effective 7/18/2022. Darcy Driscoll will be serving as the interim Secretary in Sarah’s absence.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, September 8, 2022 at 4:00 p.m. (virtual)

10. **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.