## **News Release**

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## BOARD OF AIRPORT COMMISSIONERS TO HOLD SPECIAL SESSION ON LAX SPECIFIC PLAN AMENDMENT STUDY

(Los Angeles, California – January 17, 2013) The City of Los Angeles Board of Airport Commissioners (BOAC) will listen to members of the public regarding the Los Angeles International Airport (LAX) Specific Plan Amendment Study (SPAS) at a special session beginning at 9:30 a.m. Thursday, January 31, 2013, in the Samuel Greenberg Board Room of the Clifton A. Moore Administration Building at LAX, One World Way, Los Angeles, California. Members of the public who wish to address the Board will have five minutes each. No decisions will be made at the January 31 special session. The Board will consider the SPAS at a special meeting scheduled for Tuesday, February 5, 2013.

The LAX SPAS identified and evaluated nine potential alternatives to certain components of the LAX Master Plan, referred to as Yellow Light Projects, including various configurations for the north airfield, terminal improvements and LAX's ground transportation system. LAWA prepared a Draft Environmental Impact Report (Draft EIR) for the LAX SPAS in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The official comment period for the Draft EIR ran from July 27 through October 10, 2012. Three open houses/public meetings were held in late August 2012 along with an Internet "virtual meeting" in September 2012, which allowed the public to participate in the process prior to the close of the comment period if they were unable to attend one of the meetings in person. Formal responses to submitted comments are being prepared and the Final EIR is scheduled to be released later this month.

Following completion of the SPAS Draft EIR, an extensive review of public comments received during the 75-day public-comment period, analysis of the environmental impacts of each SPAS

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alternative, and review of the SPAS Project objectives, LAWA staff identified and recommended an alternative to BOAC for its consideration as a Preferred Alternative. A decision, if any, on SPAS by the Board of Airport Commissioners may be subject to review and approval by other local decision-making bodies including, but not limited to, the Los Angeles City Council.

The Staff Recommended Alternative is a combination of SPAS Alternatives 1 and 9. Alternative 1 is a configuration option for LAX's north airfield, along with terminal improvements. The recommended airfield features include moving Runway 6L/24R (the northernmost LAX runway) 260 feet north and constructing a center taxiway between the two north airfield runways; standardizing all Group 5 and Group 6 operations when the visibility is greater than one-half mile; and addressing runway safety area and taxiway/taxi lane deficiencies. Terminal improvement features limit the total number of passenger gates at LAX to 153, and allow for the development of northern terminals, including a new Terminal Zero and northerly extensions of the Tom Bradley International Terminal and the Midfield Satellite Concourse.

Alternative 9 is the recommended option for LAX's ground transportation system featuring new ground transportation facilities outside the Central Terminal Area, including a consolidated rental car facility, an Intermodal Transportation Facility, and an Automated People Mover. Using the people mover, the public would move between the new transportation facilities and passenger terminals, as well as to the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority's (Metro's) proposed rail station at the intersection of Century and Aviation boulevards.

LAWA staff also identified two alternative locations where LAWA facilities could interface with future light rail currently being studied by Metro: at the Intermodal Transportation Facility and at the east end of the Central Terminal Area near the entrance to LAX, preserving the option for Metro to bring light rail directly into the airport.

Implementation of the individual improvements proposed under the Staff Recommended

Alternative would be subject to future detailed planning, engineering, and project-level environmental –

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review, such as project-level review of individual improvements under CEQA and the evaluation and approval processes of the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). Approval of the SPAS Staff Recommended Alternative would provide the platform from which the specific details of the proposed improvements would be further defined and evaluated in connection with current and future FAA standards.

For additional information on the LAX Specific Plan Amendment Study, please visit www.laxspas.org.

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