

RUNWAY SAFETY AREA (RSA) IMPROVEMENTS

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)



WHAT IS A RUNWAY SAFETY AREA (RSA)?

A Runway Safety Area is an area surrounding the runway which is generally clear of obstacles, whose purpose is to reduce the risk of damage to airplanes in the event of an undershoot, overshoot, or excursion from the runway. Design standards for RSAs are mandated by the Federal Aviation Administration.

WHY ARE THESE RUNWAY SAFETY AREA (RSA) IMPROVEMENTS BEING DONE AT LOS ANGELES INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT (LAX)?

Congress passed a law that all U.S airports with commercial operations comply with FAA design standards for RSAs under *The Transportation, Treasury, Housing and Urban Development, the Judiciary, The District of Columbia, and Independent Agencies Appropriations Act, 2006* (Public Law 109-115).

HOW MANY RUNWAYS AT LAX NEED TO BE IMPROVED?

Three of the four runways at LAX need to be improved in accordance with Public Law 109-115. The runway safety area project for Runway 6R-24L is the last RSA improvement project at LAX undergoing environmental review.

WHAT DOES THE RSA WORK ENTAIL?

In order to comply with federal law, LAWA will need to relocate existing facilities within the required RSAs. This may also require closing or temporarily shortening each of the runways for construction. To limit the impact on operations, LAX will phase the work, one runway at a time. The closures will be used as an opportunity to

also complete regular runway maintenance, minimizing the impact to operations.

DO THE RUNWAYS AT LAX HAVE RUNWAY SAFETY AREAS NOW?

Yes, each runway at LAX has an RSA. However, the increased size of aircraft currently operating at LAX necessitate larger RSAs. The proposed Project will bring the existing runways to current RSA federal design standards for the aircraft operating at LAX.

ARE RUNWAYS AT LAX SAFE?

Yes. All LAX runways are safe and are operated safely. This government mandate simply provides larger clear areas at the end of each runway, which brings the RSAs up to current FAA Airport Design Standards.

WHEN WILL THE RUNWAY CONSTRUCTION BE COMPLETED?

The work on LAX's runways will be done in phases. LAWA will also use this opportunity to complete regular runway maintenance work at the same time. Altogether, RSA improvements are expected to continue through 2018.

WILL TRAVELERS BE IMPACTED BY THE RUNWAY CONSTRUCTION (I.E., WILL CONSTRUCTION CAUSE AIR TRAFFIC DELAYS)?

LAX passengers may experience delays similar to those experienced during bad weather. Travelers should take this into consideration when planning connecting flights and for post-flight plans.

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WILL COMMUNITIES AROUND LAX BE IMPACTED BY THE RUNWAY CONSTRUCTION WORK? WHAT SPECIFIC IMPACTS TO MY NEIGHBORHOOD CAN I EXPECT?

While LAWA is doing everything possible to minimize impacts, as work is alternated on the runways, operational changes could cause increased aircraft noise for some neighboring communities, depending on which runways are being used.

WILL CONSTRUCTION OF THE RUNWAY SAFETY AREA IMPROVEMENTS INCREASE NOISE IMPACTS?

LAX surrounding communities may experience increased aircraft noise while work is being done. There may be night-time noise that extends beyond the current midnight timeframe. Noise patterns may also change while construction is underway.

WILL FLIGHT PATTERNS CHANGE DURING CONSTRUCTION OF THE RUNWAY SAFETY AREA IMPROVEMENTS?

Flight patterns will change during different phases of the RSA improvements in order to most efficiently complete construction.

WILL THE RUNWAY SAFETY AREA IMPROVEMENTS REQUIRE ANY LAND ACQUISITION?

No, the RSA improvements will be constructed on existing airport property, and mainly limited to the airfield, with the exception of relocating several small facilities.

HOW DO THE RUNWAY SAFETY AREA IMPROVEMENTS RELATE TO THE LAX LANDSIDE ACCESS MODERNIZATION PROGRAM OR THE LAX SPECIFIC PLAN AMENDMENT STUDY?

The RSA improvements are completely separate from improvements proposed under the LAX Landside Access Modernization Program or the Specific Plan Amendment Study (SPAS). The RSA improvements will be constructed on existing airport property, and mainly limited to the airfield, with the exception of relocating several small facilities. No construction for these projects will impact major roadways or occur within Manchester Square.

The Runway Safety Area improvements are not related to the LAX Landside Access Modernization Program, the Specific Plan Amendment Study, the ongoing 14 CFR Part 150 Airport Noise Compatibility Study or part of the ongoing Soundproofing Program. Also, no land acquisition will occur as part of the RSA improvements.

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