

VAN NUYS AIRPORT CITIZENS ADVISORY COUNCIL
Tuesday June 7, 2022

A virtual meeting of the Van Nuys Airport (VNY) Citizens Advisory Council (CAC) was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chair, Jason Price. Members present: Wayne Williams, Kathy Delle Donne, Robert Rodine, Thomas Materna, Lisa Petrus, Marykate Harris, Kimberly Chan, Ryan Sanders, Eric Robinson, Leonel Fuentes, John Parker, Eliot Cohen, Araz Parseghian, Heren Molina and Sharon Bronson.

Absent: Wendy Saunders, Heren Molina.

The minutes from the May 3, 2022, meeting were unanimously approved.

I. STAFF REPORTS:

A. Flora Margheritis, Airport Manager:

Mr. Moreno announced that he would provide the staff report on behalf of the Airport Manager as she is attending the annual American Association of Airport Executives meeting.

Mr. Moreno addressed the council as it relates to the COVID-19 pandemic and its effect on VNY staff, patrons and stakeholders. At VNY, staff is healthy, and everyone remains grateful for that. Management has not let down their guard and continues to have measures in place to ensure employee safety as well as for those members of the public that visit VNY offices. Under the County's health order, face masks are still required in all LAWA facilities which include terminals, office spaces, and buses. As has been the case since the beginning of the pandemic, LAWA will continue to work with L.A. County partners and will communicate any changes to the face mask policy or other policies as they learn of them. Also, the CDC recently updated its COVID-19 testing guidance for travelers to include those taking trips within the United States. The agency is now advising all travelers, including those who are vaccinated and current with their boosters to consider getting tested no more than three days before a trip. The CDC previously recommended testing before travel for people who were not vaccinated or up to date with their booster shots. While some countries have suspended testing requirements to enter their borders, the CDC is urging all travelers to consider getting tested for current infection with a viral test within three days before departing the U.S. so as not to spread the infection or introduce a possible new variant to another country. The U.S. still requires all travelers entering the U.S., including from U.S. territories, to show a negative COVID-19 test taken no more than one day before a flight's departure to the U.S. Mr. Moreno advised the council to share vaccine information with their friends and families. LAX continues to offer rapid antigen and rapid PCR testing at our on-site COVID-19 test lab at LAX across from Terminal 6 and inside the arrivals level of the Tom Bradley International Terminal.

Mr. Moreno announced that since the last CAC meeting, our LAWA CEO welcomed the newest member of the LAWA executive management team who is the new Chief Digital Transformation Officer, Ian Law. Ian comes to LAWA after spending more than eight years at San Francisco International Airport. Mr. Moreno emphasized that LAWA is excited to have Ian onboard as he comes with strong knowledge and experience in all things IT.

Mr. Moreno reported that this week is a big week for the City of Los Angeles as the Summit of the Americas is being held here. Leaders from countries across North, Central and South

America are gathering in LA for this important Summit hosted by President Biden. As is the case with big events that take place in LA city, airports will play a significant role in helping to coordinate and support the associated travel activities. LAWA is also coordinating closely with Mayor Garcetti's office and the City Department of Tourism and like the Super Bowl, this event is yet another opportunity to show off the wonderful City of Los Angeles.

Mr. Moreno offered a special shout out and thank you to construction company Surry-Miller for the Van Nuys Runway Project Local Hires. The Sully-Miller Contracting Company is currently working on the Van Nuys Runway 16L/34R reconstruction project, and it has achieved local hire participation of nearly 48% based on March work hours on that project – far exceeding their commitment to achieve a local-hire rate of at least 30%. This is another notable example of how focusing on providing good-paying jobs for members of the local community is paying off. VNY thanks Sully-Miller for putting their words into action on this important VNY project.

Mr. Moreno addressed the council as it relates to aircraft operations.

The long Memorial Day weekend was a busy weekend for both LAX and VNY. The traffic at LAX was nearly 78% compared with traffic during Memorial Day weekend in 2019. The passenger numbers were slightly lower than initial projections for the weekend, but nevertheless the passenger numbers were all far above Memorial Day weekend last year, where LAX only saw 59% of passengers compared with 2019. In April 2022, VNY conducted 20,068 aircraft operations, this represents a 22.72% decrease in operations when compared to April 2021. This brings VNY's 2022 YTD totals down 6.26% when compared to YTD 2021. For jet operations, based on LAWA's Noise and Operations Monitoring System, in April 2022 VNY had approximately 6,356 Jet operations. This number is up 19.6% compared to April 2021. As the airport manager mentioned last month, business jet activity has been "up" nationally and globally from the 2019 levels which helps explain the increases at Van Nuys Airport and most general aviation airports across the country.

B. Christian Moreno, Chief of Operations:

No additional report was given.

C. Diana Sanchez, Director of Public and Community Relations:

Ms. Sanchez addressed the council as it relates to the Aviation Careers Education (ACE) weeklong program which will begin on July 19, 2022.

On June 10th VNY will be participating in the VICA hall of fame dinner at the Universal Sheraton.

On June 24th VNY will be supporting Mid-Valley YMCA pancake breakfast.

Ms. Sanchez addressed the council as it relates to the rumors surrounding the Home Depot leasehold. She clarified that the rumors are false and noted that Home Depot is a sub tenant of one of VNY's Master Tenants whose lease will expire in 6 years and will involve an RFP process. Ms. Sanchez noted that the land in question is designated for commercial use not aviation use.

D. Ryan Page, Airport Superintendent of Operations:

Mr. Page provided the council with a briefing on Noise Comments and the Jet Early Turn and Quiet Jet Departure programs for April 2022. The briefing summarized the information contained in the monthly environmental reports (attached).

Mr. Page provided a summary of the Quieter Nights Program and clarified that it is a voluntary program.

Updates and information can also be found on the LAWA website at www.iFlyVNY.com under the Noise Management Section.

E. Lt. Anthony Boisselle, Officer-in-Charge, Airport Police:

Lt. Boisselle addressed the council as it relates to the Summit of Americas and noted that tenants and patrons may see increased security at VNY.

Lt. Boisselle addressed the council regarding homeless community outreach. He noted an incident where an individual was apprehended and taken to the hospital for evaluation and assistance. Lt. Boisselle commended LAWA on their approach to help homeless individuals and thanked VNY Police and tenants on working together to assist the homeless community.

II. BOAC AGENDA ITEMS CONCERNING VNY

In conformity with the Governor's Executive Order N-29-20 dated March 17, 2020, and due to continuing concerns over COVID-19, the BOAC has continued to meet via teleconference.

Since the last CAC meeting on Tuesday, May 3, 2022, there was one virtual BOAC meeting.

The regular scheduled meeting for Thursday, May 5th was cancelled.

There was a special meeting held on Thursday, May 12th, so that the BOAC could vote to continue to hold Board meetings via Teleconference and/or Videoconference as stipulated under Assembly Bill 361.

The regular meeting scheduled for Thursday, May 19th had one consent item and two regular items that included VNY. Under consent was a resolution for a 3-year Memorandum of Understanding with the L.A. City Department of Transportation to cover planning and engineering services for LAX and VNY airports. The two regular items were for: A resolution for the award of individual 3-year contracts to Meyers Nave; Demetriou Del Guercio Springer & Francis LLP; and Kronick Moskovitz Tiedemann & Girard, to assist the City Attorney in providing ongoing legal advice to LAWA on a broad range of environmental and water law matters involving regulatory compliance, transactions, litigation, and projects at LAX, VNY, and Palmdale land holdings. Also, a Resolution for the award of individual three 3-year contracts to Sohagi Law Group PLC; Remy Moose Manley LLP; Kaplan Kirsch Rockwell LLP; and Anderson & Kreiger LLP to assist the City Attorney in providing ongoing legal advice to LAWA for California Environmental Quality Act; National Environmental Policy Act; sound/noise; and other federal, state, county, and city environmental issues for LAX, VNY, and Palmdale land holdings.

The regular meeting scheduled for Thursday, June 2nd had four consent items and one regular item that included VNY. The first item under consent was for a resolution for a 39-month lease with SpeedyTech, LLC to cover space at Aviation Plaza at VNY. The second item under consent was for a resolution for a lease with Sully-Miller Contracting Company, to allow them to use land and buildings at VNY for construction-related activities associated with the VNY runway projects. The third item under consent was for a resolution for a Memorandum of Agreement with the Mayor's Office of Public Safety covering acceptance of Securing the Cities Sustainment Grant Program funds for law enforcement training and exercises to identify, prevent and respond to potential threats in the interest of regional safety in the Los Angeles area and for the benefit of LAX and VNY. The fourth item under consent was for a resolution for a 3-year agreement with the USDA, Wildlife Services to cover wildlife hazard management services at LAX and VNY. Under the regular Items for board action, there was a resolution for a first amendment to a contract with Pacific Coast Sightseeing Tours & Charters, Inc., to extend their current contract through October 2022 which will ensure continuity of FlyAway bus services until a successor contract is fully approved by the BOAC and the City Council.

*The next BOAC Meeting is scheduled for Thursday May 19th at 10 a.m. and it will be held via teleconference.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

The Chair opened the Public Comment Period (Item III.)

The following community member spoke during the public comment period:
Mr. David Rankell, Resident

Community members submitted written comments are attached.

IV. NEW BUSINESS – DISCUSSION/ACTION

A. LAFD Station 114 Emergency Operations – Presentation

Mr. Jonith Johnson Jr. conducted a presentation titled "Los Angeles Fire Department Air Operations".

The Chair thanked Mr. Johnson for his presentation.

Ms. Petrus addressed Mr. Johnson on the recruiting process.

Mr. Johnson explained that Fire Department hires from within and receives training with LAPD and then with LAFD.

Mr. Williams thanked Mr. Johnson for his services and commended LAFD for being friendly neighbors regarding their air operations.

Ms. Harris applauded LAFD for an incident in her neighborhood where they rescued two pedestrians and a dog from a river.

Mr. Parseghian addressed Mr. Johnson on Whiteman Airport in regard to LAFD operations or emergency air operations.

Mr. Johnson noted that although LAFD does not typically use Whiteman Airport, LA County Fire Department has operations stationed there and urged its value.

The Chair thanked Mr. Johnson for his presentation and opened the Public Comment Period (Item IV).

The following community members spoke during the public comment period:

Mr. David Rankell, Resident

B. Determination to Continue Holding CAC Meetings via Teleconference and/or Videoconference: Under Assembly Bill 361 Section 3(e)(3). Discussion/Action

The Chair opened the item for discussion.

Mr. Rodine presented a motion “Pursuant to AB 361 Section 3(e)(3), the Van Nuys Airport Citizens Advisory Council finds that holding Council meetings in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of the members. Pursuant to AB 361 Section 3(e)(3), the Council finds that the COVID-19 State of Emergency continues to directly impact the ability of Council and Council members to meet safely in person. As such, the Board should continue holding Council meetings via teleconference and/or videoconference.”

Mr. Williams seconded the motion.

Mr. Williams encouraged Mr. Sanders to consider the Park VNY as a feasible option.

Mr. Sanders noted that he is in discussions with Ms. Sanchez for the feasibility of the Park VNY.

Mr. Cohen urged the council on the importance of meeting in person and the council’s physical presence in the community. Mr. Cohen stated that he would not support the motion.

Mr. Williams called for the vote.

The motion passed with a roll call vote of eleven "affirmative" votes (A. Parseghian, R. Rodine, L. Petrus, K. Delle Donne, M. Harris, T. Materna, E. Robinson, J. Parker, R. Sanders, W. Williams, and Sharon Bronson); one “no” vote (E. Cohen).

The Chair announced two special meetings to be held on June 28th and July 26th.

V. UNFINISHED BUSINESS – DISCUSSION/ACTION

No items were discussed.

VI. REPORT FROM THE CHAIR

No items were discussed.

VII. REPORT FROM THE WORKING GROUPS

A. Membership

The Chair addressed Mr. Parseghian as Chair for the Membership working group.

Mr. Parseghian noted that he will reach out to the respected appointers and will report back at the August meeting.

VIII. EMERGENCY ITEMS SINCE POSTING OF AGENDA

No items were discussed.

IX. ADVISORY COUNCIL MEMBERS COMMENTS

Mr. Parseghian encouraged everyone to vote and commended LAFD for the presentation.

Ms. Delle Donne applauded the presentation.

Mr. Parker thanked Mr. Johnson for his presentation and stated that Whiteman Airport is vital.

Mr. Rodine addressed the council as it relates to holding meetings on election nights and asked the council to consider rescheduling meetings that land on election nights.

Ms. Harris asked to address noise issues more often in meetings.

Mr. Materna addressed the council as it relates to virtual public participation.

Ms. Bronson thanked the council for allowing her to participate in the night's meeting.

Mr. Cohen stated his support for Ms. Harris and Mr. Materna's comments.

Mr. Cohen addressed the Chair as it relates to Motions and items getting added to CAC meeting agendas. He noted that bringing noise issues to the attention of the council may bring the public back for participation.

Mr. Sanders thanked LAFD for their presentation.

Mr. Sanders announced that the Park VNY has received and installed a tank for unleaded fuel, and he hopes by next month the Park will be selling unleaded swift fuel at VNY.

Ms. Chan thanked Mr. Johnson for his attendance and presentation.

Mr. Williams noted that he voted and urged the public on their involvement.

He elaborated on the importance of the council's involvement in VNY related items such as leaseholds.

The Chair thanked the council on their comments and clarified that he hears them and their concerns.

The Chair stated that the council has addressed noise concerns often in the past and continue to address noise issues as updates come. He commended the council on their work as a council and as individuals involved in the noise issues surrounding VNY.

The Chair addressed the council as it relates to future discussions on the Master plan.

X. ADJOURNMENT:

8:34 p.m.