A virtual meeting of the Van Nuys Airport (VNY) Citizens Advisory Council (CAC) was called to order at 7:02 p.m. by Chairman Jason Price. Members present: Wayne Williams, Kathy Delle Donne, Thomas Materna, Marykate Harris, John Parker, Araz Parseghian, Heren Molina, Sharon Bronson, Leonel Fuentes and Wendy Saunders.


Meeting minutes for both the August 2, 2022, and September 6, 2022 meetings were unanimously approved.

I. STAFF REPORTS:
   A. Flora Margheritis, Airport Manager:

   Ms. Margheritis welcomed the CAC members and addressed the council as it relates to the September 23 announcement by LA County health officials stating that masks are no longer required aboard public transit or inside transportation hubs including airports. She added, the County still strongly recommends the wearing of a face mask in transit facilities.

   Ms. Margheritis reported that on Sunday Sept. 25th marked the end of LAX’s on-site COVID-19 test lab which has been available since December 2020. The lab has completed more than 355,000 tests, assisting travelers and employees with required documents to travel abroad.

   Ms. Margheritis added, even though the pandemic is subsiding LAWA is still feeling the impacts. Many employees retired and LAWA is trying to hire more people to replace those that left the organization.

   Ms. Margheritis thanked Chief of Airport Operations Christian Moreno and his operations team for their ongoing commitment to Van Nuys Airport and for keeping the airport safe. The team ensures the operational safety of the airport 24/7 and that VNY complies with federal, state, and local regulations which contributed to the airport’s success. Christian’s leadership over the years has led to successful airfield projects and an outstanding safety record. For the past 5 years, VNY has been found in compliance with no discrepancies by the California DOT Division of Aeronautics. Ms. Margheritis added that Mr. Moreno also serves as her assistant airport manager and is always readily available to respond to the airport when we have an emergency or for any other reason.

   Ms. Margheritis gave a shout out to Sun Air Jets’ and specifically its President and CEO, Brian Counsil for receiving the 2021 Friendly Flyer Award by meeting and exceeded the mandatory, voluntary, and Quieter Nights program criteria and for their VNY facility meeting the state’s strict environmental green build standards.

   Ms. Margheritis also thanked Ryan Sanders and The Park VNY for hosting VICA’s After Dark event on September 29. LAWA CEO, Justin Erbacci was the keynote speaker sharing the importance of the economic impact VNY provides to the region, the exciting construction projects going on, as well as how LAWA continues to lead the way on airport sustainability.

   Operationally, LAWA continues to recover nicely. The last weekend in September LAX saw strong passenger numbers, LAX averaged 81% passenger numbers compared with pre-pandemic
September in 2019. She added that VNY conducted 29,505 aircraft operations which represents a 7.42% increase in operations as compared to August 2021. VNY’s YTD 2022 operations totals are currently down by 9.72% as compared to YTD 2021 totals. Now that VNY’s short runway 16L, is back in full service, we will likely see an increase in operations.

Ms. Margheritis said that based on the Noise and Operations Monitoring System, VNY jet operations were approximately 4,974 in August 2022. This number is down 25.3% compared to August 2021 (6,663) and down 9.9% compared to last month (5,522).

Ms. Margheritis addressed the Council regarding two motions recently introduced by Council President Nury Martinez. One motion has to do with the increase in scheduled charter operations at VNY and the Council President’s second Motion calls for the Department of City Planning in consultation with LAWA to create a Specific Plan for VNY to replace the VNY Plan and zoning ordinance 177.327.

B. Christian Moreno, Chief of Airport Operations

Mr. Moreno addressed the council as it relates to the Capital Improvement Project completion the week of October 2 and the final items including painting thanking stakeholders including VNY tenants for the coordination and cooperation for making the project a success.

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

Ms. Sanchez addressed the council as it relates to the Fernando Awards ceremony which took place on September 9 stating that Jane Skeeter is the latest Fernando honoree. She also announced that VNY sponsored the Greater San Fernando Valley Chamber breakfast on September 28. Ms. Sanchez shared the team attended the United Chambers Annual Mayor’s luncheon on September 29 and thanked The Park VNY for hosting the Valley Industry and Commerce Association’s After Dark featuring LAWA CEO Justin Erbacci.

Ms. Sanchez noted that Van Nuys Airport will have a booth at the Sherman Oaks Street Fair on Sunday, October 16, and the VICA Business Forecast Conference on October 21. Ms. Sanchez shared that the airport will be collecting canned goods for a food drive supporting MEND, Meeting Each Person with Dignity.

C. Ryan Page, Environmental Management Report:

Mr. Page reported the monthly statistics for August on Noise Comments, Jet Early Turns and the Quiet Jet Departure programs. He also provided an update on the Quieter Nights Program. The briefing summarized the information contained in the environmental reports which can be viewed on VNY’s website at www.iFlyVNY.com under the Noise Management Section.

D. Sergeant Clint Beacom, Officer-in-Charge, Airport Police:

Sergeant Beacom reported the airport has not had any major incidents and airport police have focused on having high visibility in the area and on the airfield. He added that VNY will be hosting key personnel from other local airports to discuss aviation security.
If there are any concerns members can reach out to airport police at vnyapd@lawa.org.

II. BOAC AGENDA ITEMS CONCERNING VNY

There have not been any BOAC meetings since the CAC met on September 6th. The next BOAC Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 6 at 10 a.m. which will be held in-person and will also be broadcasted live. Members of the public wishing to make a public comment at the BOAC meetings must do so in-person and if attending in-person, proof of vaccination or must show a negative COVID test taken within 72-hours of the meeting. All details are included in the public agendas.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

The Chair opened the meeting to Public Comment,

The following community member spoke during the public comment period:

Jared Negron, Resident

David Rankell, Resident

No Community members submitted written comments prior to 12 p.m. for distribution before the meeting.

IV. NEW BUSINESS – DISCUSSION/ACTION

A. Runway 16L & 16R Projects

James Long gave a summary of the recently completed capital projects which included the reconstruction of Runway 16L and a slurry seal of Runway 16R.

Chairman Price thanked Mr. Long for his presentation and for the smooth completion.

B. G-100UL Update

Mr. George Braly of General Aviation Modifications, Inc. (GAMI) shared that on September 1, 2022, the Federal Aviation Administration approved its Supplemental Type Certificates for GAMI G100UL, authorizing the unleaded aviation gasoline to be used with the entire piston-powered aircraft fleet. He outlined the next steps needed to provide the fuel to airports around the country, including the hurdles that exist with production and distribution that will take some time to overcome.

Chairman Price asked a question as it related to the time frame for aircraft manufacturers to approve the use of GAMI 100UL.

Vice Chair Williams asked a question as it relates to GAMI gathering information related to inventory capacity.
Ms. Harris asked a question regarding what is required for an aircraft to change fuel.

Mr. Parker asked about the type of fuel delivered to The Park last month.

C. Determination to Continue Holding CAC Meetings via Teleconference and/or Videoconference under Assembly Bill 361 Section 2 € (3).

Vice Chair Williams 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.”

Ms. Harris seconded the motion.


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

Mr. Parseghian addressed the council as it relates to vacant positions.

VIII. EMERGENCY ITEMS SINCE POSTING OF AGENDA

No items were discussed.

IX. ADVISORY COUNCIL MEMBER’S COMMENTS

Ms. Margheritis announced the departure of Mr. Moledo for a promotion to DWP and thanked him for all his support.

Chairman Price thanked Mr. Moledo for his dedication to making the CAC meetings a success.

Mr. Parseghian congratulated Mr. Moledo on his promotion, thanked Mr. Moreno for his operations reports and Mr. Braly for his presentation.
Ms. Molina thanked all the presenters.

Mr. Parker shared how VNY is a tremendous resource to the Valley.

Mr. Fuentes wished Mr. Moledo good luck in his new position.

Ms. Harris wished Mr. Moledo the best of luck in his new position.

Mr. Williams thanked Mr. Moledo and Mr. Moreno.

Ms. Saunders thanked the presenters for their presentations and the callers for calling in to the meeting. She also congratulated Mr. Moreno.

Chairman Price thanked Mr. Moledo and congratulated Mr. Moreno.

X. ADJOURNMENT:

8:48 p.m.