II. Vision Study Update – Discussion/Action

Regarding the upcoming vision study. This is very important; in order for us to give input regarding the Van Nuys Airport expansion WE MUST have REPRESENTATION throughout the process of the vision study. There are tens of thousands of people located in communities that are adversely affected by the air and noise pollution. And any kind of expansion will put these people (US!) in further harm’s way.

2/7/2023
02/06/23 11:56 AM

Dannielle Sweet

I. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

I have lived in the neighborhood adjacent to the Van Nuys Airport for 27 years. When I moved here, the airport was mostly a general aviation airport, flight schools and some chartered flights. The airport was not intrusive to the daily lives of its neighbors. Since Santa Monica Airport closed, the smell of jet fuel, the sound of revving engines and flights taking off every eight minutes. Already on the flight plan for Burbank Airport, we have Fire and Police helicopters and planes, News helicopters to contend with. Please be good neighbors and listen to our concerns.

2/7/2023
02/06/23 7:29 PM

Sue Steinberg

I. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

The CAC needs to work WITH the community and especially those in CD6 who have NO representation since Nury Martinez's departure. They need to demand that there be an immediate MORATORIUM on any and all expansions, lease grants & construction at VNY until the public is genuinely represented.

ALSO: The COMMUNITY needs to be directly involved in the VISION STUDY, and have genuine input into what will be planned for the future of VNY. Deals made by businesses, billionaires and builders are NOT the answer to what serves in everyone's best interest. Again, a moratorium needs to be implemented until the VISION STUDY is completed and the future of VNY is decided by the PUBLIC and ALL the STAKEHOLDERS - not just a select few. Those impacted need a VOICE in the decision making process.
Respectfully, what we do NOT need is a vision plan detailing how you will continue to grow VNY Airport. What we DO need is a new and/or updated Airport Master Plan which includes soliciting community input about how to fix the issues VNY is already causing our communities, and providing protections to surrounding community residents and schools against further growth.

I am a 20 year resident of Van Nuys and next door neighbor of VNY. First off, what is the goal of the vision study? Will it solve the ongoing issues at VNY? What we need is a PLAN. And, there MUST MUST MUST be REAL community engagement (not input) during the entire vision study process. Because as of today, LAWA has FAILED the people in the surrounding communities. We are not being heard. WE ARE NOT BEING HEARD. WE ARE NOT BEING HEARD!!!! We need to have at least one person as part of the entire vision study process that is actually part of the committee. FYI, 1 minute commenting and writing in DOES NOT constitute public engagement.

I have lived in my home next to the the Van Nuys Airport since 2003. The amount of air traffic and pollution is killing us. How will the surrounding community be a part of the vision study? I hope it is more than a “public comment” period once a month at these CAC meetings. We need someone to actually represent us, the people of Van Nuys and beyond, to be a part of the entire vision study process.

Please stop you are effecting our children’s breathing air. The planes fly right over our children’s school( valley charter) and right over the homes of most families attending valley charter. The planes fly over ever couple minutes. Both my kids have developed asthma. We have lived in north hills for 6 year and in that time we all suffer from chronic headaches and chronic sinus infections!!!
I. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Stop expanding VNY! Study the impact. Force planes to be quieter, esp piston planes. Stop ruining the lives of our children. Require noise control on all planes, esp piston planes. One person flying a plane harms millions below. Show you care about human beings.

II. Vision Study Update – Discussion/Action

As the founder of QSWH and co-founder of SoCalSFV, I am privy to community complaints spanning the entire Valley floor. While I appreciate LAWA’s recent 180° pivot in attempting community engagement, it comes out of response to the brilliantly written Motion 22-1489. Communities wish LAWA’s actions were organic, and not as a result from a slap on the hand regardless, the efforts still do not meet public expectation of a city custodian nor Environmental Justice laws as they exist in this state because LAWA remains defiant in ensuring community representatives are seated at the “table” and a part of ALL phases of land use decisions and considerations, including studies.

“Vision Studies” are a common city wide, and they historically fall short due to political wavering. The “Vision Study” on CAC’s agenda is considered to be an inept attempt to placate the masses and downplay a significant environmental crisis that is wholly avoidable as development expansions at VNY airport are neither required nor in the City's best interest. Modernization is a benefit, but not expanding hangars - ramp space and facilitating more charter jets or non-essential helicopters - all of which are a detriment to the City of Los Angeles. The last 5+ years of 10’s of thousands of complaints over the disproportionate and detrimental air traffic impacting the Valley floor, including VNY’s covert and furtive expansion, negate the need for study - IE: the writing is on the wall: it’s time to REDUCE and DETER not add on. There are many ways that property can earn an income, and LAWA’s choice to depend on FAA Grants for VNY is another detriment this City can no longer afford.

MOREOVER, the very fact LAWA is pushing more developments and leases before their touted “vision study” is complete demonstrates the lack of sincerity and common sense of the department’s actions. You don’t rush through developments and contracts and THEN complete a study intended to guide those developments and contracts. Such actions are transparent and absurdly embarrassing for the City. LAWA failed to abide by the existing Plan and City Council's instruction to create POLICY that would otherwise limit aircraft type and volume at VNY by means of... RFPs that should have included (a) limitations on Hangar and Ramp sizes, (b) provisions to ensure for electrified hangars and terminals, and (c) not permitting a lease that would change the existing purpose and aircraft of any given premises. LAWA needs to improve the airport’s power capacity to support electrical infrastructure to eliminate APU use on the ground. Any lease that does not include all these provisions, such as the Bonseph Helinet lease, should be rejected by City Council.
Any further aviation developments at VNY is irresponsible and unnecessarily abuses and puts demand on a scarce resource. We are in a water state of emergency. Officials have stated that the Colorado River will dramatically limit the State’s access to water with each year. It is grossly negligent for the city to continue to develop City land for operations that consume more of this precious and increasingly scarce resource. Citizens are to cut back on shower times, critical landscape care that supports healthier air, an increase of City trees that otherwise helps locals suffering increasing detriment from climate change all so HOBBYIST’s and the 1% can wash their private aircraft?!! That is hypocrisy and gross negligence, how does that fit into the City’s “vision”.

The amount of water wasted on washing non-essential aircraft is obscene. The fact that VNY has not utilized a parcel on the property to filter and recycle wasted water is obscene. City Council needs to call for a moratorium on aviation development at VNY immediately in the name of Environmental Justice, Sustainability Justice and Human Health and Well-being Protection.

The airport is expanding at an untenable rate. The locals are suffering and we ask you to take this into consideration as you move forward.

Please stop this airport from becoming a behemoth. Kids live around it, and we moved to this area because it was small. Not a big city airport.
I'm an owner/pilot of a piston aircraft that is hangared at VNY at MPG. I am extremely grateful for the opportunity to be based here. There is a shrinking number of airports and an even smaller number of hangars that are available for NON-TURBINE aircraft.

I urge the VNY management to preserve hangars for piston aircraft.

Piston aircraft do not contribute significantly to noise pollution and generally do not fly at times (such as during the night) that disturb our neighbors.

Without piston aircraft for training, there can be no aviation industry.

The one problem with piston aircraft is temporary - we currently burn 100LL which is leaded gas. There is a complete solution to that problem- G100UL which will become available in CA this year. I urge the management and the FBOs to contact GAMI and make this fuel available at VNY.

thanks for listening

Peter R

I agree with SoCalSFV.com ..Five months is not adequate for any type of human health and environmental impact study. That alone demonstrates such a study is aimed to placate communities being harmed by non-essential air traffic as opposed to sincerely making a difference MOREOVER, conducting any type of study that does not have an EDUCATED community representative at the table during all phases renders such a study skewed with potential for more propaganda at the expense of the common good.
I agree with QSWH and support the following statements as they 100% reflect how I feel as a Calabasas resident who should NOT be subjected to this explosion of non-essential air traffic destroying lives and our environment. With global warming as it is, how is L.A. City guilty of such hypocrisy and not calling for a MORATORIUM on VNY development when clearly there is NO vision and no preparation at the landlocked airport to host the modernization changes we need due to inadequate planning and power grids?!

Regardless of the city’s “Vision” activities, it is an insult for LAWA to promote such a “vision study” to communities as if it should take precedence or hold any importance over a new or updated Airport Plan that LAWA has perpetually procrastinated to initiate. Furthermore, LAWA should be concentrating on encouraging City Council to isolate a VNY Airport Plan from surrounding community plans by making it its own entity, as with the LAX Plan.

A study is not needed to reveal the disproportionate detriment that comes from developments: (a) expanding hangar and or ramp size, (b) beefing up hardscape structure to accommodate heavier and larger aircraft or (c) expansion services tenants may offer on their premises, especially those that differ from previous use. Tens of thousands of complaints over the past five years reveal the impact and devastation over excessive air traffic, both on the ground and in the air. A steady presence of complaints by communities about VNY and their support for motions like 22-1125, 22-1127, and 22-1489 clearly indicate that further development at VNY that facilitates more air traffic is a COST the city of Los Angeles can not afford.
The LA area is in a water state of emergency. It is grossly negligent for the city to continue to develop City land for operations that consume more of this precious and increasingly scarce resource. Citizens are required to drastically reduce water use, with greenery that supports healthier air dying throughout the area. But hobbyists and the extremely wealthy can wash their private aircraft?! That is hypocrisy = gross negligence. The amount of water wasted on washing non-essential aircraft is offensive, and the fact that VNY has not established an on-site system to filter and recycle wasted water is negligent. City Council needs to call for a moratorium on aviation development at VNY immediately.

I understand that the airport sponsor was compelled to put this on the agenda however, we all know that it is premature and a joke. Unless a community representative, like one of the aviation community group founders, is included in the conversation then these studies are meritless to a significant portion of the impacted population.

LAWA failed to honor the airport Plan’s instruction to create policy that would otherwise limit aircraft type and volume at Van Nuys airport by using the City’s authority with RFP restrictions. As the community group leaders have wisely stated, RFP policy should have been implemented to ensure community compatibility (per Plan) by placing Limitations on hanger and ramp sizes, provisions to ensure APU is no longer utilized on the ground which is going to take time and planning so more developments at this time are unwise and premature, and not permitting any lease that would otherwise change existing purposes and aircraft on any given premises. From what I’ve witnessed, LAWA has been run by the greed of investors and by lack of good or fair judgement. City Council needs to place a moratorium on the haphazard development currently happening at Van Nuys airport.
Hello. As a long-time resident, business and homeowner in Encino, I am respectfully requesting that the Vision Study be done with full transparency; which leads me to the following questions:

- Who is on the VNY Vision Study panel?
- Are affected Neighborhood Councils (such as the Encino Neighborhood Council for example, which were created to support various agencies, and are themselves elected professionals) being included?
- Will the VNY Vision Plan solicit comments from the community?
- Will the VNY Vision Plan lend itself to finally updating the VNY Master Plan/Strategic Plan which has been woefully ignored and out-of-date for some time?

Thank you advance for your time and consideration of these very worthy questions.

Sincerely,
Victoria Miller
I am writing to oppose the expansion of VNY airport, and to comment on the negligence of LAWA in their refusal to conduct a ‘proper study’ of the harm that is being perpetrated upon communities, and the impact upon the environment. Five months is NOT adequate for any type of human health and environmental impact study. Moreover, conducting any type of study that does NOT have an educated community representative at the table, during all phases, renders the study skewed with potential for more propaganda at the expense of the common good. These low flying jets and billionaire aircraft, LAWA has allowed to usurp our community skies, greatly erode life and health for those that must live under these conditions on the ground. This incessant noise, and low flying aircraft cause: heart palpitations, episodes of anxiety and tinnitus (which I recently suffer due to the noise from low flying aircraft outside my window, and directly over my house, in the Santa Monica Mountains). It is unconscionable that LAWA has been able to erode life for so many living under these newly formed flight paths. These flight paths created by LAWA circumventing community input and environmental studies. Placating their true focus: to honor Billionaire interests. This behavior, by LAWA Must Not continue with impunity. The community needs a voice. I implore you, to give 'the community' a voice.