

**VAN NUYS AIRPORT CITIZENS ADVISORY COUNCIL**  
**Tuesday, June 2, 2020**

A virtual meeting of the Van Nuys Airport (VNY) Citizens Advisory Council (CAC) was called to order at 7:01 p.m. by Jason Price. Members present: Wayne Williams, Gerald Silver, Kathy Delle Donne, Mel Roberts, Robert Rodine, John Parker, Marykate Harris, Thomas Materna, Lisa Petrus, Leonel Fuentes, Wendy Saunders, Roger Oeland, Laurence Rabe, Cindy Goodfellow, Araz Parseghian, and Eric Robinson.

Absent: Harold Lee.

The minutes from the March 3, 2020 meeting were unanimously approved.

**I. STAFF REPORTS:**

**A. Flora Margheritis, Airport Manager:**

Ms. Margheritis addressed the council as it relates to the COVID-19 pandemic and its effect on VNY staff, patrons and stakeholders. Ms. Margheritis noted that LAWA immediately felt the impacts of the pandemic with a significant decrease in passenger operations at LAX. In mid-March LAX reported over 57% decrease in passengers compared to last year with those numbers further decreasing to 95% in April 2020. Ms. Margheritis stated that VNY has had a significant decrease in overall aircraft operations. Jet Operations were down 75% in March and 55% down in overall aircraft operations compared to CY 2019 totals. In April, overall totals improved to 48.8% in overall aircraft operations, however, jet operations stayed at 75% in comparison to calendar year 2019. Ms. Margheritis noted that the major reduction in passengers at LAX and Operations at VNY has caused serious financial issues for the airlines, concessioners and for businesses at VNY. The drop in activity and revenue has had a serious impact not only at LAWA but throughout the entire aviation industry. Ms. Margheritis addressed the council as it relates to the Coronavirus Aid Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act. Ms. Margheritis stated that LAWA's portion of Cares Act money will not fund new projects but will aid LAWA to cover costs with debt service payments, payroll and the modernization program. Ms. Margheritis commended LAWA on being proactive throughout the COVID-19 crisis. Employees were urged early on to practice social distancing and to comply with the Mayor's "safer at home" directives to reduce the spread of COVID-19. LAWA has implemented a safety policy regarding the mandatory use of facial coverings when working and most non-essential employees have been required to work from home. Furthermore, LAWA created a COVID-19 Recovery Task Force to organize the eventual return of passengers and telecommuting employees to LAX and VNY. Ms. Margheritis will provide the council with progress updates regarding LAWA and the impact of the COVID-19 crisis.

Ms. Margheritis gave an update on the Metroplex/SFV Task Force:

The Southern San Fernando Valley Airplane Noise Task Force (TF) held its seventh and final meeting virtually on May 6 and 7, 2020. The TF reconvened on May 7, 2020 to vote on 19 proposed TF recommendations. The TF approved 16 of the 19 member recommendations regarding aircraft operations from both Burbank Airport (BUR) and VNY airports. The 16 recommendations which were approved by the TF are being submitted to all the responsible entities and the TF has asked for a 60-day response and a quarterly update on these recommendations. A recording and summary of the final meeting(s) can be found on the BUR and VNY webpages and the 16 final recommendations will be posted soon.

The Board of Airports Commissioners (BOAC) was also presented with recommendations for a new Noise program to help reduce the nighttime impacts to the communities surrounding VNY. The new Noise Program is called the VNY Quieter Nights Program, which includes the spirit of the proposed voluntary curfew by the Citizens Advisory Council. The following key elements of the program included:

- Jet aircraft operators at VNY are encouraged to avoid flying between the hours of 11 p.m. and 7 a.m., this includes both jet arrivals and departures.
- Exemption for law enforcement, military, emergency fire or air ambulance/life flight operations.
- Outreach on this program began right before COVID-19 broke out to inform tenants/operators of this new program and LAWA in collaboration with tenants/operators will continue to discuss and develop best practices/protocols to avoid jet flights during these hours as operations recover.
- Staff will continue to work with tenants, operators and aviation trade associations to increase awareness of noise concerns and urge program participation.
- The program has already been posted on the VNY webpage and we will encourage participation.
- LAWA will incentivize participation by including this program in the VNY Friendly Flyer Awards Program.

Ms. Margheritis stated that as the program gears up, LAWA will provide quarterly updates to the BOAC and VNY CAC to share feedback on the program and report on the program's effectiveness

**B. Christian Moreno, Chief of Operations**

Mr. Moreno updated the council on the Taxiway Alpha Rehabilitation Project. Mr. Moreno stated that work area 3 will be completed by June 13, 2020. Mr. Moreno noted that VNY has been operating with a shortened runway configuration since April 1, 2020. Mr. Moreno stated that despite the COVID-19 pandemic, the project has continued.

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

Ms. Sanchez commended LAWA IT for their support with the first virtual CAC meeting.

Ms. Sanchez encouraged the community to submit their noise complaints through the LAWA website to log complaints. Ms. Sanchez commended VNY tenants for aiding the communities during the pandemic with their supplies and resources. Notably, Net Jets donated N95 masks to New York, Quest Diagnostics has been essential in delivering tests to labs, Signature Flight Support donated masks to Kaiser Hospital, and Clay Lacy Aviation donated N95 masks to Valley Presbyterian Hospital. Ms. Sanchez thanked the council and community for their continued support and patience as we test this new way of meeting.

**D. Len Krugler, Environmental Specialist**

Mr. Dan Yeung gave a report on behalf of Mr. Krugler. He provided the council with a briefing on the Jet Early Turn and Quiet Departure programs for April and May 2020. The

briefing summarized the information contained in the monthly environmental handouts (noise reports attached).

Mr. Yeung stated that this information can also be found on the LAWA website at [www.iFlyVNY.com](http://www.iFlyVNY.com) under the Noise Management Section.

Mr. Yeung addressed the council as it relates to the new Noise Web Portal and stated he would conduct a presentation with more information at the next meeting.

**E. Lt. Dennis Lau, Officer-in-Charge, Airport Police**

Lt. Lau addressed the council as it relates to the George Floyd shooting and the Covid-19 crisis. Lt. Lau stated that Airport Police has been providing mutual aid to the community and in the surrounding cities. Lt. Lau reported that in the month of April there was a record high number of auto thefts. Lt. Lau stated that law enforcement is working hard to keep the community safe and protect the rights of protesters.

**II. BOAC AGENDA ITEMS CONCERNING VNY**

- A.** In conformity with the Governor's Executive Order N-29-20 dated March 17, 2020 and due to concerns over COVID-19, the BOAC has been meeting via teleconference. These meetings were broadcasted live, and were held on: March 19, March 26, April 2, April 9, April 16, April 30, May 7 and May 21, 2020. Ms. Margheritis addressed the council as it relates to the following BOAC meeting(s):

The March 3, 2020 BOAC Meeting had one item for a resolution to award a 3 year contract to Water Environmental Services and Technologies Corporation dba Westcorp, to cover duct cleaning and repair services at LAX and VNY.

The March 19, 2020 meeting had no items pertaining to VNY, and the only management report presented was on LAWAs Response to COVID-19.

The March 26, 2020 meeting had no items pertaining to VNY.

The April 2, 2020 meeting had four Items for Board Action. The first item was for a resolution to Award a 1 year lease with Western Jet Aviation, Inc., to allow Western Jet the use of land for aircraft and employee vehicle parking pending a future competitive process. The second item was a resolution to award a 1 year Lease with Clay Lacy Aviation, Inc., to allow Clay Lacy to use land for aircraft and employee vehicle parking pending a competitive process. The third item was a resolution to award a 5 year lease with Galpin Motors, Inc., to cover a leasehold located at 16841 Roscoe Boulevard, to provide a 5 year ground lease for construction and operation of a vehicle storage/parking lot. The fourth item was a resolution for a Memorandum of Agreement with the Mayor's Office of Public Safety, to secure grant funds as a funding source relative to radio system improvements at LAX and VNY to support communication with regional, state and federal agencies in the event of a natural or man-made disaster.

The April 9, 2020 meeting had no items pertaining to VNY.

The April 16, 2020 meeting had one item for a resolution to Award a 3 year contract to Rayvern Lighting Supply Company Inc., to cover supply and delivery of electrical lamps for LAX and VNY.

The April 30, 2020 meeting had one item pertaining to VNY for a resolution to approve a first amendment to a reimbursement agreement with Signature Flight Support, to extend the term of this agreement by 3 years, with 2 one year extension options, covering reimbursement to LAWA for U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) facility expenses related to designation and operation of a User Fee CBP facility at VNY, under the MOA between CBP and LAWA.

The May 7, 2020 meeting had five items pertaining to VNY and there was BOAC action taken on the subject of Rent Deferral for certain VNY tenants. The first item was for a resolution for a second amendment to a contract with EMS Bruel & Kjaer, Inc., to extend the term by 1 year and to increase funds to the contract authority to cover maintenance and support services for the Airport Noise and Operations Monitoring System at LAX and VNY. The second item was for a resolution for a first amendment to a contract with Performance Safety Group Inc., to extend the term through October 18, 2022 and to increase the contract authority. This is to cover supply and delivery of custodial plastic/latex products for LAX and VNY. The third item was for a resolution for a 1 year contract with Lawson Products, Inc., for the provision of industrial hardware, electrical tools and supplies for LAX and VNY. The fourth item was for a resolution for the acceptance of grant offers from the FAA and execution of associated grant agreements covering emergency economic relief funds from the CARES Act to support airport operations at LAX and VNY. The fifth item was for a resolution to approve the deferral of rents for certain VNY tenants. This will allow eligible tenants to repay rents over a 6 month period for April and May 2020, during the Local Emergency Period declared by the Mayor, under Ordinance 186585.

The May 21, 2020 meeting had two items pertaining to VNY. The first item was for a resolution for a lease with Granite Construction Company, and rental rates, to allow Granite Construction use of land and buildings for construction-related activities associated with the Taxiway Alpha Rehabilitation Project at VNY. The second item was for an award of three 3 year contract to Turtle ALA, LLC dba Associated of Los Angeles to cover supply and delivery of various electrical parts for LAX and VNY.

The next BOAC Meeting taking place via teleconference is scheduled for Thursday, June 4, 2020 at 10:30 am, and there are no items pertaining to VNY.

### **III. NEW BUSINESS – DISCUSSION/ACTION**

#### **A. 2020 UC Davis Aviation Noise and Air Quality – Discussion/Presentation**

Mr. Materna conducted a presentation titled “2020 UC Davis Aviation Noise and Air Quality” (attached).

Mr. Williams addressed Mr. Materna as it relates to a request for Mr. Sanford Fidell, a noise expert to conduct a presentation to the CAC.

Mr. Williams also requested that LAWA conduct a TF presentation of the Items BUR and VNY put forward as recommendations and their progress.

Mr. Rodine commended Mr. Materna on his presentation and stated his support for a presentation from Mr. Fidell.

The Chair opened item III A. 2020 UC Davis Aviation Noise and Air Quality for public comment.

The following community members submitted a written comment for the public comment period:

Ms. April Thurber, Resident

#### **IV. OLD BUSINESS – DISCUSSION/ACTION**

No items were discussed.

#### **V. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

The Chair opened the Public Comment Period (item V.)

The following community members spoke during the public comment period:

Mr. John, Resident

The following community members submitted a written comment for the public comment period:

Charles & Marie V., Residents

John Vee, Resident

Jim Esterle, Resident

Gill Imber, Resident

Michelle Moadeb, Resident

#### **VI. REPORT FROM THE CHAIR**

The Chair addressed the council and public as it relates to the current condition of the surrounding communities and the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Chair addressed the council as it relates to withholding a council meeting for July.

Mr. Williams stated that it would be productive to hold a council meeting in July.

Ms. Goodfellow stated she will not be available for July's meeting.

Ms. Saunders stated that perhaps the council could go dark in August instead of July.

Mr. Materna and Ms. Delle Donne stated their support for a July meeting.

Mr. Robinson noted that the council owes it to the community to hold a meeting and continue their work.

Mr. Silver stated his support for a July meeting.

The Chair stated that the July 7, 2020 meeting would take place.

#### **VII. REPORT FROM THE WORKING GROUPS**

##### **A. Membership – Cindy Goodfellow, Chairperson**

Ms. Goodfellow stated that she has reached out to the offices of Councilmembers Martinez and Rodriguez but has not received a response.

Ms. Sanchez stated that there is one vacancy for Council District 6 and one vacancy for Council District 7.

Mr. Materna addressed the Chair as it relates to the Public Comment period and public participation in the virtual meeting.

Ms. Sanchez noted that VNY staff followed the City Attorney's advice and that all written public comments will be submitted to the council.

The Chair stated that there would be a discussion with LAWA staff to review the meeting and discuss future details.

#### **VIII. EMERGENCY ITEMS SINCE POSTING OF AGENDA**

No items were discussed.

#### **IX. ADVISORY COUNCIL MEMBERS COMMENTS**

Ms. Goodfellow thanked Mr. Materna for his presentation.

Ms. Goodfellow commended LAWA staff for arranging the virtual meeting.

Mr. Parker stated that he would like to hear the Public Comment.

Mr. Fuentes commended the Chair for running the virtual meeting.

Mr. Roberts congratulated Mr. Materna on his presentation.

Mr. Rodine urged the council and public to stay safe during the pandemic.

Mr. Materna addressed the council as it relates to the Quieter Nights Program and receiving information on a monthly basis.

Mr. Williams thanked the council and the public for their participation.

Mr. Williams stated that Public Comment should be heard and that he would like to see that at the next virtual meeting.

Ms. Saunders commended Mr. Materna on his presentation.

Ms. Rabe thanked the LAWA IT team for their assistance and thanked Mr. Materna for his presentation.

Ms. Rabe stated she will not be present for July's meeting.

Mr. Oeland addressed the council as it relates to the Agenda for the next meeting.

Mr. Silver addressed the council as it relates to Public Comment and public participation.

Ms. Delle Donne thanked the Chair for a good meeting.

#### **X. ADJOURNMENT:**

8:41 p.m.