

VAN NUYS AIRPORT CITIZENS ADVISORY COUNCIL
Tuesday, October 6, 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, Mel Roberts, Robert Rodine, John Parker, Marykate Harris, Thomas Materna, Lisa Petrus, Wendy Saunders, Roger Oeland, Araz Parseghian, Eric Robinson, Laurence Rabe, Kathy Delle Donne and Eliot Cohen.

Absent: Harold Lee, Leonel Fuentes and Cindy Goodfellow.

The minutes from the September 15, 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 commended LAWA's resilience during these uncertain times. Staff at VNY continues the good work that they do daily and their commitment to VNY is demonstrated every day. Ms. Margheritis noted that the upward trend in passengers continues at LAX, which will help strengthen LAWA's fiscal position. She noted optimistic signs with the airlines servicing LAX; recent announcements on new services or on services that are returning, international flights are being added, which will help improve the passenger numbers at LAX. Overall, the recovery continues to be gradual and it is expected that domestic travel will continue to recover faster than international travel as many countries are taking caution as they restart international flights in the interest of preventing the importation of infections.

Ms. Margheritis addressed the council as it relates to reorganization at LAWA. She stated that the retirement of many employees will enable LAX and VNY to be more resourceful considering the reduced workforce. Ms. Margheritis noted that VNY was impacted, as the Noise Abatement Officer, Len Krugler retired under LAWA's employee Separation Incentive Program. LAWA's Noise Management Office plans to backfill his position in the near future. Also, another member of the VNY family, who works for the Commercial Development Group, Monica Milos is set to retire next week. Ms. Milos is the assigned property manager for VNY and has handled a lot of the leasing activities for the airport.

Ms. Margheritis addressed the council as it relates to aircraft operations. In August 2020, VNY conducted 22,779 aircraft operations. This represents a 5.45% increase in operations that includes jets, propeller aircraft and helicopters when compared to August 2019. VNY's YTD 2020 operations totals are currently up by 0.32% when compared to YTD 2019 totals. The preliminary jet operations numbers as provided by VNY Noise office staff show that of the 22,779 operations approximately 4,635 were jet operations, which is 20.35% of the total operations. Ms. Margheritis noted that at VNY 20-25% of its operations are jet operations, anywhere from 10-15% are helicopter operations and the rest are propeller aircraft operations. Ms. Margheritis stated that the average daily operational numbers give a clearer picture of what is happening at VNY. When looking at average daily takeoffs and landings for August at VNY based on flight track information there is a 13% decrease in all aircraft operations and a 5% decrease in jet operations at VNY when compared to August of 2019.

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

Ms. Margheritis reminded the council that the FAA had submitted their response letter to the TF on September 1, 2020 and that the response had been posted on both the BUR and VNY Airport webpages. Ms. Margheritis urged the members of the council to read the response letter and noted that a discussion on the PPRRY waypoint was agendaized for the night's meeting.

Ms. Margheritis gave an update on the VNY Quieter Nights Program (QNP): VNY continues outreach its efforts on the QNP by pushing the message to jet operators to avoid flying between the hours of 11pm and 7am. Ms. Margheritis reminded the council that VNY staff advertised the program in the air charter guide in an effort to reach the clients not just the aircraft operators. Additionally, staff formally filed to publish the key message of "Jets: Avoid departures and arrivals between 11 p.m. and 7 a.m. to reduce noise over community" in the Airport Master Record. The Airport Master Record will be updated via the FAA Airport Data and Information Portal (ADIP). The key message of the QNP will appear in the VNY airport remarks section. This will trigger publication of the QNP message in series of aeronautical publications.

Ms. Margheritis noted that VNY's Fixed Based Operators (FBO) are promoting awareness of the QNP and other VNY noise abatement procedures through daily shift briefings, recurrent training sessions, company staff meetings, and are ensuring that the program's key message is incorporated into new-hire training materials. VNY is also working with the FBO's to promote the program on their VNY company webpages. The FBO's that have online reservation systems will also ensure that program information is available along with other noise abatement information to serve as a constant reminder that the QNP is in effect. Ms. Margheritis stated that VNY staff had hand-delivered program information for posting in the pilot briefing rooms and customer lobbies and staff will continue to visit with FBO's to ensure materials are posted. Ms. Margheritis shared that she is pleased to learn that program information will also be shared in company newsletters.

Ms. Margheritis announced that Diana Sanchez, the VNY Public and Community Relations Director, is back in the office. Ms. Sanchez will give a detailed presentation on QNP outreach efforts at the next CAC meeting. Ms. Margheritis stated that she hopes to have a quarterly report in the near future on the program's effectiveness to share with the BOAC and the CAC. She noted that the nighttime jet operations between the hours of 11 p.m. and 7 a.m. are still down compared to October of last year; however, a report based on quarters will describe a better picture.

B. Christian Moreno, Chief of Operations

Mr. Moreno updated the council on the Taxiway Alpha Rehabilitation Project; work area seven is in progress, which should be completed by late October 2020. This will bring the project to a 55% completion phase for the entire project. Work area eight is scheduled to begin in early November 2020. All construction updates and pictures can be found on the VNY webpage.

Mr. Moreno stated that staff is also working with LAWA's Planning and Development Group to begin initial design and scope for future airfield capital projects.

Ms. Margheritis stated that the runway projects are capital projects funded by the FAA through the Airport Improvement Program (AIP). She stated that the FAA typically covers 90% of the project's cost and the remaining 10% is covered by LAWA.

C. Diana Sanchez, Director of Public and Community Relations

In the absence of Diana Sanchez, Ms. Margheritis noted that there were no Public and Community Relations (P.R.) updates. Ms. Margheritis announced that Ms. Sanchez will attend the November CAC meeting and will provide a P.R. update at that time. Ms. Margheritis commended the Public and Community Relations staff on their assistance with the QNP outreach efforts.

D. Dan Yeung, Environmental Specialist

Mr. Yeung provided the council with a briefing on the Jet Early Turn and Quiet Departure programs for September 2020. The briefing summarized the information contained in the monthly environmental handouts (noise reports attached).

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

Ms. Margheritis addressed the council as it relates to noise abatement programs at Van Nuys which include mandatory and voluntary programs. Ms. Margheritis noted that the Quiet Jet Departure Program is in effect 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Under this program, aimed at reducing jet departure noise, pilots agree to use noise abatement techniques as established in aircraft manufacturer's operating manuals. The Quieter Nights Program is a different program urging jet operators to avoid flying during nighttime hours.

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

In the absence of Lt. Lau, Sgt. Beacom provided an update on safety and security at Van Nuys Airport.

Sgt. Beacom reported that there have been no significant safety or security issues to report since the last CAC meeting on September 15, 2020. Sgt. Beacom stated that Van Nuys Police continues to monitor and reinforce the VNY perimeter and ensure safety in the surrounding community.

Sgt. Beacom addressed the council as it relates to Airport Police staff. Sergeants Aaron Duboise and Fernando Franco will retire at the end of the week. Sgt. Beacom wishes them a happy retirement.

Ms. Margheritis addressed the council as it relates to LAWA furloughs. Ms. Margheritis informed the Chair that all non-essential LAWA employees must take a mandatory furlough day on Tuesday November 3, 2020 and will not be available to participate for the scheduled CAC meeting on that same night. Ms. Margheritis noted that staff can make themselves available for the following Tuesday November 10th or 17th.

The Chair stated that since VNY staff is critical to the CAC meeting the council will reschedule for a following Tuesday once discussed with the Vice Chair.

Mr. Rodine asked if VNY Operations will continue on the furloughed day for operators and aircraft.

Ms. Margheritis assured the council that operations and police staff will still be on-duty at VNY, as the furloughs apply to only for non-essential staff.

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, September 15, 2020, there was a virtual BOAC meeting on Thursday September 17th and October 1st.

The meeting on September 17, 2020 had one item under the consent calendar and that was for: A resolution for a first amendment to a lease with Galpin Motors, to provide temporary rent relief due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The October 1, 2020 meeting had no items pertaining to VNY.

The next BOAC virtual meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 15, 2020 at 10:30 a.m.

III. NEW BUSINESS – DISCUSSION/ACTION

A. L.A. County Fire Department – Fire Season 2020 – Presentation

The Chair opened the item for public comment.
There were no public comments submitted for this item.

Chief Patrick Sprengel conducted a presentation titled “Fire Season 2020” (attached).

Mr. Williams addressed Chief Sprengel as it relates to the L.A. County Fire Department purchasing their own aircraft for fire season.

Chief Sprengel stated that the fire department signs a 90-day contract with an option to extend. Mr. Sprengel addressed the council as it relates to fire season for L.A. County. He noted that the Super Scooper aircraft are contracted during the height of the wildfire season and not necessarily needed the rest of the year.

Mr. Cohen commended Chief Sprengel and the fire department for their work during fire season.

Chief Sprengel commended the VNY Air Traffic Control Tower for their continued support with the Super Scoopers aircraft operations.

The Chair thanked Mr. Sprengel for his presentation.

B. FAA response to SFV Airplane Noise Task Force regarding PPRRY – Discussion/Action

The chair opened the item for public comment.

The following community members spoke during the public comment period:

Mr. Peter, Resident

Ms. Susan, Resident

Mr. Charles, Resident

Mr. Gil, Secretary of Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Council

Ms. Marie, Resident
Mr. David, Resident
Ms. Gina, Resident
Mr. Bob, Resident
Ms. Wendy, Resident
Mr. John, Resident

Several community members submitted written comments (attached).

Mr. Parker addressed the Chair as it relates to public comment.

Mr. Rodine addressed the council as it relates to the Brown Act.

The Chair addressed the council as it relates to public comment protocol.

The Chair opened the item for discussion.

Ms. Margheritis addressed the council as it relates to the FAA response to the San Fernando Valley Noise Task Force (TF) on the PPRRY waypoint.

Ms. Margheritis stated that the FAA submitted its response to the TF on September 1, 2020. She noted that at the August CAC meeting, she shared that LAWA had issued its formal response to the TF on July 21, 2020 regarding the three approved TF recommendations that LAWA was responsible for reviewing, assessing and implementing, if feasible. The CAC was previously briefed on LAWA's responses and LAWA's formal response letter is still posted on the VNY webpage for all to read. Ms. Margheritis stated that LAWA was not listed in TF documents as the responsible entity to address Recommendation 2 which is the recommendation regarding the PPRRY Waypoint. She noted that the FAA is listed as the responsible entity and they responded to the TF in September. LAWA reviewed the FAA's response and has submitted requests to amend all three RNAV departure procedures (HARYS, ROSCOE and WLKKR) for Van Nuys Airport using the FAA's Instrument Flight Procedures or the IFP Information Gateway website. Ms. Margheritis noted that the gateway is the formal portal used by airports, not just Van Nuys Airport, to request any flight procedure amendments. LAWA also requested a formal evaluation of the procedures that were presented to the CAC in August 2019 which the FAA designed to mirror the conventional flight tracks as close as possible. LAWA has requested that these procedures known as FAA's notional procedures for VNY, be designed to provide the maximum dispersal possible for flight tracks especially on the initial departure flight track. Ms. Margheritis stated that since the FAA communicated to the TF via their response that the review process for requests submitted through the IFP Gateway portal could take over two years LAWA has urged the FAA to expedite their review and analysis of these proposed procedures to implement any changes in a shorter timeframe. Ms. Margheritis stated that LAWA has also requested that the FAA immediately implement the same interim operating procedures that were put in place in August 2017 and used until the FAA published the final RNAV procedures for VNY in May 2018. LAWA believes this can provide immediate relief to communities while the notional procedures are evaluated for possible implementation. Ms. Margheritis noted that if these interim procedures are feasible then LAWA would like for the FAA to consider implementing the interim procedures as a permanent solution. Ms. Margheritis stated that LAWA's action is in the best interest of

the communities and asked the council to support the notional procedure and for FAA to use an interim procedure in the meantime if feasible.

Mr. Materna addressed Ms. Margheritis as it relates to the timeframe of LAWA's request to the FAA regarding PPRRY.

Ms. Margheritis stated that she did not have that information.

Mr. Rodine addressed the council as it relates to the CAC record of involvement in the issue of the PPRRY waypoint. Mr. Rodine reminded the council that they are an advisory council.

Mr. Rodine presented the following motion to the council, "that we support the action LAWA has taken".

Ms. Kathryn Pantoja from LAWA Noise Management clarified the status of the IFP Gateway request. Ms. Pantoja stated that the request is being processed and will be submitted on October 7, 2020.

The Chair asked for clarification of Mr. Rodine's motion.

Mr. Rodine stated that he wishes to table the subject of PPRRY until there is further information and is in support of LAWA's action. Mr. Rodine noted that as an advisory council, the CAC has done its due diligence.

Ms. Saunders seconded Mr. Rodine's motion.

Mr. Materna proposed a motion to the council.

Mr. Williams seconded Mr. Materna's motion.

Mr. Parker addressed the council as it relates to the motion process.

Ms. Petrus noted that Mr. Materna's motion had too many items.

Ms. Saunders stated that she is in support of LAWA's direction but not in support of moving the flightpath back to its original waypoint.

Mr. Williams called for the vote on Mr. Rodine's motion.

The council opposed the motion presented by Mr. Rodine with a rollcall vote of six "affirmative" votes (Mr. Parseghian, Ms. Saunders, Mr. Parker, Mr. Rodine, Ms. Petrus, Mr. Oeland); seven "no" votes (Mr. Roberts, Ms. Rabe, Ms. Delle Donne, Mr. Materna, Mr. Robinson, Mr. Cohen, Mr. Williams); and two "abstentions" (Ms. Harris, Mr. Price).

Mr. Williams offered modification to Mr. Materna's motion.

The council approved the motion proposed by Mr. Materna and Mr. Williams (attached) with a rollcall vote of eleven "affirmative" votes (Mr. Parseghian, Mr. Roberts, Ms. Rabe, Ms. Delle Donne, Mr. Parker, Ms. Harris, Ms. Petrus, Mr. Materna, Mr. Robinson, Mr. Cohen,

Mr. Williams); two “no” votes (Mr. Rodine, Mr. Oeland); and two “abstentions” (Ms. Saunders, Mr. Price).

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. Peter, Resident

Ms. Susan, Resident

Mr. Ed, Resident

Ms. Elaine, Resident

Mr. David, Resident

Mr. John, Resident

Several community members submitted written comments (attached).

VI. REPORT FROM THE CHAIR

No items were discussed.

VII. REPORT FROM THE WORKING GROUPS

A. Membership – Cindy Goodfellow, Chairperson

No items were discussed.

VIII. EMERGENCY ITEMS SINCE POSTING OF AGENDA

No items were discussed.

IX. ADVISORY COUNCIL MEMBERS COMMENTS

Mr. Robinson thanked the council for the meeting.

Ms. Harris noted that the meeting had great discussion.

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

Mr. Williams reminded the community of their rights to free speech.

Mr. Cohen addressed the council as it relates to creating an outreach committee for the CAC.

Mr. Materna addressed the council as it relates to public comment. Mr. Materna stated that public comments should be allowed to be submitted to the council 24/7.

Ms. Petrus stated that all public comment should be welcomed.

Mr. Parseghian commended the council on the night’s debate and thanked the Chair and Vice Chair.

Mr. Rodine addressed the council as it relates to Roberts Rules of Order.

Mr. Oeland addressed the council as it relates to the August 2019 meeting and public representation and decorum at meetings.

X. ADJOURNMENT:

9:55 p.m.