

VAN NUYS AIRPORT CITIZENS ADVISORY COUNCIL
Tuesday, July 7, 2020

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

Absent: Jason Price, Laurence Rabe, Cindy Goodfellow, Leonel Fuentes and Araz Parseghian.

The minutes from the June 2, 2020 meeting were unanimously approved.

I. STAFF REPORTS:

A. Flora Margheritis, Airport Manager:

Ms. Margheritis commended LAWA staff and Ms. Sanchez on the success and coordination of the first virtual CAC meeting held on June 3, 2020. Ms. Margheritis announced the appointment of Justin Erbacci as permanent CEO of LAWA. Mr. Erbacci joined LAWA in 2016 and has been serving as interim CEO since January 1, 2020. Ms. Margheritis noted that operating, not one, but two airports during a pandemic is probably one of the most challenging things that LAWA's CEO has ever done and Mr. Erbacci is leading LAWA through one of the toughest times in aviation history. Ms. Margheritis also announced the re-appointment of President Sean Burton and Commissioner Nicholas Roxborough to the Board of Airport Commissioners (BOAC). Notably, Commissioner Roxborough is the Valley Commissioner on the BOAC.

Ms. Margheritis addressed the council as it relates to the COVID-19 pandemic and its effect on VNY staff, patrons and stakeholders. LAWA has been working diligently on safe and thoughtful return to work protocols for LAX and VNY airport employees. A number of employees will continue to telework from home, but most of the VNY staff have returned to the office. VNY Management has been working hard to ensure a safe, clean and healthy work environment. Ms. Margheritis stated that VNY is maintaining strict workplace safety protocols with proper physical distancing in offices, installed plexiglass shields at public counters and continuously wearing face coverings, amongst other things.

Ms. Margheritis addressed the council as it relates to the Fiscal Year 2021 (FY21) budget. On June 18, 2020, the BOAC approved LAWA's FY21 budget. This was an extremely challenging budget process because of the COVID-19 impacts. Ms. Margheritis stated that LAWA saw revenues plummet to unimaginable levels. She noted, that at the end of the day LAWA does not know when the revenues will return to somewhat normal levels. Nevertheless, the FY21 budget was adopted and allows LAWA to continue operating both airports.

Ms. Margheritis addressed the council as it relates to Operations at VNY; in May 2020, VNY conducted 15,855 aircraft operations. This represents a 20.68% decrease in operations as compared to May 2019. This brings VNY's YTD 2020 operations down 4.76% as compared to 2019 YTD totals. Ms. Margheritis gave the council further details for May Operational numbers that were captured by the Aircraft Noise and Operations Management System (ANOMS). These numbers are averages when comparing May 2020 to May 2019; VNY showed a 34.5% decrease in overall aircraft operations, a 56.2% decrease in jet operations, and a 68.8% decrease in nighttime jet operations. Ms. Margheritis stated that

LAWA expects these operational numbers to increase in the June report. Ms. Margheritis stated that the VNY Air Traffic Control Tower (ATCT) was one of approximately one hundred towers nationwide that temporarily reduced its operating hours due to the decrease in aircraft operations. The VNY Tower is still being staffed from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. instead of their normal 6 a.m. to 10:45 p.m. timeframe. Ms. Margheritis noted that the impact to VNY on this front has been minimal. Pilots continue to rely on TRACON and the use of the Common Traffic Advisory Frequency (CTAF) when the tower is not staffed.

The businesses at VNY continue to address Covid-19 travel concerns. Notably, Signature Flight Support (SFS), who is the largest Fixed Based Operator (FBO) at VNY, rolled out a program for their operators and clients called "Signature Assure". They have invested in the latest technology to ensure the health and safety of their employees, flight crews, and the traveling public. Like the rest of LAWA, SFS, and other FBO's are taking COVID-19 precautions to slow the spread of COVID. In addition to adhering to recommended safety protocols, FBOs are requesting that all guests wear face coverings. Ms. Margheritis noted that some FBO's also provide complimentary face masks for travelers. Other safety measures have included social distancing markers, including signage and floor markings, and frequent disinfecting policies and procedures to sanitize common touch points in common and public areas.

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

Both the VNY and BUR airport webpages posted the FAA's initial response letter to the Southern San Fernando Valley Airplane Noise Task Force (TF) recommendations, dated June 11, 2020. Ms. Margheritis went over key points of the letter which included:

The FAA confirmed that they are in receipt of the TF recommendations. The FAA noted that the Los Angeles area has some of the most complex airspace in the nation and that "those recommendations that involve flight procedure changes, must be carefully and thoroughly analyzed to determine whether the recommendations are feasible". The letter stated that the FAA will not be able to complete the feasibility determinations for all recommendations within 60 days as the TF had requested. However, they will provide periodic, written updates about their progress in evaluating those recommendations. The letter also states that the FAA will continue to work on the EA for the proposed amendments to the BUR Airport departure procedures known as SLAPP and OROSZ. Of the 16 approved TF recommendations, LAWA is listed as a responsible entity to address 3 of the recommendations listed as:

- Recommendation 4: Conduct a study to determine how to obtain the lowest noise levels from aircraft departures from Hollywood Burbank Airport (BUR) Runway 15 and Van Nuys Airport (VNY) Runway 16R in the South San Fernando Valley communities through increased climb gradients, noise abatement departures profile (NADP) procedures, de-rated takeoff procedures, or a combination of the three alternatives.
- Recommendation 10: Restrict the hours of the Customs and Border Protection Office at Van Nuys Airport (VNY).

- Recommendation 14: Maintain and update when and if necessary the Noise Exposure Map (NEM) and Noise Compatibility Program (NCP) at Hollywood Burbank Airport (BUR) and Van Nuys Airport (VNY) in order to continue to provide noise mitigation to all potentially eligible property owners and continue to monitor the aircraft operations and associated noise levels throughout the San Fernando Valley communities. The NCPs will specifically consider preferential runway use programs in a coordinated approach at both airports to determine whether more northerly flow provides noise benefits. The NCP at BUR will also analyze Runway 33 arrivals to limit the use of the flight path some operators use to arrive over the Santa Monica Mountains.

Ms. Margheritis stated that LAWA will be responding to these recommendations within the allotted timeframe.

Ms. Margheritis gave an update on the VNY Quieter Nights Program:

At the June CAC meeting Ms. Margheritis reported that the BOAC had been presented with recommendations for a Noise Program to help reduce the nighttime impacts to the communities surrounding the VNY Airport. This program, known as the VNY Quieter Nights Program (QNP) is in effect. Ms. Margheritis shared some of the program elements which include: Jet aircraft operators 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.

Ms. Margheritis noted that outreach on the QNP began right before COVID-19 broke out to inform tenants/operators of this program. Ms. Margheritis stated that operations are recovering, and the program remains a top priority for VNY Airport. LAWA staff will be providing quarterly updates to the BOAC. Ms. Margheritis stated she will provide the same updates at CAC meetings 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 4 on the southwest end of the runway will be completed and runway 16R/34L will be returned to full length by the end of July 2020. Mr. Moreno stated that the project is on schedule.

C. Diana Sanchez, Director of Public and Community Relations

Ms. Sanchez thanked the council for their attendance. Ms. Sanchez addressed the council as it relates to the return of staff to the workplace and virtual events with the community and local organizations. She announced that VNY will now be hosting virtual airfield tours. Ms. Sanchez conducted a brief presentation on the YMCA Pancake Breakfast. The event included a grab and go breakfast with a virtual event where participants made and ate breakfast together.

Ms. Sanchez addressed the council as it relates to the VNY Quieter Nights Program. Ms. Sanchez stated that the Program went up on the webpage in April; letters were sent out to aircraft operators and FBO's urging them to comply with the program. Additionally, the Blast Fence was painted with the reminder, "Jets: Avoid flying 11 p.m. – 7 a.m." to keep the message at the forefront of operators minds.

Ms. Sanchez addressed the council as it relates to aircraft noise and correspondence/complaints sent to LAWA staff. Ms. Sanchez urged the council to ensure they have the proper information when speaking on behalf of the CAC. Ms. Sanchez reminded the community to be courteous and professional when sending complaints/correspondence to staff.

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 June 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 under the Noise Management Section.

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

Lt. Lau reported there have been no significant safety or security issues to report since the last CAC meeting on June 2, 2020. Lt. Lau addressed the council as it relates to staff and community safety during these trying times. Lt. Lau stated that the VNY Airport Police continue to work collaboratively with the airport tenants and surrounding communities to ensure safety at the airport.

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 continuing concerns over COVID-19, the BOAC has continued to meet via teleconference. Since the last CAC meeting on Tuesday, June 2, 2020, there were virtual BOAC meetings on June 4 and 11, 2020 and there were no items pertaining to VNY at these meetings. Ms. Margheritis addressed the council as it relates to the following BOAC meeting(s):

The Regular BOAC meeting held on June 18, 2020 had five consent items for board action that included VNY. The first item was for a resolution for a first amendment to a property management and leasing agreement with Colliers International Real Estate Management Services to extend their term by 12 months to cover property management and leasing services for Aviation Plaza at VNY Airport. The second item was for a resolution for a first amendment to a contract with Voyager Fleet Systems, Inc. to extend their term through December 31, 2020 for fleet fuel card services for LAWA vehicles. The third item was for a resolution for a first amendment to a contract with United Site Services of California, Inc. to increase the contract authority to cover portable restroom rental and maintenance services at various selected locations at LAX and VNY. The fourth item was for a resolution for an award of a 3 year contract to Halco Testing Services to cover medium voltage repair, training, preventive maintenance and support services for LAX and VNY. The fifth item was for a resolution for an award of a 3 year Contract to Standard Signs, Inc. to provide specialized airfield signs and replacement parts at LAX and VNY.

The Regular Meeting scheduled for Thursday, July 2, 2020 was cancelled.

The next BOAC Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, July 16, 2020 at 10:30 a.m.

III. NEW BUSINESS – DISCUSSION/ACTION

A. VNY Noise Web Portal Demonstration – Presentation

Ms. Katherine Pantoja gave a brief overview of the new web portal. Ms. Pantoja stated that the new noise portal will assist patrons with a focus of content in their neighborhood. The VNY Noise Web Portal will roll out in August with an understanding that there will be ongoing updates implemented.

Mr. Dan Yeung conducted a presentation titled “VNY Noise Web Portal Demonstration – Presentation” (attached).

Mr. Williams addressed Mr. Materna as it relates to the noise portals functions with past dates.

Mr. Materna inquired about the public outreach over the web portal functions.

Mr. Yeung stated that functions were based primarily on Noise Management analysis from noise comments and an internal LAWA study. Mr. Yeung noted that LAWA welcomes any feedback regarding the portal.

Mr. Rodine addressed Mr. Yeung as it relates to data collected for the portal.

Mr. Yeung stated that the data is collected from the ANOM system reports for LAX and VNY airports.

Mr. Silver asked if the web portal will report the destination of each aircraft.

Mr. Yeung stated that the portal will not report any destination information and will show more aircraft and time of day.

B. BUR/VNY Noise Task Force recommendations – Discussion/Action

The Chair opened item III B. BUR/VNY Noise Task Force recommendations for public comment.

The following community members spoke during the public comment period:

Mr. John, Resident

Ms. Keira Durbin, Resident

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

Mr. Bob Bramen, Resident

Mr. Materna read the proposed motion, “BUR/VNY Noise Task Force recommendations” (attached).

Mr. Robinson seconded the motion presented by Mr. Materna.

The chair opened the motion for discussion.

Ms. Saunders asked for clarification of what government officials are on the San Fernando Valley Joint Task Force (TF).

Ms. Margheritis noted that the representatives on the TF were: Mayors and Councilmembers from the city of Burbank, Pasadena and Glendale; representatives from the offices of Councilmembers Nury Martinez, Paul Krekorian, Paul Koretz and David Ryu; Congressional representatives from the offices of Congress member Tony Cardenas, Congress member Adam Schiff, and Congress member Brad Sherman, as well as representatives from the offices of Senator Dianne Feinstein and Senator Kamala Harris. Ms. Margheritis noted that there were also non-voting representatives, including herself from VNY, Mr. Patrick Lammerding from BUR, and several members of the FAA.

Mr. Rodine asked for clarification of the items being supported in the motion.

Mr. Materna stated that the motion is in support of all 16 recommendation, with an emphasis on the 9 recommendations that are specific to VNY.

Mr. Parker asked why the 16 recommendations were not presented to the council prior to the night's meeting.

Mr. Williams noted that the 16 items had been posted for some time on the VNY/BUR Task Force website.

Mr. Silver stated that all 16 recommendations should be read into the record.

Ms. Margheritis reminded the council that she gives an update on TF matters at every CAC meeting and that details are also included in the meeting minutes. Ms. Margheritis stated that the best source for Task Force information can be found on VNY and BUR airport websites.

Ms. Petrus stated there were several groups that were against the TF recommendations, including Councilmember Martinez.

Mr. Robinson noted that not all community members were able to attend the TF meetings or express their concerns.

Mr. Williams stated his support for the motion presented by Mr. Materna and called for a rollcall vote on the motion submitted by Mr. Materna.

The council approved the BUR/VNY Noise Task Force recommendations motion (attached) presented by Mr. Materna with a rollcall vote of seven "affirmative" votes (Mr. Silver, Mr. Williams, Ms. Delle Donne, Ms. Harris, Mr. Materna, Mr. Roberts, Mr. Robinson); one "no" vote (Ms. Petrus); and five "abstentions" (Ms. Saunders, Mr. Parker, Mr. Rodine, Mr. Lee, Mr. Oeland).

C. Quieter Nights Program – Discussion/Action

Mr. Materna read the proposed motion, "Quieter Nights Program" (attached).

Mr. Silver seconded the motion presented by Mr. Materna.

The chair opened the motion for discussion.

Mr. Parker noted that LAWA may not have available staff to complete the requests in Mr. Maternas motion.

Mr. Silver stated that Mr. Parker had the option to recommend an amendment to the motion or vote against it.

Mr. Parker stated that he would vote against the motion.

Mr. Rodine noted that the motion items will overwhelm LAWA staff with informational requests. Mr. Rodine stated that he will vote against the motion.

Mr. Materna stated that he is asking LAWA to provide the CAC with the same documentation they send to the BOAC.

Ms. Margheritis offered to clarify some items that the motion brought up.

Ms. Petrus noted that the motion had too many items.

Mr. Robinson thanked Mr. Materna on his presentation and voiced his support of the motion.

Ms. Saunders stated that it may be beneficial to propose a new motion with less items.

Mr. Williams suggested that the motion be tabled until the next meeting.

Mr. Materna noted that the motion was sent in advance to the Chair.
Mr. Materna addressed the council as it relates to Public Comment.

Mr. Rodine moved to table the motion to the next CAC meeting.

Ms. Petrus seconded to table the motion.

Mr. Silver addressed the council as it relates to proper protocol for a motion.
Mr. Silver stated he is against tabling the motion.

Mr. Williams announced that the motion is tabled until the next CAC meeting on August 4, 2020.

Mr. Williams moved to extend the meeting past 9 p.m. for 10 minutes.

Ms. Petrus seconded the motion.

The Chair opened item III C. Quieter Nights Program for public comment.

Due to technical difficulties, the member of the public was unable to speak during public comment.

The following community members submitted a written comment for public comment:
Mr. Roy Lyons, Resident

IV. OLD BUSINESS – DISCUSSION/ACTION

No items were discussed.

V. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

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

Ms. Sanchez apologized to the council and public that staff was having technical difficulties connecting the Public Comment callers.

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

Mr. Eric Miller, Resident

Ms. Debra Reynolds, Resident

Ms. Evelyn Perl, Resident

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. Materna thanked LAWA staff for working on the Quieter Nights Program. Mr. Materna addressed the council as it relates to including the VNY Master Plan on the agenda for the next CAC meeting.

Mr. Rodine welcomed back Mr. Krugler and Mr. Lee.

Mr. Parker stated that VNY will be a viable asset to the San Fernando Valley to help businesses and replenish jobs that suffered due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Mr. Parker noted his support to agendize the VNY Masterplan as an item for the next meeting.

Ms. Petrus thanked Mr. Williams for standing in as Chair for the meeting.

Ms. Saunders thanked VNY for their continued support of the YMCA. Ms. Saunders addressed the council as it relates to CAC motions.

Ms. Delle Donne stated that she agrees with Mr. Parker about reviewing the VNY Masterplan. Ms. Delle Donne thanked Mr. Williams for running the CAC meeting.

Mr. Silver addressed the council as it relates to motion etiquette and Robert's Rules.

Mr. Williams thanked the council and staff for their attendance.

X. ADJOURNMENT:

9:13 p.m.