

**VAN NUYS AIRPORT CITIZENS ADVISORY COUNCIL**  
**Tuesday, September 7, 2021**

A virtual meeting of the Van Nuys Airport (VNY) Citizens Advisory Council (CAC) was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chair, Jason Price. Members present: Wayne Williams, Robert Rodine, John Parker, Thomas Materna, Lisa Petrus, Araz Parseghian, Eric Robinson, Ryan Sanders, Kimberly Chan, Marykate Harris, Eliot Cohen, Harold Lee, Kathy Delle Donne and Heren Molina.

Absent: Leonel Fuentes and Wendy Saunders.

The minutes from the August 3, 2021 meeting were unanimously approved.

**I. STAFF REPORTS:**

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

In the absence of Ms. Margheritis, Mr. Moreno provided a staff report on her behalf.

Mr. Moreno addressed the council as it relates to the COVID-19 pandemic and its effect on VNY staff, patrons and stakeholders. LAWA is greatly concerned with the recent surge of the highly contagious Delta variant and continues to encourage employees, partners, and guests to get the COVID-19 vaccine. Unfortunately, not too long ago, another member of the LAWA family was lost to COVID-19. Mr. Moreno noted that the Los Angeles City Council approved an ordinance making it a requirement for all City employees to be fully vaccinated for COVID-19 or request an exemption, and report their vaccination status in accordance with the City's Workplace Safety Standards. This is in the interest of protecting the City's workforce and the public that it serves. LAWA's priority will continue to be the health, safety and wellbeing of not only staff but all guests, and the vaccination stations continue to remain at LAX for employees and the public. LAX has three locations to get free Johnson & Johnson vaccines – two at Tom Bradley International Terminal (pre-security, arrivals level and post-security at the Great Hall) and in the parking lot across from Terminal 6. Mr. Moreno noted that LAWA employees continue to work from home, and unless something changes, all employees intend to return to the office on October 4, 2021.

Mr. Moreno announced that at the August 12, 2021 BOAC meeting, the Board voted to elect a new president, Beatrice Hsu, and re-elect Vice President Val Velasco. Outgoing President Sean Burton will remain on the Board. LAWA is looking forward to President Hsu and Vice President Velasco leading the BOAC and we remain very grateful for the great leadership that, now former, President Sean Burton brought to LAWA.

Mr. Moreno informed the council that through the month of August, passenger numbers at LAX remained at about 63% compared to 2019. Unfortunately, because of the rise in COVID-19 case numbers, the airlines are seeing a decrease in bookings. He noted that Ms. Margheritis will share the Labor Day weekend numbers during her staff report next month.

Mr. Moreno addressed the council as it relates to aircraft operations:

For the month of July, VNY conducted 26,470 aircraft operations. This represents a 35.8% increase in operations as compared to June 2020. VNY's YTD 2021 operations totals are currently up by 42.89% as compared to YTD 2020 totals. Mr. Moreno noted that based on the Noise and Operations Monitoring System, in July 2021 VNY had approximately 6,104 jet operations. These totals are up compared to both July 2020 and July 2019. For

comparison, in July 2020 VNY had 4,067 jet operations and in July 2019, there were approximately 4,534 jet operations. When comparing July 2021 to July 2019, this is a 34.6% increase in jet operations.

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

No additional items were discussed.

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

Ms. Sanchez addressed the council as it relates to training on the Noise Portal.

Ms. Sanchez announced that Parliamentarian training for the council will take place on September 28.

Ms. Sanchez addressed the council as it relates to the 2022 Noise Symposium.

**D. Ryan Page, Airport Superintendent of Operations**

Mr. Page provided the council with a briefing on Noise Comments and the Jet Early Turn and Quiet Jet Departure programs for July 2021. The briefing summarized the information contained in the monthly environmental reports (attached).

Updates and information can also be found on the LAWA website at [www.iFlyVNY.com](http://www.iFlyVNY.com) under the Noise Management Section.

**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 August 3, 2021.

**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, August 3, 2021 there were two virtual BOAC meetings.

The Regular Meeting scheduled for Thursday, August 5, 2021 was cancelled.

At the meeting held on Thursday, August 12, 2021 there was one item pertaining to VNY under regular Items for Board action, that was for: an award of a 3-year Contract to Sully-Miller Contracting Co. to cover the Runway 16L-34R reconstruction and Runway 16R-34L Slurry Seal Project at VNY. The reconstruction of Runway 16L-34R will replace the 30-year old deteriorated pavement, which has exceeded its useful life.

The regular BOAC meeting scheduled for Thursday, August 19, 2021 was cancelled.

At the meeting held on Thursday, September 2, 2021, there were two items under the consent calendar pertaining to VNY: the first item was for a resolution for a 63-month lease with Gallardo Law Group, to cover office space at Aviation Plaza at VNY. The second item was for a resolution for a 25-year easement agreement with the United States Department

of the Army to cover a remote airport noise monitoring site located in the Sepulveda flood control basin near Van Nuys Airport.

The next BOAC Meeting will be held via teleconference and is scheduled for Tuesday September 14, at 10 a.m.

### **III. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

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

There were no callers present for public comment.  
Several community members submitted written comments (attached).

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

#### **A. Election of Officer – Discussion/Action**

The Chair opened the item for discussion.

Mr. Materna nominated Mr. Price as Chair for the council.

Mr. Williams seconded the motion.

Ms. Harris nominated Mr. Williams as Vice Chair for the council.

Mr. Robinson seconded the motion.

The council unanimously elected Mr. Price as Chair and Mr. Williams as Vice Chair for the Van Nuys Airport Citizens Advisory Council.

#### **B. VNY Taxiway A and Runway Construction Update – HNTB**

Mr. James Long, a Project Manager with HNTB, conducted a presentation titled “Taxiway and Runway Rehabilitation Program”.

The Chair opened the item for discussion.

Mr. Williams addressed Mr. Long as it relates to the program’s budget.

Mr. Long stated that the program was a total of almost \$100 million dollars, which included design and construction services for all three projects. The first two projects were 90% AIP funded, 5% from state and 5% funding from LAWA. The third project was 100% AIP funded.

Mr. Rodine addressed Mr. Long as it relates to operational impact to the runways at VNY.

Mr. Long noted that HNTB coordinated activities with the Air Traffic Control Tower to anticipate operational impacts.

#### **C. Proposed Redesign of VNY Departure Procedures – Discussion/Action**

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

The following community members spoke during the public comment period:

Mr. Barry, Resident

Ms. Nancy Sagoian, Resident

Mr. David Rankell, Resident

Several community members submitted written comments (attached).

The Chair opened the item for discussion.

Mr. Williams stated that the proposed redesign will correct the changes that were made to air traffic.

Mr. Williams addressed the council as it relates to noise complaints.

Mr. Cohen stated his full support for the redesign procedures.

Mr. Cohen addressed the council as it relates to a motion proposed at the Encino Neighborhood Council meeting.

Mr. Robinson stated his support for the redesign procedures.

Mr. Materna proposed a motion to the council (attached).

Mr. Williams seconded the motion.

Mr. Materna addressed the council as it relates to air traffic.

Mr. Rodine stated he supports the concept but opposes the motion.

Ms. Petrus addressed the council as it relates to population in the San Fernando Valley and noise complaints.

Ms. Petrus addressed the council as it relates to a motion presented at the Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Council July meeting.

Mr. Parker called for the vote.

Ms. Petrus seconded Mr. Parker's motion.

The council approved the motion proposed by Mr. Materna (attached) with a rollcall vote of eight "affirmative" votes (A. Parseghian, M. Harris, T. Materna, E. Robinson, E. Cohen, R. Sanders, K. Chan, W. Williams); one "no" vote (L. Petrus) and six "abstentions" (K. Delle Donne, J. Parker, H. Lee, H. Molina, J. Price, R. Rodine).

The Secretary asked for clarification on the motion and the recipients.

The Chair confirmed that the motion would be submitted to the BOAC and the Los Angeles City Council.

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

### **A. Department of City Planning, Community Plan Update/VNY Airport Plan – Discussion/Action**

The Chair opened this item for discussion.

Mr. Materna addressed the council as it relates to commercial charter operations at VNY.

Mr. Williams stated that the Master Plan has not been complied with.

Mr. Williams addressed the council as it relates to the Airport Noise and Capacity Act (ANCA) and the phase out of stage-two jets.

Mr. Williams addressed the council as it relates to landing fee statistics at Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport (ATL).

The Chair noted that most major airports like ATL and LAX had landing fees implemented before the implementation of ANCA in 1990.

Ms. Pantoja addressed the council with clarification on ANCA and landing fees.

Mr. Rodine noted that the ANCA act was established for commercial aviation.

Ms. Petrus addressed the council as it relates to the Quieter Nights Program and the voluntary curfew.

Mr. Materna moved to table the discussion to the next CAC meeting.

Ms. Petrus seconded the motion.

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

No items were discussed.

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

### **A. Membership**

The Chair asked for the current number of vacancies on the council.

The Secretary noted that there are two vacancies from the Mayor's office and one from Council District 6.

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

No items were discussed.

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

Mr. Parsegian reminded everyone to get out and vote.

Ms. Delle Donne congratulated the Chair and Vice Chair on another term.

Mr. Parker offered congratulations to the Chair and Vice Chair.

Mr. Rodine congratulated the Chair and Vice Chair on the election of officers.

Ms. Harris offered her congratulations to the Chair and Vice Chair.

Ms. Petrus addressed the council as it relates to proper decorum within the council.

Mr. Materna noted that he would like Mr. Justin Erbacci or Mr. David Reich to attend a future meeting for discussion.

Mr. Robinson commended the Chair and Vice Chair on their work.

Mr. Cohen congratulated the Chair and Vice Chair on another term.  
Mr. Cohen addressed the council as it relates to Brown Act violations.

Mr. Sanders thanked the Chair and Vice Chair for another term.

Ms. Chan congratulated the Chair and Vice Chair.

Ms. Molina congratulated the Chair and Vice Chair.

Mr. Williams thanked everyone for their remarks and noted that he hopes the council can come up with suggestions on the Master Plan.

Mr. Williams stated that he looks forward to meeting again in person in the future.

The Chair thanked the council for the vote of confidence.

**X. ADJOURNMENT:**

9:18 p.m.