

VAN NUYS AIRPORT CITIZENS ADVISORY COUNCIL
Tuesday March 1, 2022

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, Thomas Materna, Lisa Petrus, Eric Robinson, Ryan Sanders, Kimberly Chan, Marykate Harris, Kathy Delle Donne, Wendy Saunders, Araz Parseghian and Heren Molina.

Absent: Leonel Fuentes, Eliot Cohen, John Parker and Harold Lee.

The minutes from the February 1, 2022 meeting were unanimously approved.

I. STAFF REPORTS:

A. Flora Margheritis, Airport Manager:

VNY had quite the month with the City of Los Angeles hosting Super Bowl. Ms. Margheritis stated that the Rams victory was big for LA and it's exciting that LAWA was part of this great event. The Super Bowl put a spotlight on Los Angeles as passengers from around the world were welcomed. LAWA spent months preparing for Super Bowl and LAWA focused on making sure that airport facilities were clean, safe, and accessible and overall the whole experience was very successful. Ms. Margheritis noted that LAWA is feeling more and more optimistic as LAWA is definitely seeing signs of travel recovering.

Ms. Margheritis addressed the council as it relates to the COVID-19 pandemic and its effect on VNY staff, patrons and stakeholders. VNY staff continues to work from home but LAWA staff will be returning to the office next month, on April 4th. It's encouraging to see LA County beginning to relax the mask mandates, but at the airports different rules apply and this relaxing of the masks does not apply to airports at this time. Airports and aircraft continue to fall under federal rules requiring the wearing of masks until at least March 18, 2022. Notably, LAWA offices remain under Cal OSHA requirements, meaning that masking rules remain in place for VNY/LAX office buildings, public spaces and elevators. Therefore, VNY employees will continue to wear masks as it is still a federal mandate. As more people are traveling, LAX's on-site COVID-19 testing lab recently reached another milestone with 300,000 tests completed so far. The lab continues to offer rapid PCR and antigen tests for purchase, and has been a very popular service for the traveling public. Additionally, employees and passengers are still able to receive free COVID-19 vaccinations and boosters at least through the end of this month at LAX. On Wednesdays between 11 a.m. and 5 p.m. there is a pop-up clinic at the TBIT where a variety of vaccines and boosters are being offered. The pop-up clinic is a joint partnership with MedEx pharmacy and the County of LA, and vaccines are available without appointments.

Ms. Margheritis announced that the newest member of the BOAC, Belinda Vega, is now on board and LAWA is excited to welcome her. Her first BOAC meeting was on February 17th. Commissioner Vega is an attorney and is co-chair of the West Coast Litigation Group at the Venable LLP law firm. Moreover, four new executive appointments were recently announced. The first was the promotion of Becca Doten to Chief Airport Affairs Officer. This position replaced the vacant Chief Corporate Strategy and Affairs Officer position, a position for which she has served in an acting role since November 2021. The second appointment was that of Douglas Webster who joined LAWA as the new Deputy Executive Director for Operations. Before coming to LAWA, Mr. Webster served as the Chief Operating Officer and Executive Vice President for Delhi International Airport. Mr. Webster

brings three decades of experience in airports and aviation. In his new role, Mr. Webster will be responsible for all aspects of airport operations, including airside, terminals and landside operations. The third appointment went to Mr. Louis Gutierrez who will serve as the Chief Human Capital and Equity Officer, overseeing Human Resources as well as all LAWA diversity, equity and inclusivity programs and initiatives. The fourth appointment was that of Mr. Martin Elam who will serve as Deputy Executive Director of Public Safety & Security. Mr. Elam will be working very closely with our Chief of Airport Police. Additional details about Commissioner Vega, Ms. Doten, Mr. Webster, Mr. Gutierrez, and Mr. Elam's background and experience can be found on the LAWA website.

Ms. Margheritis commended Aeroplex Group Partners for their environmental stewardship at VNY. Aeroplex recently became the first airport developer self-certified under the National Air Transportation Association's (NATA) Sustainability Standard for Aviation Businesses. The NATA standard has been designed to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, increase the use of more environmentally friendly energy sources and boost sustainability across its operations. Aeroplex's efforts reflect a commitment shared by LAWA and its partners to advance sustainability across the aviation industry.

Ms. Margheritis addressed the council as it relates to aircraft operations. Overall recovery in air travel continues. However, at the end of January, passenger numbers dipped slightly at LAX from the highs the airport saw around the winter holidays. In January, LAX saw about 59% of passenger levels when compared with 2019. Airline cancellations, bad weather, and the ongoing concerns with the Omicron variant were contributing factors to this drop in passenger levels. February however was a busier month with passenger traffic during Super Bowl weekend increasing. The Monday after Super Bowl Sunday was the busiest day since New Year's weekend and the passenger levels reached 77% compared with the same day two years ago. Ms. Margheritis noted that Super Bowl weekend boosted overall passenger numbers for February, and saw about 62% compared to the daily averages two years ago. President Day's weekend was good, the weekend averaged about 79% of passenger traffic compared with two years ago. With the official start of spring less than one month away, and the number of COVID-19 cases continuing to decrease across the country, LAX is hopeful that passenger numbers will continue to show signs of recovery.

At VNY, management made a push with tenants and operators to avoid flying during the Super Bowl event week. Ms. Margheritis noted that the messaging worked because of the reservation slots allotted to the VNY Airport from the NFL and FAA, VNY did not reach 100% of the reservation capacity throughout the event week. The busiest days were Friday - Monday with Monday being the busiest day. VNY was concerned about the number of jet operations Sunday night going into Monday morning. In fact, the VNY ATCT remained staffed that evening due to the anticipated high levels of traffic and was relieved to learn that there were no jet operations between 12:20 a.m. and almost 5 a.m. following Super Bowl Sunday night. In January 2022, VNY conducted 24,326 aircraft operations, this represents a 25.22% increase in operations as compared to January 2021. VNY's YTD 2022 operations totals are currently up by 25.22% as compared to YTD 2021 totals. For jet operations, based on the Noise and Operations Monitoring System, in January 2022 VNY had approximately 6007 Jet operations. This number is down by 9% compared to the previous month of December but up by 15.4% compared to the pre-pandemic month of January 2020.

B. Christian Moreno, Chief of Operations

Mr. Moreno addressed the council as it relates to the Runway 16L capital improvement project. Mr. Moreno announced that after months of planning and coordinating with tenants, VNY broke ground on the Runway 16L capital improvement project. Runway 16L/34R closed on February 22, 2022 and is expected to reopen on August 1, 2022. VNY will operate on a single runway configuration for the next five months. Mr. Moreno noted that construction will cause minimal operational impacts to the airfield.

Mr. Moreno stated that VNY is working with the FAA on the Annual Local Runway Safety Action Team meeting which will be held in April. VNY is also coordinating with the FAA for pilot outreach which will include a safety and security element.

Mr. Moreno noted that construction updates can be found online at www.iflyvny.com.

C. Diana Sanchez, Director of Public and Community Relations

Ms. Sanchez thanked VNY tenants, employees and council members for their donations and participation in the toiletry drive held by Council District 6. VNY collected over 600 items for human trafficking victims through Council District 6 to support the following organizations: The Coalition to Abolish Slavery and Trafficking (CAST), Saving Innocence and Journey Out.

Ms. Sanchez announced that Ms. Molina will be virtually attending the Noise Symposium.

Ms. Sanchez addressed the council as it relates to Aviation Career Day which will be held virtually on Friday April 29, 2022.

Ms. Sanchez congratulated the Los Angeles Rams and noted she is proud to be an LA native.

Ms. Sanchez offered her sympathies for victims in Ukraine and Russia.

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 January 2022. 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 under the Noise Management Section.

E. Lt. Anthony Boisselle, Officer-in-Charge, Airport Police

Lt. Boisselle addressed the council as it relates to Super Bowl operations.

Lt. Boisselle stated that Airport Police coordinated with tenants, TSA, LAPD and LAFD to create a successful operations plan. Lt. Boisselle reported that there were no significant safety or security issues to report and thanked everyone for their help and participation.

Lt. Boisselle addressed the council as it relates to the war in Ukraine and VNY Operations. He noted that although there is no threat to general aviation at this time, Airport Police will continue to enhance their presence in the coming days for overall safety and security.

Lt. Boisselle addressed the council as it relates to a VNY assessment, Crime Prevention through Environmental Design.

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, February 1, 2022, there were two virtual BOAC meetings.

At the meeting held on Thursday, February 3rd, there was one item under regular items for Board action related to VNY: a resolution for an award of a 3-year contract to WJ Advisors LLC., to cover financial consulting services for LAX and VNY. Financial consultants are utilized by staff to help develop financial strategies to ensure and preserve LAWA's positive financial position.

At the meeting held on Thursday, February 17, there were three consent items for Board action. The first item was for a resolution to award a 3-year contract to Mariposa Landscape, Inc., to cover tree trimming services at LAX and VNY. The second item was for a resolution to award a 3-year contract to ServiceWear Apparel, Inc., to cover the purchase of apparel, uniforms, accessories, and products for various staff at LAX and VNY. The third item was for a resolution to adjust the land rental rate for the non-aviation ground lease with Soper Babcock, and Jumanan, located at 8100 Balboa Place within Van Nuys Airport, in accordance with the required five (5)-year periodic rate adjustment, which covers the period from February 15, 2020 through February 14, 2025.

The next BOAC Meeting will be held via teleconference and is scheduled for Thursday March 3rd at 10 a.m. and there are no VNY related items on the agenda.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

The Chair opened the Public Comment Period (Item III.)

The following community members spoke during the public comment period:

Ms. Penny, Resident

Mr. David Rankell, Resident

Several community members submitted written comments (attached).

IV. NEW BUSINESS – DISCUSSION/ACTION

A. Alternative Aviation Fuel/Air Quality, Information Session - LAWA Environmental Programs Group

Ms. Margheritis introduced Mr. Robert Freeman, LAWA Airport Environmental Manager.

Mr. Freeman conducted a presentation titled "VNY Information Session Alternative Aviation Fuel/Air Quality".

The Chair thanked Mr. Freeman for his presentation and opened the Public Comment Period (Item IV.)

The following community members spoke during the public comment period:
Mr. David Rankell, Resident

Mr. Williams addressed Mr. Freeman as it relates to fuel production and availability.

Mr. Freeman noted that production is limited due to refinery capacity.

Mr. Williams addressed Mr. Freeman as it relates to an AQMD study to reevaluate jet fuel at VNY.

Mr. Freeman stated that the 2010 study was heavily funded by federal grants. He noted that moving forward with the sustainability program at VNY is one way to continue to go forward.

Mr. Rodine asked if the fuel will be internationally available to pilots.

Mr. Freeman noted that Jet A fuel is internationally available and is quickly becoming a competitive market which is beneficial for production.

Mr. Materna asked how many gallons of Jet A fuel were sold at VNY in 2020 or 2021.

Ms. Margheritis noted that in CY 2021 about thirty-three million gallons of Jet A fuel was delivered to VNY.

Mr. Materna addressed Mr. Freeman as it relates to unleaded fuel and Santa Monica Airport.

Ms. Margheritis stated that at VNY, fuel farms are leased by the tenants and are not operated by LAWA. Whereas the City of Santa Monica owns and operates one of their fuel farms/storage tank.

Mr. Sanders stated that the Prop Park does own and operate self-storage fuel tanks which provides about two thirds of the fuel at VNY on an annual basis of low-lead fuel. He noted that the majority of fuel from the Prop Park goes to flights leaving the VNY area. As such, these flights do not deposit lead into the surrounding neighborhood.

The Chair noted that the aviation industry is currently working hard to get lead out of fuel.

Ms. Margheritis stated that LAWA is fully supportive of getting out of a leaded fuel environment. However, the reality is that today, unleaded fuel is not available for the full piston-powered aircraft fleet. She noted that VNY is collaborating with tenants to transition to a non-lead fuel environment in the future.

Mr. Sanders noted that Ms. Margheritis, Mr. Page and other LAWA staff have been engaging in discussions with The Prop Park and other tenants to phase out lead-based fuel at VNY. He noted that tenants at VNY are on board and want to provide fuel alternatives as soon as possible.

The Chair addressed Mr. Freeman as it relates to an AQMD study for VNY. He asked how can the CAC help make a new study become a priority at VNY.

Mr. Freeman stated that any air quality study can be extensive and expensive and may require additional resources from other agencies. He noted that the determination to conduct a study funded by AQMD is the determination of the AQMD Agency. He noted that VNY is located in an urban environment and is subject to all sorts of situations.

The Chair acknowledged the priority of finding a solution to leaded gas and get the replacement implemented in a meaningful way to reduce lead in the environment. He noted that VNY and the aviation industry is making progress and there's a lot more push to get unleaded fuel into the market for a healthier relationship with airport communities. The Chair thanked Mr. Freeman for his presentation.

B. Determination to Continue Holding CAC Meetings via Teleconference and/or Videoconference: Under Assembly Bill 361 Section 3(e)(3). Discussion/Action

The Chair opened the item for discussion.

Mr. Williams addressed the council as it relates to in person meetings while social distancing. He asked Mr. Sanders if the Prop Park had an available conference room with reasonable accommodations.

Mr. Sanders noted that the facility does have a conference room large enough to host the council meeting and he would be happy to host and have further discussions with the Chair and Ms. Margheritis.

Mr. Materna addressed the council as it relates to having hybrid council meetings to include others who wish to host virtually.

Ms. Margheritis stated that LAWA has to consider staff time, finances, resources, and policies before hosting virtual meetings.

Mr. Rodine presented a motion "Pursuant to AB 361 Section 3(e)(3), the Van Nuys Airport Citizens Advisory Council finds that holding Council meetings in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of the members. Pursuant to AB 361 Section 3(e)(3), the Council finds that the COVID-19 State of Emergency continues to directly impact the ability of Council and Council members to meet safely in person. As such, the Board should continue holding Council meetings via teleconference and/or videoconference."

Ms. Petrus seconded the motion.

The motion passed with a unanimous affirmative vote.

The Chair presented a motion to hold a Special Meeting on March 29th at 7:00 p.m.

Mr. Rodine seconded the motion.

The motion passed with a unanimous affirmative vote.

V. UNFINISHED BUSINESS – DISCUSSION/ACTION

No items were discussed.

VI. REPORT FROM THE CHAIR

The Chair addressed the council as it relates to problem solving community issues. He noted that the CAC is an advisory council only, whom communicates with the BOAC and the community. The council should take an educated approach to solving problems, look at the problem as a group and make recommendations to VNY if it isn't already being addressed. The Chair stated that VNY is listening and hears the concerns of the community closely.

VII. REPORT FROM THE WORKING GROUPS

A. Membership

No items were discussed

VIII. EMERGENCY ITEMS SINCE POSTING OF AGENDA

No items were discussed.

IX. ADVISORY COUNCIL MEMBERS COMMENTS

Mr. Parseghian thanked Mr. Freeman for his presentation.

Mr. Parseghian offered prayers to the people in Ukraine and affected civilians in Russia.

Mr. Parseghian reminded the council to vote this coming election season.

Ms. Delle Donne thanked everyone and commended the presentation.

Ms. Saunders commended the presentation and stated that she appreciated the dialogue.

Ms. Saunders thanked Ms. Sanchez for her continued work in the community and welcomed Lt. Boisselle.

Mr. Rodine addressed the council as it relates to going dark on election nights.

Mr. Rodine commended the presentation.

Ms. Harris thanked Mr. Freeman for his presentation.

Ms. Harris stated that her heart is with Ukraine.

Ms. Petrus thanked Mr. Freeman for his presentation and thanked the Chair and VNY staff for doing their best.

Mr. Materna addressed the council as it relates to the Master Plan.

Mr. Sanders thanked Mr. Freeman for his detailed presentation.

He noted that he will be an available resource going forward in discussions of unleaded fuel.

Ms. Chan thanked everyone at LAWA and thanked Mr. Freeman for his presentation.

Ms. Molina thanked Mr. Freeman for his presentation.

Mr. Williams thanked Mr. Freeman and welcomed Lt. Boisselle onboard.

Mr. Williams asked for solutions to the community's jet fuel impact to present to the BOAC.

The Chair thanked the council and the community for their continued involvement.

X. ADJOURNMENT:
9:18 p.m.