

**VAN NUYS AIRPORT (VNY) CITIZENS ADVISORY COUNCIL (CAC)**  
**Meeting Minutes** -- Tuesday, April 1, 2025  
Van Nuys City Council Chambers, 2nd Floor, 14410 Sylvan St., Van Nuys, CA 91401  
Minutes "Approved: May 6, 2025"

**I. CALL TO ORDER** – CHAIRMAN JASON PRICE

The meeting was called to order at 7:07 p.m. by Chairman Price.

**II. ROLL CALL**

Eleven of the 20 Council Members were present: Alicia Avery, Stephen Brackett, Roslyn Dahl, MaryKate Harris, Kanchan Mattoo, Lisa Petrus, Jason Price (Chair), Eric Robinson, Robert Rodine (Parliamentarian), Wayne Williams (Vice-Chair) and Phyllis Winger (CD12). Eliot Cohen arrived later. Eight Council Members were absent: Rolando Chavez, Kathy Delle Donne, Leonel Fuentes, Tom Materna, Naila Mendes, Heren Molina, John Parker and Araz Parseghian. Per the VNY CAC Bylaws [see <https://www.iflyvny.com/-/media/iflyvny/community-information/files/citizen-advisory-council/cacbylaws.ashx?20200724>], "ARTICLE V – MEETINGS, Section 3. Quorum: b. A quorum of a regular or special meeting shall be a majority of the appointed members"; a quorum of at least 11 of the 20 filled Council Seats was present. All twenty of the 20 Council Seats were filled. No Council Seat was vacant. Approximately 19 stakeholders and guests attended.

**III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES/DISCUSSION NOTES**

a. Approval of January 7, 2025, Minutes.

No corrections or amendments were made.

**MOTION** (by Mr. Williams, seconded by Mr. Robinson): The Van Nuys Airport Citizens Advisory Council approves the January 7, 2025, Minutes.

**MOTION PASSED** unanimously with zero opposed; zero abstained.

b. Approval of March 4, 2025, Minutes.

Mr. Williams requested that the following phrases be changed and added to his March 4th page three, Item #V Public Comment: "and request a resolution" to "per the VNY CAC Bylaws." It was agreed to TABLE approval of the March 4, 2025, Minutes until the next Committee meeting.

**IV. Staff Reports**

*[There were no Agenda item #'s IV. a. or b.]*

c. VNY Airport Manager

Jacob Haik reported that BOAC meets at the North Valley Occupational Center on first and third Thursdays. They had an amazing meeting with City Council District Six regarding the Sherman Way Tunnel; painting and monthly power washing is planned. Regarding a sound wall, he will meet with residents, to whom he requested two months to evaluate it.

*The next Agenda Item addressed was Item #IX. h.*

d. VNY Chief of Airport Operations

Christian Moreno reported that he attended the [March 10-12] Aviation Noise and Emissions Symposium and the March 17 FAA RSAT [Runway Safety Action Plan] meeting. On March 25<sup>th</sup>, a Safety, Security meeting with Master Tenants. Capital improvement bids were due by the week after this meeting. Mr. Haik committed to a 60 or 90-day review of flight paths. Mr. Rodine stated that “the change in our neighborhood has been unbelievable”; aircraft had been flying further north. Ms. Dahl said the FAA said it would have a 60-day post-implementation analysis. Mr. Robinson was concerned that Burbank and Van Nuys Airports flight paths were closer than 1,500 vertical feet apart; he requested data. Mr. Haik said that 1,500 vertical feet is a standard distance.

e. VNY Airport Affairs Group

Jessica Barker, VNY External Affairs Director, reported that meeting Agendas are being sent and that website hosting changed this month. She will ensure that website public comment is open when meeting Minutes are posted. She said that “we’re now constantly updating our construction” page. Mr. Price will agendize getting a Noise Symposium report from Mr. Brackett at the next CAC meeting. Thirty students from 10 high schools attended aviation careers events; “this program is ongoing.” You can sign up at [CommunityRelations@lawa.org](mailto:CommunityRelations@lawa.org) to receive the LAWA newsletter.

f. VNY Environmental Programs Group

Ryan Page reminded those in attendance that early turns are made for a variety of reasons. Mr. Page also reported on VNY Noise Comments and provided month-over-month data on noise comments and individual commenters. Last, he shared information on the Quiet Departure/Fly Friendly Program. He soon will start working at LAX; he introduced Michael Hoffner, the new Noise Officer.

g. VNY Officer-in-Charge, Airport Police

Lt. Darren Gilbert reported that Tunnel patrols were increased, and graffiti has decreased. They’re working with the LAPD.

**V. BOAC AGENDA ITEMS CONCERNING VNY**

Mr. Haik reported.

**VI. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

Resident Sue Steinberg asked where fee revenue would be allocated, and she encouraged building a sound wall. Resident Suzanne Gutierrez asked why approved Meeting Minutes and meeting audio recordings were not soon or at all available after meetings. Resident Gracie Baldrige wanted the VNY Observation Deck and play area improved. Resident Kern Konwiser noted flight school traffic noise and a previous discussion he’d had with Mr. Price regarding the Pistons Early Turns Ad Hoc Committee. Mr. Konwiser said there was progress from May through November 2024, but no progress since then. He added that changes need to be made before runway construction is finished. *[The following comment was made*

*after Item #IV. f. was addressed.] Ms. Gutierrez requested that the website public comment form always be kept open. [The following comment was made after Item #XI. was addressed.] Ms. Gutierrez wanted to be able to attend the April 17<sup>th</sup> BOAC meeting. She believed that occasional BOAC meetings should be in Van Nuys.*

## **VII. REPORT FROM THE CHAIR**

Ms. Gutierrez believed that Mr. Price twice violated CAC Bylaws and that CAC Motions were not sufficiently summarized on meeting agendas, and noted that there've been no Pistons Early Turns Ad Hoc Committee meetings.

*Council Member Eliot Cohen arrived at this time (7:58), making 12 Council Members present (the VNY CAC quorum was 11).*

## **VIII. OLD BUSINESS**

Ms. Gutierrez asked why a sound wall is not being built.

*The next Agenda Item addressed was Item #IV. d.*

## **IX. NEW BUSINESS**

*[There were no Agenda item #'s IX. a. - g.]*

### **h. Landing Fees (Discussion/Action)**

Mr. Haik reported that today he presented about landing fees to the Van Nuys Airport Association. He will bring LAWA Chief Financial Officer Tatiana Starostina to the VNY CAC to present. It was agreed to TABLE this Item until the next meeting.

**MOTION to TABLE** (by Mr. Williams, seconded by Ms. Petrus): The Van Nuys Airport Citizens Advisory Council TABLES Item #IX. h.

**MOTION PASSED** unanimously with zero opposed; zero abstained.

Mr. Haik said he will request LAWA CEO John Ackerman to present to the VNY CAC.

### **i. Total Number of Propeller, Jet and Helicopter aircraft based at VNY to include lease/aviation companies – Steve Brackett Motion (Discussion/Action)**

**MOTION** (by Mr. Brackett, seconded by Ms. Avery): Annually, in February, CAC members look forward to the Airport Manager's commitment to distribute a report to them of the following VNY information: The total number of Propeller, Jet and Helicopter aircraft (including tail numbers) based at VNY. The report should include the name of the lessee/aviation company (including governmental entities) for each, unless there is superseding exception asserted by a Federal Agency.

**DISCUSSION:** Mr. Brackett said residents requested this so data can be tracked.

**AMENDMENT to the MOTION** (by Mr. Rodine): The Van Nuys Airport Citizens Advisory Council (CAC) strikes the last sentence of the Motion.

**AMENDMENT to the MOTION FAILED** for lack of a second.

**DISCUSSION:** There was discussion of the practicability or feasibility of the Motion's requested action. Mr. Brackett said the purpose of collecting tail numbers is to determine whether, if the plane isn't listed, that it's a transient, which protects leases. Ms. Avery said that no such data is currently collected. Mr. Haik suggested that a fee collection database could provide such data. Resident Steve Leffert said registration numbers are needed so it's known who not to charge. Mr. Brackett said data collection would start in February.

**MOTION to CALL FOR THE QUESTION** (by Mr. Williams).

**MOTION PASSED** by a roll call vote of 10 of the 11 eligible voters present with nine in favor ("Yes" or "Aye") (Avery, Brackett, Dahl, Harris, Mattoo, Petrus, Robinson, Williams and Winger); zero opposed; one abstained (VNY CAC abstentions are counted as "yes" votes) (Rodine). Mr. Price did not vote.

- j. VNY CAC appoint a CAC Bylaws Review Committee – Steve Brackett Motion (Discussion/Action)

**MOTION** (by Mr. Brackett, seconded by Ms. Harris): The Van Nuys Airport Citizens Advisory Council appoint a CAC Bylaws Review Committee, consisting of three CAC members, that will meet as necessary to review current CAC Bylaws, and submit a report to the CAC with suggestions, additions etc. to the Bylaws.

**DISCUSSION:** Mr. Brackett had discussed with Mr. Price that Mr. Brackett will be submitting draft Bylaws changes. Ms. Petrus counseled to follow Bylaws change procedures.

**MOTION to CALL FOR THE QUESTION** (by Mr. Williams).

**MOTION PASSED** unanimously by a roll call vote of ten of the 11 eligible voters present with all 10 in favor ("Yes" or "Aye") (Avery, Brackett, Dahl, Harris, Mattoo, Petrus, Robinson, Rodine, Williams and Winger); zero opposed; zero abstained. Mr. Price did not vote.

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

*[There were no Agenda item #'s X. a. - j.]*

- k. Pistons Early Turns Ad Hoc Committee – Jason Price

Mr. Price stated that "I am committed to getting this done, as well as Chairing this until a replacement is found." He will discuss it with Mr. Konwiser.

## **XI. ADVISORY COUNCIL MEMBERS' COMMENTS**

Mr. Cohen wanted to know from Mr. Haik whether “any aircraft at Van Nuys Airport are engaged in chem [chemical] trails, solar radiation management . . . or any kind of weather modification,” and that, “if I don’t get a satisfactory answer, I will be filing CPRA [California Public Records Act] requests and Freedom of Information [Act, FOIA] requests.” Ms. Winger “found this meeting to be very useful.” Ms. Avery and Ms. Dahl wanted to agendize a sound wall proposal presentation. Mr. Brackett thanked LAWA for sponsoring him to attend the Noise Symposium. Ms. Harris remembered when these meetings were attended by many more people; she believed that many people are exhausted. Mr. Mattoo indicated that he’ll get more involved. Mr. Price reported that lots of work is being done behind the scenes to move forward. Mr. Williams said he’s seen many changes over the years and there’re many things still to do. Ms. Petrus noted that flight paths changed after many years’ of work. She requested that the observation deck be improved.

## **XII. ADJOURNMENT**

A Motion to Adjourn was made by Mr. Williams, seconded by Ms. Petrus. The Motion was unanimously approved; zero opposed; zero abstained.

Mr. Price adjourned the meeting at 8:54 p.m.

*The first paragraph of some Items, Motions/Resolutions and other wording may have been copied from the Agenda. Minutes written by DL, possibly edited by VNY CAC. The VNY CAC Meeting Minutes page is <https://www.iflyvny.com/en/community-information/citizens-advisory-council>.*