

CITY OF SUNNYVALE

The Heart of Silicon Valleysm

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July 5, 2016

Glenn Hendricks
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Councilmember

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Councilmember

Tara Martin-Milius
Councilmember

Jim Davis
Councilmember

Council Seat 4
Vacant

The Honorable Warren Slocum, President
San Mateo County Board of Supervisors
400 County Center
Redwood City, California 94063

Dear President Slocum:

On behalf of the City of Sunnyvale, I am writing to express significant concern with recent action taken by the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors to propose a new arrival route for Surf Air to San Carlos airport and lobby its approval with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). The proposed new route, being described innocuously as *flying above the Bay instead of over residences*, will have a significant negative impact on the Sunnyvale community as aircraft are redirected to enter airspace over the Bay starting at Moffett Field.

Your proposal was developed without appropriate consultations with members of the affected communities or with local elected officials. In order to reach the waypoint above Moffett Field, aircraft will descend from 4,000 to 2,500 feet over Sunnyvale. The County has inaccurately and conveniently indicated that aircraft would fly over nonresidential land; however, Sunnyvale residential units and schools are directly under and adjacent to this proposed flight path.

Airports are regional assets to any community, but they do bring with them regional costs, be they noise, pollution and environmental issues, public safety issues, hazards to wildlife, etc. If the region wants the benefits that come from having airports, then we as a region must be willing to accept those costs too, while certainly doing everything reasonable to minimize and mitigate those costs.

Sunnyvale lies in the landing patterns of both Moffett Federal Airfield and San Jose International Airport, and we are additionally near targets for aerial advertising campaigns, such as Levi's Stadium. Sunnyvale residents have graciously borne the cost of neighboring airports for decades. We've borne more of the regional cost of our airports than pretty much any other

city, save San Jose. Any action to shelter your residents from nuisance should not result in that burden being borne by ours.

The City of Sunnyvale has long-standing policy to preserve and enhance the quality of neighborhoods by maintaining or reducing the levels of noise generated by transportation facilities, including airports (General Plan, Goal SN-10). On that basis, we vehemently oppose your proposal.

There are workable and relatively simple solutions to resolve the distress area residents are experiencing, and that can be implemented with your cooperation. We will urge the FAA to give due consideration to regional airports and the surrounding communities by investigating and implementing ways to reduce noise impacts equitably.

Sincerely,



Glenn Hendricks
Mayor

cc: City Council
Deanna J. Santana, City Manager