

CITY OF SUNNYVALE

The Heart of Silicon Valleysm

456 WEST OLIVE AVENUE SUNNYVALE, CALIFORNIA 94086 (408) 730-7473

February 14, 2017

Glenn Hendricks
Mayor

Gustav Larsson
Vice Mayor

Jim Griffith
Councilmember

Larry Klein
Councilmember

Nancy Smith
Councilmember

Russ Melton
Councilmember

Michael S. Goldman
Councilmember

The Honorable Ro Khanna
900 Lafayette Street
Suite 206
Santa Clara, CA 95050

RE: Regional Advocacy/Strategy on Airplane Noise Issues

Dear Congressman Khanna:

On behalf of the City of Sunnyvale, I would like to thank you for the work you've done to advance priority issues on behalf of the 17th Congressional District since taking office in early January.

I am writing to request your assistance in helping the region to address airplane noise issues; specifically, to request that your office take the lead on the issue for your constituents. This issue is one with various sources and that traverses city, county and congressional district boundaries. As you may know, Sunnyvale lies in the landing patterns of Moffett Federal Airfield, San Francisco International, Oakland International, and San Jose International airports. In addition, our community experiences flight operations overhead from smaller airports such as Palo Alto and San Carlos. Over the last several years, Sunnyvale residents have experienced an increasing and disproportionate impact to our neighborhoods.

The formation of the Congressional Select Committee on South Bay Arrivals was announced in April of 2016 through the efforts of Congressional Representatives Eshoo, Speier and Farr and was a step in the right direction. The Select Committee was comprised of 12 local elected officials and was tasked with building on the previous work of local stakeholders to develop regional solutions to address aircraft noise. The City of Sunnyvale was hopeful when the committee was announced, however, disappointed, when the cities within the 17th Congressional District were not invited to participate. The City is committed to advocating a regional, balanced solution that would help mitigate disproportionate noise over communities that don't have airports, such as Sunnyvale.

The City has committed its limited resources to attempt direct engagement with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) on its concerns, such as an increase in South Flow arrivals to SJC, Surf Air flights to San Carlos airport, and vectoring of inbound SFO flights over Sunnyvale. These efforts to engage have resulted in commitments to engage by the FAA; however, as of the writing of this correspondence, no meetings have been set.

As the authority to control aircraft in flight and on the ground is vested exclusively in the FAA and the FAA is under your purview, the City requests that your office take the lead on this issue in the district.

We look forward to engaging with you and your staff on this matter. Your District Director, Chris Moylan, has been very engaged on the topic already and mentioned the potential for local meetings to discuss a path forward.

Thank you for your consideration of our request. Please feel free to contact Jennifer Nuñez, Executive Assistant to Mayor and Council, at Jnunez@sunnyvale.ca.gov or 408-730-7913 to schedule the previously mentioned local meetings.

Sincerely,



Glenn Hendricks

cc:

Supervisor Joe Simitian
Supervisor Dave Cortese
Sunnyvale City Council
Dennis E. Roberts, Western-Pacific Regional Administrator, FAA
City Manager
Chris Moylan, District Director, Office of Congressman Khanna