



OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

CITY OF
**PALO
ALTO**

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March 30, 2016

Glen A. Martin, FAA Regional Administrator
Federal Aviation Administration Regional Office
15000 Aviation Blvd
Lawndale, CA 90261

Don Kirby, Air Traffic Manager
Federal Aviation Administration
11375 Douglas Road
Mather, CA 95655

RE: Modifications to Flight Paths at San Carlos Airport (SQL) and Possible Changes that could adversely affect the City of Palo Alto (City) residents

Dear Messrs. Martin and Kirby,

On behalf of our City Council and the residents of our city, I write to express our concern about the modification to any flight paths over the City of Palo Alto related to the San Carlos Airport. At a recent Study Session of the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors held in the Chambers of Redwood City, California on March 8, the City learned that there are ongoing meetings with representatives of Surf Air, San Mateo County and other agencies with regard to possible changes to aircraft flights over the community of Palo Alto. To date, the City has not been included in these discussions. This is troubling as any movement of flight paths or aircraft noise in this regard could have negative impacts on the quality of life in our community. The City believes that a modification will increase the likelihood that areas of the community not currently affected would be affected by aircraft overflights.

We already have been inequitably impacted by NextGen flight path changes. Therefore, I am asking that the FAA inform and include the City in any meetings to be scheduled with communities lying under the flight path at which consideration of the movement of noise, the creation of new flight paths over affected communities, or any related matter will be discussed.

Members of our Palo Alto community continue to express concerns regarding the increase in noise over the community. The City acknowledges that the FAA has exclusive jurisdiction to regulate the airspace over Palo Alto and surrounding communities; however, the City believes any decision reached by the FAA should include the consideration of the community concerns



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about environmental and other impacts of any flight paths over those communities. That can't happen if we aren't actively involved.

On behalf of the City, I wish to express my sincere appreciation to the FAA for accommodating the City's request to be included in discussions regarding the potential modifications to flight paths at San Carlos Airport in the future. I and my staff look forward to your prompt assistance in this matter as we continue to pursue both long and short term solutions to the problems facing our residents.

Please do not hesitate to contact me or my staff, noted below, should you have any questions or comments regarding this matter.

Sincerely,



JAMES KEENE
City Manager

JMS:AJS:jw/kd

Copy: Congresswoman Anna G. Eshoo
Supervisor Joe Simitian
Mayor and City Council, Palo Alto
John Maltbie, San Mateo County Manager
Molly Stump, City Attorney
Mike Sartor, Public Works Director
Andy Swanson, Airport Manager
Cash Alae, City Manager's Office