

**VAN NUYS AIRPORT CITIZENS ADVISORY COUNCIL**  
**Tuesday April 5, 2022 REVISED**

A virtual meeting of the Van Nuys Airport (VNY) Citizens Advisory Council (CAC) was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Vice Chair, Wayne Williams. Members present: Robert Rodine, Thomas Materna, Lisa Petrus, Kimberly Chan, Marykate Harris, Kathy Delle Donne, Araz Parseghian, Eliot Cohen and Heren Molina.

Absent: Leonel Fuentes, Wendy Saunders, Ryan Sanders, Eric Robinson, John Parker and Harold Lee.

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

**I. STAFF REPORTS:**

**A. Diana Sanchez, VNY Public and Community Relations Director:**

Ms. Diana Sanchez announced that she would provide staff reports on behalf of the Airport Manager and Chief of Airport Operations as they are attending the National Business Aviation Association Schedulers and Dispatchers Conference in San Diego to promote the Quieter Nights Program with the VNY Noise Officer.

Ms. Sanchez addressed the council as it relates to the COVID-19 pandemic and its effect on VNY staff, patrons and stakeholders. LAWA staff officially returned to the office earlier this week. Through a pilot telecommute program LAWA employees who can work from home are being permitted to work from home on Mondays and Fridays and all employees are expected to be in the office Tuesday - Thursday. At VNY, management is allowing some staff to work from home 1-2 days a pay period on a trial basis. This is not as much of a change for Van Nuys Airport as it is for LAX since most VNY staff have been in the office working at least three days a week. Additionally, mask mandates on aircraft, at airports and other transportation facilities are still in effect at least through April 18th. LAWA continues to work with downtown to understand how the changing guidance for wearing masks indoors in office spaces may impact us. For now, staff must continue to wear a mask in all LAWA facilities according to City policy. So, until further notice, masks must also be worn in LAWA offices.

Ms. Sanchez stated that the war in Ukraine is having an impact on aviation around the globe. As some are aware, the U.S. airspace is closed to all Russian flights. VNY does not receive flights directly from Russia and at LAX, there were three scheduled flights per week from LAX to Moscow before the crisis started, which were operated by Aeroflot. Ms. Sanchez noted that until the situation changes, flights will not resume. The crisis has also caused the price of jet fuel to rise well above \$100 a barrel which will have a significant impact to the aviation industry.

Ms. Sanchez noted that LAWA is emerging from the pandemic and the recovery in air travel continues. The overall LAX passenger numbers for March have rebounded to almost 70% compared with LAX record-setting traffic in 2019. In fact, on March 22nd, it was reported that LAX remained the airport with the highest number of passengers screened by the TSA of any airport in the country. Additionally, the LAX Fast Lane pilot program, which allows guests flying with United Airlines from Terminals 7 and 8 to reserve a spot in a dedicated TSA screening lane, this has been extended to June 30th. The pilot, which

began in mid-October of last year and was originally scheduled to end in January, was extended thanks to the positive feedback from guests, United Airlines and TSA.

Ms. Sanchez noted that last month Ms. Margheritis commended Aeroplex Group Partners who recently became the first airport developer self-certified under the National Air Transportation Association's (NATA) Sustainability Standard for Aviation Businesses. This month, VNY would like applaud Jet Aviation, one of VNY's Fixed Base Operators and the first VNY business to offer sustainable fuel on a regular basis announced that it signed the World Economic Forum's (WEF) 2030 Ambition Statement, "Clean Skies for Tomorrow". The "Clean Skies for Tomorrow" mission aims to see (SAF) constitute 10% of the global fuel supply by 2030. The signing of this statement is an important step in Jet Aviation's strategic plan to operate sustainably and is consistent with LAWA's Boldly Moving to zero sustainability action plan, which include bold goals for LAX and VNY to achieve zero carbon emissions, zero use of potable water for non-potable purposes and zero use of non-renewable energy by 2045.

Ms. Sanchez addressed the council as it relates to aircraft operations. Overall recovery in air travel continues. In February 2022, VNY conducted 20,244 aircraft operations, this represents a 1.08% decrease in operations as compared to February 2021. VNY's YTD 2022 operations totals are currently up by 11.72%. For jet operations, based on the Noise and Operations Monitoring System, in February 2022 VNY had approximately 6,194 jet operations. This number is up by 3% compared to the previous month of January but up by 26% compared to the pre-pandemic month of February 2020.

## **B. VNY Airport Operations**

Ms. Sanchez provided a report on behalf of Mr. Moreno, Chief of Airport Operations. Due to rain, the Runway 16L reconstruction project is behind two days but the contractor feels they can make it up and 16L will be back in service in August, at which time the slurry seal project for 16R will begin.

Ms. Sanchez noted that construction updates can be found online at [www.iflyvny.com](http://www.iflyvny.com).

## **C. VNY Public and Community Relations**

Ms. Sanchez thanked Lt. Boisselle for his participation in National Read Across America Day where he read to over 100 students at Stagg Elementary.

Ms. Sanchez announced that on April 1st Van Nuys Airport was recognized by the Greater San Fernando Valley Chamber of Commerce as a Captain of Industry.

Ms. Sanchez noted that next week VNY will participate in the Valley Economic Alliance Annual Valley of the Stars Gala.

Ms. Sanchez addressed the council as it relates to National Volunteer Week on April 17- April 23, 2022.

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

Ms. Sanchez thanked Ms. Saunders for her kind comments made at the March CAC meeting. Ms. Sanchez stated that VNY is a team that has a great Public Relations team.

And commended VNY Airport Information Specialist, Ms. Aymee Cruz who led the Toiletry drive to benefit Human Trafficking victims.

**D. Dan Yeung, LAWA Environmental Supervisor**

Mr. Dan Yeung provided a report on behalf of Ryan Page, VNY Noise Officer.

Mr. Dan Yeung provided the council with a briefing on Noise Comments and the Jet Early Turn and Quiet Jet Departure programs for February 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](http://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 a situation at the golf course.

Lt. Boisselle addressed the council as it relates to National Read Across America Day and thanked Ms. Sanchez for the invitation to participate and read to local school children.

Lt. Boisselle thanked all the tenants who participated in the VNY assessment, Crime Prevention through Environmental Design.

Lt. Boisselle commended Council District 6 on their homeless outreach program and noted that police officers did some outreach to the homeless community surrounding VNY and handed out pamphlets for assistance. He thanked the assisting officers for being proactive and supportive.

Lt. Boisselle addressed the council as it relates to the LAWA Police webpage and encouraged all participants listening to provide any recommendations.

**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, March 1, 2022, there were two virtual BOAC meeting.

At the meeting held on Thursday, March 3rd, there was one item under regular items for Board action related to VNY. A resolution for a second amendment with Sharp Electronics Corporation to add funding and extend the term by one year with one-year renewal option covering ongoing managed print services to ensure LAWA has uninterrupted managed print services.

The meeting held on Thursday, March 17th had no agenda items pertaining to VNY.

The April 7th meeting has been cancelled.

The next BOAC Meeting will be held via teleconference and is scheduled for Thursday April 14th at 10 a.m.

### III. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

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

The following community members spoke during the public comment period:

Ms. Lisa Franks, Resident

Community members submitted written comments are attached.

### IV. NEW BUSINESS – DISCUSSION/ACTION

#### A. San Fernando Valley 99's Overview – Presentation

Ms. Sanchez introduced Ms. Shokoufeh Mirzaei, from the San Fernando Valley 99's.

Ms. Mirzaei conducted a presentation titled "San Fernando Valley Chapter of 99's".

Ms. Sanchez thanked Ms. Mirzaei for her presentation and noted that Ms. Chan is also a member of the 99s.

Ms. Chan thanked Ms. Mirzaei for her presentation and the 99's for their continued support in the aviation community.

The Chair thanked Ms. Mirzaei for her 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. 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. Harris seconded the motion.

Mr. Cohen stated that COVID-19 restrictions have eased and CAC members should stop hiding behind a video conference call and meet in person.

Mr. Rodine noted there continue to be health and safety concerns due to new COVID-19 variants.

Ms. Petrus stated that some people may not be ready to meet in person due to health concerns and underlying health disorders.

Mr. Materna noted that there is not much of a high risk currently in the Los Angeles area as the mask mandates have been lifted. Mr. Materna encouraged the council to consider hybrid meetings.

Mr. Cohen suggested that the council should make efforts to support a hybrid meeting.

Mr. Materna offered an amendment to Mr. Rodine's motion to include "The CAC starts doing hybrid meetings as soon as possible".

Mr. Cohen seconded Mr. Materna's amendment.

The Chair noted that the council should make efforts first to find a larger conference room to meet in person.

Mr. Cohen offered an amendment to Mr. Materna's motion to include "a timeline of 60-90 days to find a location and gather materials".

Mr. Petrus noted that the timeline would ultimately fall on LAWA staff to find the location and materials.

Mr. Rodine asked for clarification of the motion for the record and the secretary's notation.

Mr. Materna presented an amendment to Mr. Rodine's motion "that we work on getting hybrid meetings organized from the standpoint of logistics and expense and look for a location that is suitable for in-person meetings so that the council can do the hybrid meetings".

The Chair called for a vote.

The motion was rejected with a rollcall vote of four "affirmative" votes (K. Delle Donne M. Harris, T. Materna, E. Cohen) and five "no" votes (R. Rodine, L. Petrus, K. Chan, H. Molina, W. Williams).

The Chair called for a vote on the original motion presented by Mr. Rodine.

The motion passed with a rollcall vote of eight "affirmative" votes (K. Delle Donne, R. Rodine, M. Harris, L. Petrus, T. Materna, K. Chan, H. Molina, W. Williams) and one "no" vote (E. Cohen).

The Chair thanked the council for the discussion and noted that he will make his best efforts to facilitate an in person meeting as soon as it is safe.

## **V. UNFINISHED BUSINESS – DISCUSSION/ACTION**

No items were discussed.

## **VI. REPORT FROM THE CHAIR**

No items were discussed.

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

### **A. Membership**

Mr. Materna stated that some council members have not attended any council meetings in the current calendar year.

Mr. Rodine noted that a council member could miss three meetings within the year and would then be in review for dismissal by the Chair and the appointed authority.

Mr. Williams noted that the Chair will look into this topic upon his return at the next meeting.

#### **VIII. EMERGENCY ITEMS SINCE POSTING OF AGENDA**

No items were discussed.

#### **IX. ADVISORY COUNCIL MEMBERS COMMENTS**

Mr. Rodine thanked the Mr. Williams for running the night's meeting.

Mr. Rodine noted that he has some health concerns in regards to meeting in person.

Ms. Harris noted that she enjoyed the presentation by the 99's.

She noted that she looks forward to a meeting in person when it is safe to do so.

Ms. Petrus thanked the LAWA staff for attending the NBAA conference and hopes their efforts to promote the Quietly Nights Program are successful.

Ms. Petrus noted that she looks forward to meeting in person when it is safe to do so.

Mr. Materna stated that he looks forward to a thorough report on the NBAA conference by attending LAWA staff.

Mr. Materna thanked Ms. Mirzaei on her presentation but noted that the council should have items on the agenda that the council can advise the BOAC on.

Mr. Cohen agreed with Mr. Materna and stated that the council should focus on topics that effect the surrounding communities. Mr. Cohen stated that the council needs to produce substantial meetings. Mr. Cohen noted that Van Nuys Airport is ruining people's lives.

Mr. Cohen stated that the CAC is no longer doing its advisory business and is getting bogged down by dog and pony shows that do not create an understanding of the business of the airport and how it affects its neighbors.

Mr. Williams stated that he is disappointed that he does not get the opportunity to discuss what items go on the monthly agendas. He encouraged the council to send agenda requests to the Chair and copy LAWA staff and himself.

#### **X. ADJOURNMENT:**

8:37 p.m.