

**VAN NUYS AIRPORT CITIZENS ADVISORY COUNCIL**  
**Tuesday, January 10, 2023**

A virtual meeting of the Van Nuys Airport (VNY) Citizens Advisory Council (CAC) was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman Jason Price. Members present: Vice Chair Wayne Williams, Parliamentarian Bob Rodine, Kimberly Chan, Eliot Cohen, Kathy Delle Donne, Leonel Fuentes, Marykate Harris, Thomas Materna, John Parker, Araz Parseghian, Lisa Petrus, Eric Robinson and Ryan Sanders.

Absent: Sharon Bronson, Heren Molina and Wendy Saunders.

Meeting minutes for the November 1 meeting were unanimously approved. The meeting minutes for the November 29 meeting were approved with one correction.

**I. STAFF REPORTS**

**A. Paul Herrera, Airport Manager**

Mr. Herrera introduced himself as the new Van Nuys Airport Manager and wished everyone a happy new year. Mr. Herrera stated that this is the beginning of a new era because we have a new Mayor. He added that Los Angeles World Airports (LAWA) CEO Justin Erbacci, and the entire LAWA organization are very much looking forward to working with Mayor Bass and her administration as we continue to work on transforming both LAX and VNY airports.

Mr. Herrera announced Flora Margheritis' retirement for those who may have missed the November 1 meeting. He also welcomed LAWA CEO - Justin Erbacci and LAWA Board of Airport Commissioner Nicholas Roxborough to the meeting.

Mr. Herrera stated that the aviation industry continues to recover from the global pandemic. Adding, that over the holiday season, starting with Thanksgiving, LAX had some of the busiest days we have seen since before the pandemic began in early 2020.

Mr. Herrera expressed his desire to collaborate with all the CAC members acknowledging that the CAC members serve on this Council as volunteers. He thanked members for their time working with LAWA and VNY addressing airport issues important to the local communities, airport users and its tenants.

Following the November 1<sup>st</sup> CAC meeting, LAWA bid farewell to now former airport commissioner Sean Burton, who left the Board after an incredible nine years of service. A lot was accomplished under Commissioner Burton's leadership and former Mayor Garcetti and our CEO, Justin Erbacci thanked him for his dedication and service at the BOAC meeting held on November 4th.

**State of LAWA**

Mr. Herrera announced that during the holidays, LAX saw some of its busiest days since before the pandemic began in early 2020. LAX saw one day with 106,000 departing passengers. He added that people want to travel and spend time with friends and family. Mr. Herrera stated that he shares this with the members because Van Nuys Airport is part of the LAWA family, and when LAX has some of the busiest days in the country, that is good for LAWA and the health of our organization which means it's good for both LAX and VNY airports, even though at VNY, our year-to-date operational numbers are down.

**Shout-Out**

Mr. Herrera gave a shout-out to LAWA's Environmental Manager Robert Freeman for participating in the Sustainable Aviation Futures Conference held in San Francisco in early December. Mr. Freeman spoke on two panels; "Decarbonizing Business Aviation" and "Net Zero Airports." Mr. Freeman spoke about several initiatives put forth by LAWA to reduce the environmental footprint of the Van Nuys Airport and its operations. Those initiatives include solar power installations, sustainable and unleaded aviation fuel, the

electrification of the airport's fleet vehicles, and water reclamation system. I look forward to sharing more on these initiatives as we progress through the year.

### **Unleaded Fuel News**

Mr. Herrera addressed the council as it relates to Congress approving \$10 million for unleaded Aviation Gasoline to be evaluated. The funds will be used for testing and evaluation of unleaded high octane aviation fuels, adding that all sectors currently involved in the effort can qualify for funding. According to the Aircraft Owners and Pilot Association (AOPA), President Joe Biden signed the bill on Dec. 29 and the bill recognizes the collaborative industry-government effort to move general aviation to a fleetwide drop-in, lead-free fuel solution no later than 2030 by including \$10 million for additional unleaded fuel testing and evaluation”.

Mr. Herrera noted that the **Eliminate Aviation Gasoline Lead Emissions (EAGLE)** initiative is eligible for some of the funding as are those companies pursuing new fuels such as SWIFT Fuels and GAMI.

### **Operations**

Mr. Herrera reported that in November 2022, VNY had 23,208 aircraft operations. This represents an 8.73% decrease in operations as compared to November 2021. VNY's YTD 2022 operations totals are currently down by 6.51% as compared to YTD 2021 totals. Mr. Herrera added that jet operations, based on VNY's Airport Noise and Operations Monitoring System (ANOMS), had approximately 5,514 jet operations. This number is down 14.2% compared to November 2021. This drop in jet operations is not surprising given that business aircraft flight activity has been declining across North America and Europe.

### **B. Christian Moreno, Chief of Airport Operations**

Mr. Moreno reported that VNY has been preparing for the rainy season and that all airfield drainage new and old have been performing well. Mr. Moreno stated that he has been in close communication with the Fire Department and expressed that most of the Air Operations has responded to numerous calls, but most have been non-events.

Mr. Moreno addressed the council as it relates to the increase of operations due to the National College Football playoffs.

Mr. Moreno stated that the team is working with the LAX paving crew to address any issues that were not handled during the paving project to keep a safe airfield for all users.

### **C. Diana Sanchez, Director of Public and Community Relations:**

Ms. Sanchez addressed the council as it relates to the upcoming event Our Region | Our Future event hosted by The Valley Economic Alliance at California State University Northridge. Van Nuys Airport is a sponsor.

Ms. Sanchez noted that the UC Davis Noise & Emissions Symposium to be held May 1-3 via hybrid format.

Ms. Sanchez briefed the Council as it relates to human trafficking and she provided the national support line in the event someone suspects human trafficking ,888-373-3788.

Ms. Sanchez shared that the airport will be collecting canned goods for a food drive supporting MEND, Meeting Each Person with Dignity until Nov. 16.

Ms. Sanchez reminded CAC members that the CAC's Annual Appreciation will be held virtually December 6.

### **C. Ryan Page, Environmental Management Report:**

Mr. Page reported the monthly statistics for October and November including noise comments and Jet Early Turns. He also provided an update on the Quieter Nights Program. The briefing summarized the information contained in the environmental reports which can be viewed on VNY's website at [www.iFlyVNY.com](http://www.iFlyVNY.com) under the Noise Management Section.

### **D. Sergeant Clint Beacom, Officer-in-Charge, Airport Police:**

Sergeant Beacom reported the airport has no major incidents and airport police have focused on having high visibility in the area and on the airfield. He added that VNY will be hosting key personnel from other local airports to discuss aviation security.

If there are any concerns members can reach out to airport police at [vnyapd@lawa.org](mailto:vnyapd@lawa.org).

## **II. BOAC AGENDA ITEMS CONCERNING VNY**

Since the CAC Meeting held on Tuesday, November 1st, there have been four BOAC meetings November 3, November 17, December 1 and December 15<sup>h</sup>.

At the Thursday, November 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting there was one item under Regular items for Board action pertaining to VNY. This was for a Resolution for a 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment to a Contract with KONE, Inc., to extend the term through September 16, 2023, and increase the contract authority. This is to cover full-service elevator, escalator, and moving walkway maintenance, repair, and related services at LAX and VNY.

At the Thursday, November 17<sup>th</sup> meeting there were no VNY items for Board action.

At the Thursday, December 1<sup>st</sup> meeting there was one item under Regular items for Board action pertaining to VNY. This was for an award of a Lease to Bonseph Helinet, LLC for a term of up to twenty-five (25) years, for potential redevelopment of land and existing facilities at 16231 Waterman Drive at Van Nuys Airport.

At the Thursday, December 15<sup>th</sup> meeting there were no VNY items for Board action.

The Regular BOAC meeting scheduled for Thursday, January 5<sup>th</sup> was cancelled.

The next BOAC Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 19<sup>th</sup> at 10 a.m. This meeting will be held in-person but will also be broadcast live. Members of the public wishing to make a public comment at the BOAC meetings must do so in-person, call-ins are not an option.

Mr. Herrera addressed the council as it relates to the VNY CAC Communication Process Regarding LAWA Procurements which he discussed at the November 1 CAC meeting. RFP's pending include:

Negotiations continue for an Award of Lease to a successful bidder for Ground Lease Non – FBO Aviation Facility 16750 Roscoe Blvd. This lease will be for a term of 5-years. However, if the Proposer intends to make major renovations or redevelop the Property, then the term of the Lease will be commensurate with level of the investment for a not to exceed period of twenty-years. The RFP is not referred to as a Jet Park, but is referred to as RFP for Ground Lease Non – FBO Aviation Facility 16750 Roscoe Blvd. This will be an upcoming BOAC Meeting Agenda in the coming weeks. A date for it to be placed on the BOAC agenda for consideration has not been scheduled.

Another set of RFPs that was posted and is now closed is for an Award of Lease to a successful bidder that has not been named is for Ground-Mounted & Roof-Top Solar at the Van Nuys Airport. LAWA has invited Qualified Firms to submit proposals in response to this RFP to provide the rights to access one location at the Van Nuys Airport to install, operate, own and maintain ground mount solar power at a specific location.

Additionally, LAWA has invited Qualified Firms to submit proposals in response to the rights to access up to eight (8) rooftop locations at the Van Nuys Airport for rooftop solar power systems. This item will be placed on an upcoming BOAC Meeting Agenda in the coming weeks. A date for it to be placed on the BOAC agenda for consideration has not been scheduled.

Once the BOAC and City Council awards these lease(s), the proposer will move into the project phase where the successful bidder will be invited to make a project presentation to the VNY CAC to solicit input and feedback. In addition, the CAC and members of the community will be provided an opportunity to provide comment and input on developments as they progress through the entitlement and/or environmental process as required by the city.

### **III. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

There were no public comments.

A list of community members who submitted written comments are attached. Comments submitted prior to 12 p.m. were sent to CAC members prior to the meeting.

### **IV. REPORT FROM THE CHAIR**

The Chair addressed the council as it relates to the purpose of the CAC, expectations and how to introduce items to the council for discussion and action adding that the Brown Act must be followed. The Chair also reiterated the role of the parliamentarian.

### **V. NEW BUSINESS**

#### **A. Brown Act Overview – City of Los Angeles Attorney**

City Attorney Strefan Fauble gave an overview of the Brown Act and offered clarity to the importance of agenda items and discussed Administrative Code 21.19.

#### **B. Motion for Moratorium on Growth at VNY Airport, Discussion/Action**

The Chair opened the meeting to public comment. The following members from the public spoke during public comment:

Bob Brayman  
Penny  
Lisa

The motion was rolled into item 5C.

#### **C. LA City Council Motion 22-1489: Van Nuys Airport Development Projects/Community Impact/Citizens Advisory Council. Discussion/Action**

The Chair opened the meeting to public comment. The following members from the public spoke during public comment:

Bob Brayman  
Penny  
Lisa

Vice Chair Wayne Williams made the following motion.

**VNY CAC Motion in support of LA City Council Motion 22-1489 The Growth Moratorium on VNY Airport**

*Van Nuys Airport (VNY) has been and remains one of the nation's busiest general aviation airports, and while VNY is well recognized as an economic contributor to the city, its existence and expansion is intended to be guided and run by a Master Plan. The current Master Plan includes objectives and directives that speak to a need for land use that both generates income, as well as considers and remains compatible with existing communities in San Fernando Valley. One of the main components stated for the intent of the creation of Van Nuys Airport Citizens Advisory Council (VNY CAC) was to give community a voice over the burdens felt from potential expansion and operations at VNY airport. This intent was reinforced in the Board of Airport Commissioners' Resolution No. 14891 and dated May 22, 1985 in which it read in part: "WHEREAS, the Board feels that the formation of this committee will lead to better communication with regard to community problems; " Persistent public comments over the years (both written and verbal) at VNY CAC and Board of Airport Commissioners (BOAC) meetings have represented a frustrated public who complain that LAWA is neither being fully transparent nor cooperative with impacted communities. Complaints have also been documented over concern of the size of developments permitted at VNY airport, which community groups feel are out of balance with the existing population and proximity to VNY. VNY CAC recognizes that we are of an age and time where it is critical for the City of Los Angeles to have transparency and credibility in order to restore public trust. As such, LA City Council Members from Valley District 4, District 3, and District 2 created Motion #22-1489 that mandates input from the VNY CAC and sets clear standards of community outreach from the Los Angeles World Airports (LAWA) regarding updates made to the Van Nuys Airport. HERIN, the VNY CAC hereby endorses this LA City Council action and encourages our LA City Council to continue its vigilance over increasing detriment to our local environment including but not limited to noise, pollution, and air traffic impacts on the residents, businesses and shared natural spaces of the Valley. WHEREAS, the residents, businesses, and property owners of San Fernando Valley deserve and were intended to have a meaningful opportunity for input about any proposed land use changes and projects under consideration at VNY airport; and, WHEREAS, the City of Los Angeles has chartered the VNY CAC with providing stakeholder input and outreach that VNY and the BOAC must in good faith consider to apply; and WHEREAS, the VNY CAC wishes to wholly support the actions of City Council Motion #22-1489 and urge the Council President that it be brought out of Committee to the Council floor for a complete vote of the LA City Council as swiftly as possible; THEREFORE, the VNY CAC recommends the LA City Council enact the actions in Motion #22-1489 with swift and immediate enforcement.*

The motion was seconded by T. Materna.

Discussion ensued.

A call for the question was made by J. Parker and seconded by B. Rodine. The call for the question passed with seven "affirmative" (K. Delle Donne, R. Sanders, J. Parker, A. Parseghian, K. Chan, L. Fuentes, B. Rodine) and five "no" votes (Vice Chair Williams, E. Cohen, M. Harris, T. Materna and E. Robinson).

The motion was the brought to a vote.

The motion failed with a roll call vote of six "affirmative" votes (Vice Chair Williams, K. Delle Donne, E. Cohen, M. Harris, T. Materna, and E. Robinson) and seven "no" votes (K. Chan, L. Fuentes, J. Parker, A. Parseghian, B. Rodine, R. Sanders and Chairman Price).

**D. Determination to Continue Holding CAC Meetings via Teleconference and/or Videoconference under Assembly Bill 361 Section 2 € (3).**

The Chair opened the meeting to public comment. One members from the public spoke during public comment:

Penny

Mr. Bob 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."*

Mr. Parseghian seconded the motion.

The motion passed with a roll call vote of nine "affirmative" votes and one "no" vote. Affirmative votes (K. Chan, K. Delle Donne, L. Fuentes, M. Harris, J. Parker, A. Parseghian, E. Robinson, R. Rodine, L. Petrus and R. Sanders); no votes (E. Cohen).

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

No items were discussed.

**VII. REPORT FROM THE WORKING GROUPS**

**A. Membership**

Mr. Parseghian addressed the council as it relates to vacant positions.

**IX. ADVISORY COUNCIL MEMBER'S COMMENTS**

J. Parker wished everyone a Happy New Year.

Mr. Parseghian welcomed Mr. Herrera.

K. Chan wished everyone a Happy New Year.

Mr. Cohen clarified his comments regarding unfathered growth at VNY and that he believes there are limits to growth and to what the public would put up with at VNY.

Ms. Harris thanked Ms. Sanchez and Mr. Herrera.

Chairman Price wished everyone a Happy New Year and stated he looks forward to working with everyone. He added that the committee has a lot of work to do and that he intends on creating a ad hoc committee to work on the Vision Study.

**X. ADJOURNMENT:**

9:12 p.m.