

VAN NUYS AIRPORT CITIZENS ADVISORY COUNCIL
Tuesday, May 4, 2021

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

Absent: Wendy Saunders, Harold Lee and Leonel Fuentes.

The minutes from the April 6, 2021 meeting were unanimously approved.

I. STAFF REPORTS:

A. Flora Margheritis, Airport Manager:

Ms. Margheritis announced the newly appointed CAC member, Heren Molina, who was recently appointed by Council District 7. Ms. Molina is an engineer and is excited to represent her community and CD7.

Ms. Molina introduced herself to the council and stated she is happy to join the council and serve her district. Ms. Molina stated that she hopes her involvement is helpful to the council.

Ms. Margheritis addressed the council as it relates to the COVID-19 pandemic and its effect on VNY staff, patrons and stakeholders. In a message posted by LAWA's CEO, Justin Erbacci, he mentioned that LAX continues to see growth in passenger numbers and that this past Sunday, TSA screened more than 60,000 passengers in one day. This is more than LAX has seen in one day in more than a year. Ms. Margheritis noted that although there is still a long way to go before catching up to pre-pandemic numbers, LAWA remains positive and believes passenger numbers will continue to grow in the months ahead. She noted that VNY is part of the Los Angeles World Airports airport system and from a financial standpoint when things improve at LAX it has a positive impact for the entire organization, including VNY. Ms. Margheritis also provided an update on the VNY FlyAway service and advised that the FlyAway buses are allowed to operate at 75% capacity. This capacity is likely to increase in the months ahead as LAX continues to recover from the pandemic impacts.

Employee safety remains a top priority for LAWA and management continues to focus on vaccinations. Ms. Margheritis noted that LAWA remains very grateful to Airport Police, LAFD, and LA County for ensuring that VNY and LAX employees have access to the COVID-19 vaccine. Front-line VNY employees who work in Airport Police, Airport Maintenance and Airport Operations continue to report onsite, and the administrative staff continues to telecommute from home.

Ms. Margheritis addressed the council as it relates to the Airtel Plaza Hotel and Project Roomkey. Project Roomkey provides a way for people who don't have a home to stay inside to prevent the spread of COVID-19. The contract between the County and the Airtel expired in early April. However, shortly thereafter, a new contract was entered into between the City of LA and the Airtel and remains in effect until further notice.

Ms. Margheritis addressed the council as it relates to aircraft operations:

In March 2021, VNY conducted 25,778 total aircraft operations, this represents a 65.03% increase in operations when compared to March 2020. Ms. Margheritis stated that it is important to note that the pandemic broke out during this March timeframe last year and VNY saw a sharp decrease in aircraft operations. She noted that for the next few months when comparing aircraft operations numbers to 2020, Van Nuys will be showing significant increases, as operations during the peak months of the pandemic dropped to as low as 61% and then started increasing in May of 2020. When including March of 2021, this brings VNY's 2021 YTD totals up by 14.56% compared to YTD 2020 totals. Based on the Noise and Operations Monitoring System, March 2021 average daily Jet Operations totals are up by 53% when compared to March 2020. Notably, Van Nuys had approximately 5,425 Jet Operations in March 2021 compared to the 3,546 totals in March of 2020 due to the pandemic impacts.

Ms. Margheritis stated that LAWA had a significant decrease in overall aircraft operations due to the pandemic, and in March 2020 VNY began to see the impacts. By the time April 2020 rolled around, Van Nuys hit an all-time low. In the months following April 2020, Van Nuys continued to see decreases compared to 2019 in all categories of aircraft. Now, as airports are recovering from the pandemic, VNY will likely show increases compared to most months in 2020.

B. Christian Moreno, Chief of Operations

Mr. Moreno stated that the Taxiway Alpha Rehabilitation Project continues on schedule and is expected to be completed in June 2021. All construction updates and pictures can be found on the VNY webpage.

Mr. Moreno addressed the council as it relates to fire season and involvement from the Los Angeles County Fire Department.

C. Diana Sanchez, Director of Public and Community Relations

Ms. Sanchez addressed the council as it relates to the VNY Observation Area. The observation area has not opened due to public health restrictions.

Ms. Sanchez addressed the council as it relates to Aviation Career Day.

Ms. Sanchez addressed the council as it relates to the Mid-Valley YMCA Pancake Breakfast.

D. Dan Yeung, Environmental Specialist

Mr. Yeung provided the council with a briefing on Noise Comments, and the Jet Early Turn and Quiet Jet Departure programs for March 2021. 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 under the Noise Management Section.

Ms. Kathryn Pantoja gave a brief update on the IFP Gateway Request.

Ms. Pantoja stated that LAWA did participate in the FAA April 14, 2021 Full Work Group. The technical work group confirmed that the PRRYY waypoint is as far north as the safety requirements allow in the RNAV procedure design software and cannot be moved to match the conventional departure procedure turning point. FAA also noted that the current

RNAV procedures with the PPRRY waypoint provided for maximum dispersion of flight tracks on departure. Ms. Pantoja noted that the group discussed options that are available, the limitations, and probable outcomes. The Full Work Group is seeking consensus on the procedures and waypoints. Ms. Pantoja will report back to the council as she learns more.

E. Lt. Dennis Lau, Officer-in-Charge, Airport Police

In the absence of Lt. Lau, Sgt. Beacom provided an update on safety and security at Van Nuys Airport.

Sgt. Beacom reported that there have been no significant safety or security issues to report since the last CAC meeting on April 6, 2021. Sgt. Beacom stated that Van Nuys Police continues to work with the surrounding communities to ensure safety.

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, April 6, 2021 there was only one virtual BOAC meeting.

The regularly scheduled meeting for April 15, 2021 was cancelled.

The meeting held on Thursday, April 22, 2021 had no specific VNY related items.

The next BOAC Meeting, which again will be held via teleconference, is scheduled for Thursday May 6, 2021.

III. NEW BUSINESS – DISCUSSION/ACTION

A. Condor Squadron – Presentation by President Chris Rushing and Vice-President Eric Zine

Mr. Chris Rushing conducted a presentation titled “Wolfe Air Condor” (attached).

The Chair opened the item for discussion.

The Chair thanked Mr. Rushing and Mr. Zine for their presentation and for the contributions the Condor Squadron brings to the community.

Mr. Parker stated that he would love the Condor Squadron to participate in the Annual Memorial Day Parade held in Canoga Park.

Mr. Materna thanked the Condor Squadron for the presentation.

Mr. Rodine thanked the Condor Squadron for their participation and their dedicated service to the community.

Mr. Sanders commended the Condor Squadron for their flyovers and community engagement. Mr. Sanders thanked Mr. Rushing and Mr. Zine for their presentation and support of Van Nuys Airport.

IV. OLD BUSINESS – DISCUSSION/ACTION

No items were discussed.

V. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

The Chair opened the Public Comment Period (item V.)

The following community members spoke during the public comment period:

Mr. Bob Bramen, Resident
Ms. Sarah Dobbs, Resident
Mr. Dean Willis, Resident
Mr. Richard, Resident
Ms. Chanel Farzan, Resident
Ms. Elaine Newman, Resident
Mr. Ed Burnham, Resident
Ms. Michelle Nelson, Resident
Ms. Penny, Resident
Mr. Michael Hoch, Resident
Mr. Peter Lapinsky, Resident
Ms. Susan Ashley, Resident
Ms. Vicky Herman, Resident
Mr. David Rankell, Resident
Mr. John, Resident
Mr. David Kaeden, Resident
Mr. Henry, Resident
Ms. Randi, Resident
Mr. Ashley, Resident
Ms. Jeanette, Resident
Ms. Chanel, Resident
Ms. Christine Kim, Resident
Mr. Jollie, Resident

Several community members submitted written comments (attached).

VI. REPORT FROM THE CHAIR

The Chair thanked the public for their participation in public comment.

The Chair stated that the council hears the community but is limited to what they can do as an advisory only council. He encouraged the public to reach out to federal representatives.

VII. REPORT FROM THE WORKING GROUPS

A. Membership

The Chair stated that he will reach out to the Mayor's Office on the status of their representatives.

VIII. EMERGENCY ITEMS SINCE POSTING OF AGENDA

Mr. Materna requested to discuss that LAWA hire a consultant at the request of the CAC and community.

The Chair stated that Mr. Materna's request is something that has already been discussed.

Mr. Parker moved to adjourn the meeting.

Mr. Rodine seconded Mr. Parker's motion.

Mr. Williams stated that he has some items he'd like to discuss.

The council approved the motion to adjourn the meeting with a rollcall vote of seven "affirmative" votes (A. Parseghian, J. Parker, R. Rodine, L. Petrus, R. Sanders, K. Chan, H. Molina); six "no" votes (M. Harris, W. Williams, E. Robinson, E. Cohen, T. Materna, K. Delle Donne) and one "abstention" (J. Price).

IX. ADVISORY COUNCIL MEMBERS COMMENTS

No items were discussed.

X. ADJOURNMENT:

9:24 p.m.