

**VAN NUYS AIRPORT CITIZENS ADVISORY COUNCIL**  
**Tuesday, February 7, 2023**

A virtual meeting of the Van Nuys Airport (VNY) Citizens Advisory Council (CAC) was called to order at 7:02 p.m. by Chairman Jason Price. Members present: Vice Chair Wayne Williams, Parliamentarian Bob Rodine, Kimberly Chan, Eliot Cohen, Marykate Harris, Thomas Materna, Heren Molina, Araz Parseghian, Lisa Petrus, Eric Robinson and Wendy Saunders.

Absent: Sharon Bronson, Kathy Delle Donne, Leonel Fuentes, John Parker, and Ryan Sanders.

**I. Meeting minutes for the January 10 meeting were approved by a roll call vote.**

The motion passed with a roll call vote of eight "affirmative" votes and one "no" vote. Affirmative votes (K. Chan, M. Harris, A. Parseghian, E. Robinson, R. Rodine, L. Petrus, W. Saunders and W. Williams); no votes (T. Materna).

**II. STAFF REPORTS**

**A. Paul Herrera, Airport Manager**

Mr. Herrera thanked the CAC members for their support as he transitions into his new assignment as Airport Manager. Mr. Herrera thanked the Van Nuys Maintenance and Operations teams for doing an outstanding job in addressing areas affected by the recent storms. These teams of VNY professionals look after our property 24/7.

Mr. Herrera reported that LAX passenger traffic during the final weekend of 2022 was busy, although the large winter storm that affected most of the country had a noticeable impact on our passenger numbers due to thousands of cancellations and many more delays across the nation. At LAX, we saw several hundred cancellations during the last month of the year, as airlines worked to adjust their schedules and accommodate many passengers with alternative flights. Adding that numbers for last year indicate 65.9 million passengers moved through LAX which is an increase of about 37% compared to the 48 million passengers that LAWA served in 2021. By mid-January of this year, passenger traffic numbers remained steady at about 80 percent compared with the same time in 2019. Mr. Herrera noted that March will be the third anniversary of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Mr. Herrera added that the Van Nuys Airport plays a critical role in this recovery, as does other General Aviation Airports in the region, as it supports the overall health of the National Airspace System that connects our system of airports and regions across the country and our world. Van Nuys Airport is an important reliever airport that allows for the safe and efficient airspace to thrive.

Mr. Herrera shared that January was National Human Trafficking Prevention Month. Earlier this week, LAWA's iconic pylons were lit in blue to show our support for this important topic. And, on Jan. 11, the national [Blue Campaign to End Human Trafficking](#) encouraged people to wear blue to help raise awareness. Airports play a special role in preventing human trafficking by helping to identify the warning signs of potential victims and criminal traffickers. Mr. Herrera encouraged members to report suspicious behavior of any kind to Airport Police. You also can report suspected trafficking to the National Human Trafficking Hotline, at 1-888-373-7888. The American Association of Airport Executives (AAAE) has compiled a series of [online resources](#) to help learn the signs of potential trafficking, and how you can help. Thank you for staying alert and doing your part to help end this crime.

Mr. Herrera reported that the College Football Championship were held on January 9 at SoFi Stadium. The Georgia Bulldogs took on the Texas Christian University Horned Frogs. Mr. Herrera noted the importance the City of LA and the City's two airports (VNY/LAX) play with important events such as these. In large part due to LAWA personnel of Operations, Airport Police, Facilities & Maintenance, Public Relations, IT, Police/Fire Departments, and the Transportation Security Administration who work closely together for a successful City event.

Mr. Herrera noted that last month was National Law Enforcement Appreciation Day and he wanted to thank VNY's law enforcement partners adding that every day, these dedicated public servants serve and protect our airports, guests and employees.

Mr. Herrera welcomed Mr. Matthew Johnson back to the Board of Airport Commissioners after having previously served as a Commissioner for LAWA. Commissioner Johnson, an entertainment lawyer, currently serves as a Board Member of the International Rescue Committee, LA 2028 Olympic Games, the NYU School of Law and is also a member of the Advisory Board of the Policing Project at NYU. Mr. Herrera added that Mr. Johnson also served as President of the Police Commission and Chief of the COVID-19 Philanthropic & Private Sector Community Emergency Response for the City of LA.

The Los Angeles City Council adopted the appointment of Mr. Johnson to the Board for the term ending June 30, 2025. He was sworn in by the City Clerk's office right after his appointment became official. He will fill the vacancy created by former Commissioner Sean Burton, who left the Board in December 2022.

Mr. Herrera reported that in December 2022, VNY conducted 22,463 aircraft operations which represents a 3.33% increase in operations as compared to December 2021. VNY's YTD 2022 operations totals are currently down by 5.80% as compared to YTD 2021 totals. Mr. Herrera noted that in December 2022, VNY jet operations, based on the VNY Airport Noise and Operations Monitoring System (ANOMS), had approximately 5,428 jet operations. This number is down 17.7% compared to December 2021 (6,594) and down 1.6% compared to last month (5,514).

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

Mr. Moreno reported that VNY Operations is still in winter mode and has been dealing with the rain, winds and low temperatures and that all airfield drainage is performing well. Mr. Moreno stated that the maintenance team has been busy removing fallen tree limbs and debris caused by heavy winds and fog. Mr. Moreno congratulated the maintenance team for their quick response to replacing a back flow that was not repairable.

Mr. Moreno stated operations continues to work with the LAX paving crew to complete paving and asphalt repairs.

The week of January 23, Christian and Ryan Page attend the annual National Business Aviation Association's Scheduler's and Dispatchers conference held in Nashville Tennessee to promote the Quieter Nights program and other environmental programs at VNY.

Mr. Moreno addressed the council as it relates to the increase of operations.

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

Ms. Sanchez addressed the council as it relates to the upcoming Coffee with a Cop event to be held on February 22 at the FlyAway. Coffee is donated by TK Coffee, so join the team for some free giveaways and free coffee.

On March 1, Ms. Sanchez reported that the Van Nuys Airport Public & Community Relations Team along with Lt. Boisselle will participate in Read Across America at Stagg Elementary.

Ms. Sanchez noted that Lisa Petrus has volunteered to attend the annual UC Davis Noise & Emissions Symposium to be held May 1-3 via hybrid format.

Ms. Sanchez briefed the Council as it relates to a new section on the iflyvny.com website entitled Modernization, which will feature upcoming RFP's, Current Projects and Past Projects. The Vision Study will soon be featured as well.

Ms. Sanchez welcomed Rolando Murillo and James Hensley to the team and thanked them for jumping in to provide IT support to the meeting.

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

Mr. Page reported the monthly statistics December 2022 including noise comments, Jet Early Turns and the Quiet Departure/Fly Friendly Program. He also provided an update on the Quieter Nights Program for the fourth quarter of 2022. 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. Lt. Anthony Boisselle, Officer-in-Charge, Airport Police:**

Lt. Boisselle reported that Airport Police is conducting a perimeter inspection. He thanked the tenants for their candor, suggestions improvement. The team is almost at full staff.

Lt. Boisselle invited all out to meet with them at the Coffee with a Cop event on February 22 at the FlyAway.

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 VNY CAC Meeting held on Tuesday, January 12<sup>th</sup>, we have had one Board Meeting.

At the Thursday, January 19<sup>th</sup> meeting there was **one** item under Consent for Board Action pertaining to VNY. This was for a three (3)-year contract for purchase and laundering of cleaning towels, rags, and for recycling of absorbent materials at Los Angeles International Airport and Van Nuys Airport. The action will allow Los Angeles World Airports to obtain the materials and services necessary to provide cleaning and absorbent materials for various shops in the Facilities Management Division.

Mr. Herrera announced that the next BOAC Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 16<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 Communication Process Regarding LAWA Procurements noting that negotiations continue for an Award of Lease to a successful bidder for Ground Lease Non – FBO Aviation Facility 16750 Roscoe Blvd. noting that the lease will be on an

upcoming BOAC Meeting Agenda. A date for it to be placed on the BOAC agenda for consideration has not been scheduled.

Mr. Herrera announced another set of Non-Aeronautical RFPs were posted and are now for Ground-Mounted & Roof-Top Solar at the Van Nuys Airport.

- Ground mount solar power at **a specific location**.
- Rooftop solar for up to **eight (8) rooftop locations** at the Van Nuys Airport.

These items will be placed on an upcoming BOAC Meeting Agenda in the coming weeks.

Finally, the Award of Lease for 16231 Waterman Dr. (Boncef Helinet, LLC, for the potential redevelopment of land and existing facilities at the Van Nuys Airport continues to track through the approval process.

Once the BOAC and City Council awards these lease(s), the proposers 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. REPORT FROM THE CHAIR

The Chair addressed the council as it relates to ad hoc committee for the Vision Study requesting members who are interested in participating in the committee to contact him by Friday, February 7.

### IV. NEW BUSINESS

#### A. Vision Study Update

Kathleen King presented the importance, purpose and timeline of the Vision Study including that the study will be used to provide guidance to City Planning which is currently looking at outdated plans. Ms. King stated that it has been over 30 years since the last comprehensive study long range planning effort has taken place. LAWA is recommending that the airport be in one community plan rather than three as it currently. Ms. King added that it will not lead to a Master Plan adding that updated information can be found at [iflyvny.com/vision-study](http://iflyvny.com/vision-study).

Discussion ensued.

### V. Public Comments (Delayed due to technical difficulties.)

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

Penny  
Peter  
David  
Sue

B. Determination to Continue Holding CAC Meetings via Teleconference and/or Videoconference: Under Assembly Bill 361 Section 3(e)(3) and new California Assembly Bill 2449 (AB 2449). Discussion/Action

Discussion ensued.

Mr. Herrera added that there will be a Board of Airport Commissioners meeting at Van Nuys City Hall on Thursday, March 2, 2023 at 10 a.m. This will be the first time since the pandemic that the Board will be in Van Nuys.

## **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**

E. Cohen addressed the council as it relates to hybrid meetings and urged LAWA to look at other airports for growth.

T. Materna urged LAWA to look at hybrid meetings and asked what the BOAC was doing for outreach.

L. Petrus said she will bake cookies for the next meeting and asked when the time of the next BOAC meeting in Van Nuys.

B. Rodine addressed the council as it relates to the Chair of the meeting and as it relates to air traffic at VNY.

E. Robinson addressed the council as it relates to airport noise.

W. Saunders thanked Kathy King for her presentation, dealing with adversity in the meeting and handling it with professionalism.

W. Williams shared a General Aviation Report from February 2020 for 2017 listing VNY as the busiest general aviation airport.

Chairman Price thanked everyone for their input and Kathy King for the Vision Study Presentation.

## **X. ADJOURNMENT:**

9:22 p.m.