



Santa Monica City Council
1685 Main Street
PO Box 2200
Santa Monica, CA 90407-2200

4 October 2011

Dear Honorable Mayor Bloom and Councilmembers,

The Phase 1 staff report regarding the Santa Monica Airport Campus does not reflect serious concerns expressed by residents of Ocean Park and surrounding neighborhoods. Due to the recent change in airport operations, noise, pollution, and safety have emerged as major concerns for our residents; in fact, no single topic has generated more grassroots response over the last two years in Ocean Park than the recent increase in air traffic generated by SMO.

The findings listed in the staff report do not address the chief concerns that made the study necessary in the first place. The lack of important detail includes:

- (1) Noise levels. What were the results from the noise and pollution studies conducted while the airport was closed as compared to when it was open?
- (2) What economic possibilities exist if airport operations are significantly reduced?
- (3) Which of the aviation-related businesses currently at the airport are dependent on actually having an airport next to them?
- (4) What is the history of air crashes from SMO operations?
- (5) A risk analysis of various outbound headings
- (6) Information about current traffic, including pattern flying,
- (6) Comparative information about operations at similar airports around the country,
- (7) A bibliography and/or reference list.

The public needs more information to effectively participate in the remaining portions of the study.

There should be no pre-judgment about how Phase 2 might develop. For example, while we do not, as a group, advocate closure of SMO, the Phase 2 study should include the possibility that such an option could emerge as the most desirable outcome.

Further, we respectfully request that, in addition to ad hoc groups of residents from around the City addressing noise, pollution, safety, and development, that the specifically impacted communities of Sunset Park and Ocean Park have dedicated focus groups in Phase 2, and, that we invite, ex officio, our neighbor groups from Mar Vista and Venice.

To summarize, we request that the following specific goal be established for Phase 2:

“Identify all options for mitigating the impacts of aircraft noise, pollution and safety in our communities.”

As the Phase 2 study moves forward you can count on our continued enthusiasm and participation.

Sincerely,

Jan Ludwinski, President
For the Board of Directors
Ocean Park Association

cc:

Rod Gould
Marcia Moutrie
Martin Pastucha
Bob Trimborn