



BRAD SHERMAN
UNITED STATES CONGRESS

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Dan Elwell
Acting Administrator
Federal Aviation Administration
800 Independence AVE SW
Washington, DC 20591

Re: FAA Plans to Change Flight Routes over the San Fernando Valley

Dear Acting Administrator Elwell,

It has come to my attention that the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) is considering the establishment of new Standard Instrument Departure procedures at Hollywood-Burbank Airport known as OROSZ THREE and SLAPP TWO. I share the concerns of both Valley residents and Hollywood-Burbank Airport that requiring planes to continue to the two waypoints known as JAYTE and TEAGN will bring unnecessary noise and pollution to the skies directly over schools and residential neighborhoods.

I have long advocated for additional measures to reduce aviation noise and improve air quality in the San Fernando Valley, including phasing out noisier aircraft and establishing mandatory flight curfews. I am concerned that the proposed flight paths will have the opposite effect.

The FAA should be exploring ways to work with the airport in order to reduce noise while maintaining safe and convenient airport operations. Instead, the FAA is moving forward with this plan, ironically citing operational benefit as the reason for these changes, while at the same time the operators of Hollywood-Burbank Airport oppose these changes.

At this point, the FAA has failed to engage the impacted communities in an open and transparent discussion regarding the changes under consideration. Moving toward implementation without a comprehensive environmental review and public input process is unacceptable.

The Valley deserves the strongest possible environmental review process comparing current flight routes to those proposed. This information should be shared with the community and the community should have the opportunity to express their concerns before the FAA even considers adopting any new routes.

The changes under consideration are serious and will impact the quality of life for Valley residents. I ask that you personally come to the San Fernando Valley in September or October to meet with Members of Congress and community leaders in order to identify ways to reduce aviation noise in the San Fernando Valley.

In any case, no change affecting airport noise should occur before an Environmental Impact Study and especially not before the public is informed of the proposed changes and given a reasonable period to comment.

You should hear from Valley residents before you make it impossible for them to hear themselves think.

Sincerely,



BRAD SHERMAN
Member of Congress