

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-0533

July 15, 2015

Michael P. Huerta
Administrator
Federal Aviation Administration
800 Independence Ave, SW
Washington, DC 20591

Dear Administrator Huerta,

We appreciate the meeting with the Associate Administrator, Eduardo Angeles, last week regarding the Santa Monica Airport (SMO) and its negative effects on the surrounding communities. It was very gracious of Eddie, as well as attorney Scott Mitchell, to take time out of their busy schedules. Eddie and Scott were very professional and my constituents greatly appreciated the chance to voice their concerns to the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) in person.

City officials and members of the public expressed concerns about the detrimental impacts upon health, safety and welfare by aircraft emissions, aircraft noise, and jet usage of the short runway. As follow up, I have a few questions for the FAA.

1. Are there any other general aviation airports in the country that have jets taking off a runway within 300 feet of homes and without a safety buffer? If yes, please identify which airports.
2. Are there any other general aviation airports in the country that the federal government leased during World War II and now, with the lease expired, claim must perpetually operate as an airport? If yes, please identify which airports.
3. Can you confirm that the SMO runway layout, if constructed today, would not be approved under the current runway design standards, Advisory Circular AC 150/5300-13A, which requires a 1,000 foot Runway Safety Area for airports that accommodate Class C&D aircraft to ensure runway safety?
4. Assuming that the City of Santa Monica's grant assurance obligations have expired, can you please confirm that the City, as airport proprietor, may exercise its right to adopt reasonable regulations intended to mitigate noise impacts without undertaking the process established by the Aircraft Noise Capacity Act?

5. Does the FAA have any evidence contrary to the evidence provided by UCLA environmental scientists that emissions from aircraft using SMO are harmful to people living near the Airport?

Thank you again for your time and concern for these issues. I look forward to the FAA's response.

Sincerely,



Ted W. Lieu
Member of Congress

CC:

Eduardo Angeles, Associate Administrator for Airports
Scott Mitchell, Senior Attorney, Office of the Chief Counsel