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**NOTICE AND AGENDA**  
**ENCINO NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL Airport**  
**Committee Meeting Minutes**  
**Friday, Sept. 22, 2023, 11:00 A.M.**

**Voting Members** – ENC Members: Jim Esterle (Co-Chair), Victoria Miller\* (Co-Chair),

**Stakeholders:** Robert Bramen, Jacquie Lange, Barry Heins, Penny Alpert, Andrew Zucker

- 1. Call to Order. Roll call. Determination of quorum: Meeting called to order at approximately 11:10AM, quorum met--Present: Jim Esterle, Victoria Miller, Andrew Zucker, Robert Bramen, Jacquie Lange, Penny Alpert. Absent: Barry Heins**

**Motion, Discussion, and Vote may be taken on all items**

- 2. Review and approval of meeting minutes June 15, 2023: MSP 6-0-0**
- 3. General public comments of public stakeholders: one resident had a lot to share about frustration with the process and acknowledged the complexity of getting relief—both immediate and long-term**
- 4. Draft motion of CF 22-1489. Discussion and possible motion regarding LAWA being in non-compliance with CF 22-1489.**

**MOTION: Moved: V. Miller, 2<sup>nd</sup>: R. Bramen MSP 6-0-0**

*Whereas*, at its regular meeting held on February 21, 2023, the Trade, Travel, and Tourism Committee passed a Motion CF 22-1489 (Raman, et al., Bonin) relative to VNY, covering topics including, but not limited to providing documentation of RFPs and projects awards since 2017, community engagement performed, compliance with the 2006 VNY Master Plan, environmental impact analyses performed, a proposal for future community engagement, and the recordation of VNY Citizens Advisory Council meetings. The Motion gave LAWA 90 days to comply. The full City Council adopted the motion on March 3, 2023.

It has now been over 180 days since the full City Council approved the Motion, yet LAWA has yet to supply any meaningful responses to the Council's requests. ENC therefore requests that the Trade, Travel, and Tourism Committee deem LAWA in non-compliance and take any remedies available to ensure compliance.

5. **Addendum to CIS on VNY Vision Study – Discussion and possible motion on use of graphic representation of recommendations contained in prior VNY Study CIS. A second addendum was presented and voted on:**

**MOTION: Moved: V. Miller, 2<sup>nd</sup>: J. Esterle MSP 5-1-0 (A.Zucker did not object to content just length)**

**ALTERNATIVE DRAFT MOTION TO AMEND THE ENC VISION FOR VNY CIS TO INCLUDE A GRAPHIC REPRESENTATION OF PROPOSED LAND USE CHANGES DESCRIBED IN THE CIS**

Whereas, on June 28, 2023 the Encino Neighborhood Council (ENC) approved a CIS that identified Immediate Actions and a Long Term Vision for VNY. The primary immediate action calls for a moratorium on any RFPs and further redevelopment at VNY until a Specific Plan/ Updated Airport Plan is adopted by the City Council.

ENC is hereby amending its June 28, 2023 Vision for VNY CIS to incorporate the attached Figure to graphically demonstrate by example that by using the guidelines outlined in the CIS a more balanced, less impactful land use plan than the three alternative plans LAWA has proposed is achievable. Further, it is requested that the land use recommendations contained in the ENC alternative be given full and equal consideration in the Vision Study screening process.

Additionally ENC also believes that the only way that consensus by all stakeholders can be achieved on an updated Airport Plan/Specific Plan is by pausing, and redirecting the current Vision Study to allow a sharing with the public critical information that they need for providing informed input, having key stakeholders *directly* involved in the plan development process from start to finish, a thorough vetting of impacts and benefits of different options, and a robust stakeholder participation process to help guide decision makers.

**ORIGINAL MOTION: Not Voted On**

*Whereas*, on June 28, 2023 the Encino Neighborhood Council (ENC) approved a CIS that contained their Vision for Van Nuys Airport to be considered in the LAWA Vision Study, it is hereby amended to incorporate the attached Figure to reflect graphically the land use changes recommendations contained therein.\*

6. **Van Nuys Airport Citizens Advisory Council (CAC) vacancies – discussion and possible motion filling VNY CAC vacancies.**

**MOTION: Moved: V. Miller, 2<sup>nd</sup>: J. Esterle MSP 6-0-0**

*Whereas*, there are a number of vacancies on the Van Nuys Airport Citizens Advisory Council (CAC), including two unfilled seats allocated to the Mayor, and recognizing that the CAC has been unable to meet quorum on more than a few occasions, and

Recognizing that the founding documents for the CAC state that the appointed members shall be community representatives of neighborhoods and businesses surrounding the airport, and

Further recognizing that the aviation and non-aviation tenants at VNY have their own association (Van Nuys Airport Association) to advocate for their interests,

*Therefore*, the Encino Neighborhood Council (ENC) recommends that Mayor Bass appoint Encino resident Barry Heins to fill one of the two vacant seats on the CAC.

Barry Heins is an excellent choice for a seat on the CAC. He is Co-Founder of *Encino Skies*, a grass-roots community awareness and advocacy organization, and a member of the Encino Neighborhood Council Airport Committee. His community involvement in airport issues goes back many years. He has attended and spoken on behalf of *Encino Skies* at numerous CAC and BOAC meetings, and recognizes the need to balance the many roles that VNY plays in both serving and impacting SFV residents and businesses.

7. **Advanced Air Mobility (AAM) Air Taxis in Los Angeles – discussion and possible motion on use of electric powered air taxis in Los Angeles.**

**MOTIONL: Moved: J. Lange, 2<sup>nd</sup>: P. Alpert MSP 5-0-0 (A. Zucker left the meeting by this vote)**

*Whereas*,

The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) recently released its Advanced Air Mobility (AAM) or electric powered flying taxis Implementation Plan called “Innovate 28” where it will partner with “key locations” including the City of Los Angeles in an “all hands-on-deck approach” to put AAM in the skies by 2024-2025, scaling up operations by 2028. During the 2028 Olympics in Los Angeles, the FAA believes “air taxis will be in high demand”.

Yet the FAA and the AAM industry have not demonstrated an actual need for AAM beyond its limited role as an electric powered replacement for helicopters in emergency applications. Transporting a select few during and after the Olympics does not demonstrate need.

Lost in the flurry of this excitement over unproven aviation innovation is the human cost of aircraft impacts. Once the initial prototypes take flight and more are rolled out, the end result will be densely packed, rotor-driven aircraft flying at very low altitudes over residential areas, schools, parks, offices, and hospitals. Unfortunately, this development will negatively impact new and already impacted communities and further intensify the plight of individuals recently affected by the implementation of NextGen. At these very low altitudes, AAM will create additional adverse impacts to health, safety, privacy, security, and quality of life onto people on the ground, resulting in a minor benefit of travel time savings for the relatively few who use AAM, in exchange for the staggering negative impacts to the many.

Extensive independent research and resultant data are necessary in the near term, prior to implementation of this untested new modality. The objective of research is to thoroughly examine the potential adverse

impacts of the addition of AAM to the already congested air space in Los Angeles, prior to rollout. This data will serve to guide the establishment of a Regulatory Framework for AAM, which is yet undefined. Research would include a thorough assessment of all potential adverse impacts to the public with an emphasis to people on the ground. It must also include extensive community input.

The FAA and City must not assume public benefit without crucial examination of the cumulative impacts. To do so would express a willingness to retrofit regulation and delay examination of safety and adverse impacts until after implementation.

*Therefore,*

The Encino Neighborhood Council (ENC), whose residents are already heavily impacted by Burbank and Van Nuys Airports, recommends that a moratorium be placed on the implementation of AAM/Flying Taxies in Los Angeles until comprehensive in-depth studies and public input are completed so that the FAA jointly with the City of Los Angeles, and other local agencies can make well-informed decisions; assess risks and benefits; draft (but not yet enact) regulations, engage stakeholders; and establish a responsible framework to determine whether AAM should be integrated into the Los Angeles Metroplex airspace.

**8. New Business: N/A**

9. **Comment on Non-Agenda Items** – Public Comments on Non-Agenda Items is limited to TWO MINUTES (2) per speaker. Time may be adjusted at the Chair’s discretion. Public calling in, please press \*9 on your phone to raise your hand to speak. For those that are using the Zoom Webinar please use the raise your hand feature to speak. NONE
10. **Board Member Comment on Non-Agenda Items: John Vernagus is no longer on the committee as he has moved outside of the area. LAWA CEO Justin Erbacci has resigned from his position. CD4 has lost both Geoffrey Thompson (Asst Chief of Staff), and Itzel Sanchez (Encino Field Deputy). FAA postponement of Environmental Study delayed until at least 2025.**

**Adjournment by 1:05PM (A. Zucker left @12:30pm)**

**Announcements: Please see the Encino NC [website](#) for announcements of other events and to join our mailing list.**

The Encino Neighborhood Council (ENC), is a Certified Neighborhood Council of the City of Los Angeles which ADVISES City, other Governmental Officials’ and the Community on issues or concerns that are affecting the community of ENCINO. The ENC is made up of volunteers who are ELECTED by the community who live, work or otherwise are involved in the community of ENCINO. The ENC also makes appropriations of City Funds for Community Projects and needs as requested and approved by various committees and the general board.

**PUBLIC INPUT AT NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL MEETINGS** – Comments from the public on agenda items will be heard only when the respective item is being considered. Comments from the public on other matters not appearing on the agenda that are within the Board’s subject matter jurisdiction will be heard during the General Public Comment period. Please note that under the Brown Act, the Board is prevented from acting on a matter that you bring to its attention during the General Public Comment period; however, the issue raised by a member of the public may become the subject of a future Board meeting. Public comment is limited to one (1) minute per speaker per item, unless adjusted by the presiding officer of the Board or Committee. Consent items which have been unanimously approved by a public committee meeting

are exempted unless pulled from the consent section by a Board member.

**PUBLIC POSTING OF AGENDAS** - ENC agendas are posted for public review as follows: Glass display case outside the Encino Chamber of Commerce office at 4933 Balboa Blvd, Encino, Encino-Tarzana Branch Library, and Encino Community Center auditorium at 4935 Balboa Blvd, Encino, 91316, and digitally at [www.encinonc.org](http://www.encinonc.org) You can also receive our agendas via email by subscribing to L.A. City's Early Notification System: [Early Notification System \(ENS\)](#)

**THE AMERICAN WITH DISABILITIES ACT** – As a covered entity under Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City of Los Angeles does not discriminate on the basis of disability and upon request will provide reasonable accommodation to ensure equal access to its programs, services, and activities. Sign language interpreters, assisted listening devices, or other auxiliary aids and/or services may be provided upon request. To ensure availability of services, please make your request at least 3 business days (72 hours) prior to the meeting by contacting the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment by calling (213) 978-1551 or email: [NCsupport@lacity.org](mailto:NCsupport@lacity.org)

**PUBLIC ACCESS OF RECORDS** – In compliance with Government Code section 54957.5, non-exempt writings that are distributed to a majority or all of the board in advance of a meeting may be viewed at our website: [www.encinonc.org](http://www.encinonc.org) or at the scheduled meeting. In addition, if you would like a copy of any record related to an item on the agenda, please contact Alex Garay, Board President, at (747) 282-0450 or email via [president@encinonc.org](mailto:president@encinonc.org).

**RECONSIDERATION AND GRIEVANCE PROCESS** – For information on the ENC's process for board action reconsideration, stakeholder grievance policy, or any other procedural matters related to this Council, please consult the ENC Bylaws. The Bylaws are available at our Board meetings and our website <https://www.encinonc.org/page/viewPage/bylaws>

**NOTICE TO PAID REPRESENTATIVES** - If you are compensated to monitor, attend, or speak at this meeting, City law may require you to register as a lobbyist and report your activity. See Los Angeles Municipal Code Section 48.01 et seq. More information is available at [ethics.lacity.org/lobbying](http://ethics.lacity.org/lobbying). For assistance, please contact the Ethics Commission at (213) 978-1960 or [ethics.commission@lacity.org](mailto:ethics.commission@lacity.org)

**SERVICIOS DE TRADUCCIÓN:** Si requiere servicios de traducción, favor de avisar al Concejo Vecinal 3 días de trabajo (72 horas) antes del evento. Por favor contacte a Alex Garay, Presidente de la Mesa Directiva, al (747) 282-0450 o por correo electrónico [president@encinonc.org](mailto:president@encinonc.org) para avisar al Concejo Vecinal.