

Glen A. Martin, Regional Administrator
Western Pacific Region
Federal Aviation Administration
P.O. Box 92007
Los Angeles, CA 90009

Dear Mr. Martin,

As a resident of Orange County, it is disturbing to see the Federal Aviation Administration advance the Southern California Metroplex project in our area without thoroughly vetting the required Environmental Impact Assessment. Your possibly illegal finding of “no significant impact” in the case of Orange County John Wayne Airport is difficult to comprehend when so many variables exist along with the lack of transparency in how important data was collected, analyzed and made available to the public. It’s alarming to understand that the noise analysis in the FAA final EIA may not accurately reflect the actual noise levels generated under the local Metroplex Project.

The FAA option of wider swaths of flight patterns over our communities is of particular concern. Many more residential neighborhoods are potentially affected with jet noise and emissions pollution that does not seem to be accounted for in the EIA. There are a number of other factors regarding your conclusion that are troubling:

- Neither the County or affected communities were consulted in any significant way in the execution of the assessment.
- There is no commitment to honor the guidelines of the JWA Settlement Agreement - an important binding contract between the community, environmental interests and airport operators that’s established harmony among stakeholders for more than 30-years.
- Portions of the Settlement Agreement, if not adhered to, could expose the County, thus the taxpayers, to legal liability.
- There is no language in the EIA ‘Purpose of Proposed Action’ addressing the reduction of noise, emissions pollution or other environmental impacts.
- Critical data pertinent to noise assessment in the final EIA was released only weeks before the window for public comments was closed, leaving far too little time for residents to examine the findings and submit an informed response.
- Supervisor Todd Spitzer’s request for an extension of the public comments period based on the late data release was denied, indicating the FAA’s true insensitivity to working with the community and county leaders.

For the well-being of our entire community, please protect our current flight path integrity, noise reduction ordinances and passenger cap at John Wayne Airport. SoCal Metroplex managers need to address these important concerns and include our local government leaders in order to properly implement the Metroplex Project in our unique environment with complete public confidence.

Sincerely,
