

## Via email

**From:** Quiet Skies NorCal <[quietskiesnorcal@earthlink.net](mailto:quietskiesnorcal@earthlink.net)>

**Date:** Thursday, January 14, 2021 at 7:29 AM

**To:** Audin Leung <[audin@citiesassociation.org](mailto:audin@citiesassociation.org)>

**Subject:** Board of Directors meeting January 14 Agenda Item 7

Cities Association Board of Directors:

Quiet Skies NorCal is a grassroots advocacy group dedicated to addressing aviation noise issues on behalf of thousands of residents across Santa Clara and Santa Cruz counties. We write to comment on Agenda Item #7 regarding the Santa Clara/Santa Cruz Roundtable.

The FAA implementation of "NextGen" resulted in multiple flight route changes across the NorCal Metroplex which brought about severe aviation noise, detrimentally impacting residents across Santa Clara and Santa Cruz counties. Specifically impacting these residents are flight route changes made to SFO southern arrivals and departures, OAK southern departures, SJC pacific arrivals and departures and south flow arrivals. To understand the scale and impact of these changes, for example prior to NextGen Los Gatos residents across both counties had no commercial flight routes above their homes. After NextGen these same residents were burdened with multiple flight routes with commercial jets flying over their homes at intervals of 60 to 90 seconds.

Having no representative venue to address their aviation noise concerns with the FAA, residents across both counties organized and implored their elected officials to intercede on their behalf. Congressional Representatives Eshoo, Farr (retired) and Speier stepped up and created a Select Committee to interface with the FAA and work towards resolution. The Select Committee provided our Congressional Representatives with a set of recommendations, which were then forwarded to the FAA for implementation.

Included in the set of Select Committee recommendations was the need for a permanent venue where residents could monitor the FAA's progress implementing the Select Committee recommendations and have a voice in future changes which could create aviation noise impacts. Consequently Congressional Representatives Eshoo, Khanna and Panetta called upon the Cities Association to provide a venue to interface with the FAA regarding aviation noise issues in Santa Clara and Santa Cruz counties. The result of which was the creation of the Santa Clara/Santa Cruz Roundtable.

We implore the Cities Association to find a way to continue as the fiscal agent for the Santa Clara/Santa Cruz Roundtable. Please understand that without the Santa Clara/Santa Cruz Roundtable residents in both counties will have no venue to ensure the Select Committee recommendations are implemented and no voice in any future changes which could cause aviation noise impacts. The residents in Santa Clara and Santa Cruz county have worked very hard over the past 6 years for this seat at the table with the FAA. Please do not undo the good work that has been done by our residents, local elected officials, Congressional Representatives, the FAA and the members of the Santa Clara/Santa Cruz Roundtable.

Yours truly,  
Cheryl Poland  
Lead, Quiet Skies NorCal