

January 19, 2023

Cities Association of Santa Clara County  
City Selection Committee  
P.O. Box 3144  
Los Altos, CA 94024

Dear Members of the City Selection Committee,

Please accept my letter of interest for appointment as the Cities Association's Primary Representative to Santa Clara Airport Land Use Commission (ALUC).

Larry Klein  
Mayor

Omar Din  
Vice Mayor

Russ Melton  
Councilmember

Alysa Cisneros  
Councilmember

Richard Mehlinger  
Councilmember

Murali Srinivasan  
Councilmember

Linda Sell  
Councilmember

It has been an honor to serve for the past five years as Alternate to the Cities Association's previous appointee, Glenn Hendricks. During this time, I have attended roughly half of ALUC's public hearings as a voting member.

Each county is required by State law to have an ALUC. The County of Santa Clara has five airports and the Santa Clara ALUC has adopted a Comprehensive Land Use Plan (CLUP) for each. CLUPs specify maximum building heights and densities within specified radiuses around each airport, with a primary goal of ensuring safety of people on the ground and that noise within the CLUP boundaries does not exceed certain thresholds. A city wishing to adopt or amend its land use plans or zoning codes within the boundary of a CLUP is required to apply to the ALUC for a so-called determination of consistency, which is the responsibility of the Commission<sup>1</sup>.

During the past five years, I have developed expertise on ALUC. I also have a deep appreciation for what it does not do. This allows me to help ALUC stay focused on its core function. For example, ALUC is not responsible for:

- Operations within an airport, which is the jurisdiction of each airport's governing agency
- Airplane flight patterns, air traffic control, and/or airplane noise, which are the jurisdiction of the FAA

---

<sup>1</sup> Notably, the City of San Jose has the ability to override, via a Council supermajority vote, a decision made by the ALUC

- Any air pollution arising from airport operations, which is the jurisdiction of BAAQMD

If appointed, my commitment to the Cities Association is that the ALUC will quickly and diligently handle applications for consistency determinations, and to always be mindful of the important safety goals that come with adherence to the CLUPs.

I will be happy to answer any questions regarding my application and I appreciate the consideration of the City Selection Committee of it.

Thank you,



Russ Melton

Councilmember, City of Sunnyvale