

**San Lorenzo Valley  
Unified School  
District**

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August 8, 2019

The Honorable Mary-Lynne Bernald, Chair  
Santa Clara/Santa Cruz Counties Airport/Community Roundtable  
c/o Cities Association of Santa Clara County  
P.O. Box 3144  
Los Altos, CA 94024

Dear Chair Bernald and Members of the Roundtable:

Thank you for the outstanding and difficult work your team continues to do in your efforts to reduce aircraft jet noise over all communities in the South Bay and Central Coast areas.

To assist you in your assessment of community concern regarding the suggested replacement of the current SERFR arrival with a new NextGen arrival over or near the BSR ground track, I have attached Board of Education Resolution #2019-20-02, of the San Lorenzo Valley Unified School District, which was passed and adopted at a regular board meeting on August 7, 2019. It is requested that this resolution be included as correspondence for review/discussion at the August 28<sup>th</sup> Roundtable meeting.

Again – Thank you for your commitment and service to our communities.

Sincerely,

George Wylie  
President, Board of Education  
San Lorenzo Valley Unified School District  
831-392-6539

cc: The Honorable Jimmy Panetta  
The Honorable Anna Eshoo  
The Honorable Jackie Speier  
FAA Western Regional Director Raquel Girvin  
Santa Cruz County Supervisor Bruce McPherson  
Santa Cruz County Supervisor Ryan Coonerty

Working Together To  
Ensure All Students Learn  
and are Fully Prepared for  
College and Career

On a Motion by Trustee: RICE  
Seconded by Trustee: BECKER  
Approved on: 8/7/2019

**RESOLUTION #2019-20-02**

**RESOLUTION OPPOSING THE FAA'S PROPOSED MOVEMENT OF THE CURRENT SERFR SFO ARRIVAL PROCEDURE TO A LOCATION APPROXIMATING THE BIG SUR GROUND TRACK**

**WHEREAS**, a legacy flight arrival procedure to the San Francisco International Airport (SFO) called BIG SUR (BSR) has for decades existed over or near the school sites within the San Lorenzo Valley School District, the jet noise from this arrival procedure has not negatively affected student instruction or the San Lorenzo Valley community because jets flying BSR are relatively few in number and remain at relatively high altitudes during their arrival descent to SFO, and

**WHEREAS**, the FAA is currently attempting nationwide improvements in flight efficiencies and safety through the implementation of Next Generation (NextGen) flight procedures, which are GPS based, which allow for more concentrated aircraft spacing and less dispersed aircraft flow, and which recognize that most modern aircraft are designed to fly a shallower optimum profile descent (OPD) and must therefore fly at lower altitudes during their descent to SFO, and

**WHEREAS**, in March of 2015, a new NextGen arrival to SFO called SERFR was activated, which flies over Capitola and Happy Valley, and which has resulted in hundreds of thousands of community jet-noise complaints since its activation, and

**WHEREAS**, in response to these (and other) complaints, the Select Committee on South Bay Arrivals was commissioned in 2016 by then Congressional Members Eshoo, Farr and Speier, for the purpose of exploring possible ways to reduce aircraft jet noise affecting communities in the South Bay and Central Coast, and with Congresswoman Eshoo's opening instructions to the Committee that "This (jet noise) is a regional problem that calls for a regional solution. Simply shifting noise from one community to another is not an option," and

**WHEREAS**, the Select Committee (composed of elected officials from twelve separate South Bay and Central Coast constituent communities) was designed with the overarching goal of achieving regional consensus among all its twelve members in all its decisions, the Committee allowed the exception that a vote of 8-4, while not indicating consensus, would suffice as a minimum for issue passage, and

**WHEREAS**, out of the 47 final recommendations put forth by the Select Committee, 46 achieved consensus, with the highly debated issue of whether to move the SERFR arrival to the BSR ground track barely achieving the minimal pass vote of 8-4, and with one member later stating in a letter to the FAA and appropriate Congressional members that his vote in favor of moving the track to BSR would have been a vote against the move (the issue would have failed) had he known that the FAA incorrectly affirmed that it was able to achieve several pre-conditional criteria, when in a later statement the FAA revealed that at least a third of those criteria are not (and were never) in fact, feasible, and



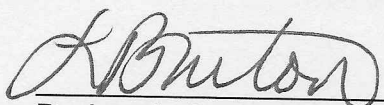
**WHEREAS**, several times during the Select Committee hearings the FAA stated that any new arrival procedure developed over the BSR track would comply with NextGen optimal profile descent requirements, and would thus fly at altitudes lower than the current BSR approach, would service a larger number and more concentrated flow of aircraft, would "look a lot like SERFR," and would thus effectively amount to simply moving the noise from one community under SERFR, to another community under BSR, and

**WHEREAS**, the Santa Cruz City Council and two City mayors, the Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors and two County Supervisors, and three mayors of the City of Los Altos Hills have voiced strong opposition to the movement of SERFR to the BSR track,

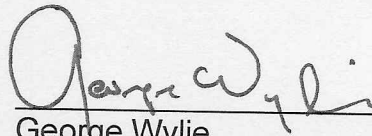
**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Trustees of the San Lorenzo Valley Unified School District strongly opposes any effort by the FAA, members of Congress or any other oversight body to relocate or replace the current SERFR arrival with a new NextGen arrival over the BSR track, as such action would result in simply transferring jet noise from one community to another, would result in community outcry at least as loud if not louder than what has occurred from communities under SERFR, would be in direct contravention to the FAA's requirement that communities be in agreement before such a flight path move is implemented, and will potentially result in profound adverse impacts being imposed on the students, staff, parents and community members residing within the San Lorenzo Valley School District.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** at a regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Trustees of the San Lorenzo Valley Unified School District, County of Santa Cruz, State of California, this 7th day of August, 2019.

AYES:	<u>4</u>	(WYLIE, RICE, BECKER, DOLSON)
NOES:	<u>0</u>	
ABSENT:	<u>0</u>	
ABSTAIN:	<u>1</u>	(LEVINE)



Dr. Laurie Bruton  
Superintendent and Secretary  
Board of Trustees



George Wylie  
President  
Board of Trustees