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*Long Beach Alliance*

## **Airport EIR Certification 6-20-06**

**Point #1:** If you build too large a terminal some believe it will be a threat to the ordinance. Others, including the legal experts retained by the City state there is no direct nexus.... The size of the terminal should be designed to serve the passengers permitted under the ordinance.

The fact remains that the permitted commuter flights will provide another 1 million passengers a year. We need to build reasonable facilities and together defend our ordinance.

**Point #2:** Certifying the EIR does not commit the City to a final design size for the terminal. The City retains its right to build any size at or below that permitted in the EIR. Or nothing at all...

**Point #3:** Doing nothing, staying with the current temporary facilities, does not mitigate any issue raised by the appellants.

In fact and simply put – it exacerbates the problems due to increased pollutants from delayed or backed up idling planes, ground congestion resulting from excessive vehicle trips and off site \ parking. So, do nothing? Not a good option for our community.

**Point #4:** What should we do then? A design of 102,000 sq ft, with 14 parking pads provides the most environmentally mitigated design. Any less than that decreases the environmental mitigation measures provided by the project. So doing nothing, adds to the air, noise and traffic concerns that people complain about.

**Point #5:** So what is the critical issue then? Public disagreement on the perceived threat to the noise ordinance.

All official and reliable legal opinions state that the size of the terminal is not a threat to our ordinance. Rather, threats could come to the ordinance in two ways: 1) a legal challenge to the ordinance itself, which anyone can do at any time with or without terminal improvements, or 2) a challenge to reasonable application of the ordinance as it stands now.

In other words, don't manage it well, and you open the door to challenges based on reasonable access.

Sum: This City has had over three years of public debate. The City has done its due diligence and this EIR is fully compliant with the law, In fact, the City has gone beyond what is required in a fully lawful EIR.

**You are the proponents of this project.**

If you certify the EIR tonight

- You can do nothing if you choose.
- You can select from 70-102K sq ft. and direct staff to come back with a design and financing plan.
- You can ask The City' legal team to look at all the legal issues associated with improvements to ensure that there is a firm legal foundation before moving ahead with any design .

**Bottom line, If you certify this project, it doesn't commit you to any design tonight**

**I live in LB too and I too have concerns about air, noise and traffic congestion – I've lived under the flight path and both my parents died from lung disease. It is your job as City leaders to help us resolve these problems. But it shouldn't be done on the ack of a fully lawful and compliant EIR for airport improvements.**