



CITY OF LONG BEACH

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

333 West Ocean Boulevard • Long Beach, CA 90802

R-33

December 20, 2005

HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
City of Long Beach
California

RECOMMENDATION:

Receive and file the attached monthly Airport activities reports. (District 5)

DISCUSSION

As requested, the following is a report on various activities at the Long Beach Airport.

Airport Passenger, General Aviation and Cargo Activity - The October 2005 Monthly Airport Activity Report (Attachment 1) provides monthly and year-to-date statistics for airline passengers (total and enplaned), aircraft operations by user category, and cargo carrier tonnage. The statistics in general show a 3.7% increase in year-to-date passenger activity (2,561,363 vs. 2,471,062). Total passenger counts for September were 239,334 compared to last year's 250,454, a decrease of -4.4%. Monthly general aviation operations compared to last year were up 14.6%, (26,757 operations vs. 23,345). Monthly cargo volumes were down 8.3% (4,541 tons vs. 4,951).

Noise Activity - The October 2005 Monthly Airport Noise Statistics Report (Attachment 2) includes four separate reports with current month and year-to-date totals. The four reports are as follows:

- Noise Complaints – Summarizes noise complaint information for commercial and non-commercial operations.
- Noise Complaint Plot Map – Identifies the origin of the complaint.
- Noise Violations – Summarizes violations for airline and non-commercial operations. Provides a complete listing of each violation, includes violator's name, date and time of violation, aircraft types, aircraft noise level, and the time specific allowable noise level.
- Commercial Late Night Activity – Summarizes activity between 10:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. and 11:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m. by airline.

The Airport's Noise Office receives and investigates noise calls and complaints from local residents and residents who live outside of Long Beach. In October, the Noise Office received 1,129 complaints from citizens compared to 831 complaints received in the

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previous month. It should be noted that 18 individuals, utilizing a common e-mail attachment, generated 882 of the 1,129 complaints. The 18 e-mail lists, which included complaints for the entire month of September, were received October 30 through November 7, 2005.

In an effort to ensure that complaint activity is processed accurately and in a timely fashion, Airport staff has encouraged complainants to submit complaints as the activity occurs, as opposed to batch processing of complaints. Additionally, complainants have been apprised that effective December 12, 2005 they are able to enter complaints directly into the Airport's database and receive an immediate acknowledgement of their complaint.

Further analysis of the noise complaints revealed the following:

- Total number of complainants: 106
- 78% (882 of 1,129) of the complaints were generated by 18 individuals;
- 89% (1,008 of 1,129) of the complaints were related to operations between 10:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m.;
- 0.7% (8 of 1,129) of the complainants reside in Seal Beach or Huntington Beach.

This above referenced information is displayed on the Airport's website (www.lgb.org).

Other Airport Activity

Terminal Area Improvements Project – Release of the Draft EIR

The Airport Terminal Area Improvements Project Draft EIR was released to the public the week of November 7. The Draft EIR is available for review on the City's website www.longbeach.gov, the Airport website www.lgb.org, at each of the City's libraries, and in the Environmental Planning office on the 5th floor of City Hall.

Concerned parties were provided several options for responding to the Draft EIR. The options included the submittal of verbal or written comments at one of the three community meetings held on November 29, December 3, and December 5. Written comments may also be submitted via mail to Angela Reynolds, Planning Officer, City of Long Beach, Planning and Building Department, 333 W. Ocean Blvd, 4th floor, Long Beach, CA 90802, or via email to Airpoteir@longbeach.gov. The Draft EIR is being circulated for review until January 30, 2006. All comments received by the end of the review period will be responded to as part of the Final EIR.

A joint meeting of the Planning Commission and Cultural Heritage Commission was held December 15, at 11:00 a.m., in the City Council chambers, to review the Draft EIR contents.

- **Automated Noise Complaint System** - Effective December 12, 2005, Internet users are able to enter complaints directly into the Airport's database. Access to the automated complaint system will be located on the main page of the Airport's website at www.lgb.org. Complainants will receive an immediate acknowledgement of their complaint.
- **Allocation of Commuter Slots** – It is forecasted that full utilization of all commuter flight slots will yield approximately 800,000 additional annual passengers. At this time, only one of those slots is being flown; America West/US Airways to Phoenix.

Three commuter flight slots have been allocated to and performance-bonded by Delta Airlines, to be flown for them by SkyWest Airlines, beginning in March, to Salt Lake City.

The remaining 21 commuter flight slots are currently available. Nineteen of those flight slots had been allocated as Conditional Slots (non-performance-bonded, good for a maximum of 90 days) in September to Smooth Flight Holdings. Those 19 slots were forfeited on November 30, 2005, when performance bonds were not provided to convert the Conditional Slots to Final Slots (which must be actually flown within 180 days). It is our understanding that there is continuing interest by Smooth Flight Holdings in the commuter slots, however, aircraft delivery schedules required a change in their business plan implementation schedule.

- **Public Affairs Activities**

Aviation Historical Updates - Throughout 2005, Airport staff worked with representatives of the Long Beach Historical Society, the Long Beach Library, California State University, Dominguez Hills Archival Department, and relatives of Long Beach's esteemed aviators to compile the "2006 Legends of Long Beach Aviation Calendar." The calendar recognizes the contributions of Long Beach's earliest and finest aviators, and documents significant Long Beach aviation milestones. A limited number of calendars are available at each of the Long Beach libraries. Requests for the calendar may also be submitted to the Airport's Public Affairs Office via email at lgbarpt@longbeach.gov.

Additionally, staff has completed the restoration of the Airport Terminal Historical photo exhibit located on the first and second floors of the Terminal building. Over the years the exhibit sustained considerable damage from prolonged exposure to the sun. Each of the photos were restored, digitally archived and re-hung under protective glass.

Final plans are underway to add a second exhibit to the existing 2nd floor exhibit. Michael Siembieda, resident of the 3rd District, has donated his private collection of over 200-model aircraft to the Airport. The aircraft in the exhibit include scale models of the Wright Flyer, a C-17, a DC-3, and the B-17 bomber. The addition of this exhibit will greatly enhance the Airport Tour experience for our preschoolers up to our seniors. The new exhibit is scheduled to open in early February.

Bixby Knolls Business Improvement Association held its 11th Annual "Snow in Bixby" event on Sunday, December 4. The Airport served as an event sponsor for the fifth consecutive year. Airport staff also distributed information on the recent upgrades to the noise monitoring system, the Internet flight tracking system WebTrak, the Draft EIR review process, and handed out copies of the "2006 Long Beach Aviation Legends Calendar."

4th District Annual Snow Day – The Airport has been invited to be an event sponsor for the 1st Annual 4th District Snow Day in Whaley Park, Saturday, January 21. Airport staff will distribute general Airport information, information on the Internet flight tracking system WebTrak, and updated EIR information.

Airport Community Information Center – Construction of the Airport Center and the relocation of the Airport's Public Affairs/Public Information Staff is expected to be completed by December 30, 2005.

Military Flight Activity – The Airport has been advised that two B-1B bombers will arrive and depart from Long Beach Airport during the week of January 2, 2006. The B-1B bombers will be participating in the annual Rose Bowl festivities. Each incident will exceed the allowable noise limits. However, per the City's Airport Noise Ordinance, military aircraft operations are exempt from violations.

- **Holiday Parking** – The Airport's customer parking demand forecast for the Christmas holiday indicates that there will not be adequate capacity to accommodate parking needs within the Airport's existing parking areas. On November 22, 2005, City Council approved a lease agreement with Long Beach City College to utilize a portion of their Veterans Stadium parking lot in order to accommodate the additional parking needs. Customers will be notified of this additional parking via electronic signage and distribution of flyers at the Airport, along with an update posted on the Airport's website. The Airport Bureau has also entered into a Purchase Order agreement with The Abbey Company to utilize approximately 200 spaces in their 4403 Donald Douglas Drive parking structure, which are temporarily available due to subtenant vacancies.

TIMING CONSIDERATIONS

City Council action is not time critical.

FISCAL IMPACT

None.

SUGGESTED ACTION:

Approve recommendation.

Respectfully submitted,



CHRISTINE F. ANDERSEN
DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS

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Attachments (2)

APPROVED:



GERALD R. MILLER
CITY MANAGER