



OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

CITY HALL

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CITY COUNCIL STAFF REPORT

Meeting: August 21, 2018

Subject

Formation of the Santa Clara/Santa Cruz Airport/Community Roundtable on aircraft noise in the South Bay

Recommended Action

- A. Adopt Resolution No. 18-_____ to join the Santa Clara/Santa Cruz Airport/Community Roundtable
- B. Authorize the City Manager to execute the Santa Clara/Santa Cruz Airport/Community Roundtable memorandum of understanding (MOU)
- C. Approve the Santa Clara/Santa Cruz Airport/Community Roundtable Bylaws

Background

In 2016, United States House of Representatives Eshoo, Speier, and former Congressman Farr formed the Select Committee on South Bay Arrivals (Select Committee) to develop regional consensus on recommendations to reduce aircraft noise. The Select Committee was intended to be temporary and included 12 local elected officials from the following agencies: Santa Clara County, Portola Valley, Saratoga, Los Altos Hills, Santa Cruz County, Santa Cruz, Capitola, San Mateo County, South San Francisco, Foster City, and East Palo Alto.

The Select Committee released a report in November 2016 summarizing their recommendations, which included the need to establish a permanent venue to address aircraft noise mitigation regionally. The FAA has expressed that they will not move forward with proposed recommendations until issues of congestion, noise shifting, and flying distance have been addressed with airline stakeholders and the affected communities, which include cities that were not part of the Select Committee such as Cupertino and Sunnyvale. The FAA would also prefer to work with a regional group, similar to the San Francisco International Airport (SFO) Airport/Community Roundtable, rather than individual jurisdictions.

In June 2017, Representatives Eshoo, Khanna, and Panetta requested that the Cities Association of Santa Clara County (Cities Association) assist with the establishment of a

long-term forum for aircraft noise concerns in the South Bay. The CASCC formed an Ad Hoc Committee to create the framework for establishing a South Bay aircraft noise roundtable in which Councilmember Savita Vaidhyanathan is the primary representative for Cupertino.

Discussion

In order to move forward with the Congressional request, the Cities Association has formally requested that the City of Cupertino join the effort to create the Santa Clara/Santa Cruz Airport/Community Roundtable (Roundtable) to serve as a venue that will facilitate regional collaboration regarding aircraft noise. The Roundtable, conceived to include the 21 local jurisdictions of Santa Clara and Santa Cruz Counties, will work together with SFO, Minéta San José Airport, and the FAA to address the growing concern of aircraft noise in the region.

The proposed Roundtable is subject to the Brown Act and is modeled after the SFO Roundtable. The Los Altos Hills City Council unanimously approved the resolution to join the Roundtable with the conditions that the majority of jurisdictions participate and that the cost not exceed \$10,000. The Santa Clara City Council also unanimously approved the resolution and an appropriation of funds in an amount up to \$62,000. Most other agencies have placed the resolution on upcoming agendas, however, Santa Clara County and the agencies from Santa Cruz County have yet to do so.

Joining the Roundtable would ensure that the Cupertino community is considered in any Roundtable recommendations to the FAA, SFO, or SJC regarding aircraft noise in the region. However, the success, impact, and cost-effectiveness of the Roundtable will be dependent on how many agencies participate. Based on the estimates from the Cities Association, the cost to the City would be \$11,000 if all agencies participate and \$30,000 if the agencies are charged strictly on a per capita basis. Funding will be used for staff support, technical consulting contracts, general office supplies, and communications-related expenses like mailing and photocopying. Staff recommends that Cupertino join the roundtable with the conditions that the majority of the agencies participate and that the cost to the City does not exceed \$30,000 annually.

Fiscal Impact

Using the SFO Roundtable as an example, the funding target for the Santa Clara/Santa Cruz Roundtable is \$250,000 annually (see Attachment H). With this target, Cupertino's contribution is estimated to be around \$11,000 if all agencies participate as shown in Attachment G. Since the final funding requirements will be dependent on how many agencies join the Roundtable, no allocation is required at this time. The allocation request will come before Council once the amounts are finalized.

Prepared by: Katy Nomura, Senior Management Analyst

Reviewed by: Jaqui Guzmán, Deputy City Manager

Approved for Submission by: Amy Chan, Interim City Manager

Attachments:

A – Draft Resolution

B – Roundtable MOU

C – Roundtable Bylaws

D – Cities Association of Santa Clara County Letter

E – Congressional Request

F – Roundtable FAQ

G – Funding Allocation Draft

H – SFO Roundtable Budget Sample