



OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK

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CITY COUNCIL STAFF REPORT

Meeting: March 31, 2020

Subject

Consider participation in and funding for the Santa Clara/Santa Cruz Counties Airport/Community Roundtable on Aircraft Noise in the South Bay.

Recommended Action

Provide direction to staff to:

1. Continue participation in the Santa Clara/Santa Cruz Counties Airport/Community Roundtable on aircraft noise in the South Bay; confirm or change existing Council representatives; or
2. Adopt Resolution No. 20-___ rescinding Resolution No. 18-083 and withdrawing from the Santa Clara/Santa Cruz Counties Airport/Community Roundtable.

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 Federal Aviation Authority (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 also preferred 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. As a result, the Cities Association proposed a Santa Clara/Santa Cruz County Community Roundtable (Roundtable) on aircraft noise requested participation from each of the 21 jurisdictions in Santa Clara and Santa Cruz Counties. On August 21, 2018, Council adopted Resolution No. 18-083 to join the Santa Clara/Santa Cruz Airport/Community Roundtable (Roundtable) to facilitate regional collaboration regarding aircraft noise (Attachment B). The final membership for the Roundtable includes the following 13 jurisdictions:

City of Capitola	City of Mountain View	City of Sunnyvale
City of Cupertino	City of Palo Alto	County of Santa Clara
City of Los Altos	City of Santa Clara	County of Santa Cruz
Town of Los Altos Hills	City of Santa Cruz	
City of Monte Sereno	City of Saratoga	

For more information see the previous staff reports on this topic in Attachments C and D.

Discussion

The Roundtable will consider their budget for approval at the April 2020 meeting (Attachment E), so a response from the City is desired as soon as possible.

Participation in the Roundtable ensures that the Cupertino community is considered in any Roundtable recommendations to the FAA regarding aircraft noise in the region. The success, impact, and cost-effectiveness of the Roundtable is dependent on how many agencies participate.

The Roundtable is funded from annual fees charged to cities. Ideally, the Norman Y. Minéta San José International (SJC) and San Francisco International (SFO) airports would participate and provide funding. However, SFO is the only airport to participate and does not provide funding.

Currently, the City of Cupertino is represented by Councilmember Liang Chao (primary representative) and Councilmember Willey (alternate). Meetings occur on the 2nd Wednesday of the month.

The annual cost to the City is \$17,926 (Attachment F). If Council chooses to continue to participate in the Roundtable, no additional action needs to be taken as the budget appropriation will be included in the regular budget process. If Council chooses to leave the Roundtable, the draft resolution rescinding Resolution No. 18-083 and withdrawing from the Roundtable would need to be adopted.

Sustainability Impact

None

Fiscal Impact

Leaving the Roundtable would result in a savings to the City of approximately \$18,000 annually. Continued participation in the Roundtable will result in an ongoing cost of approximately \$18,000.

Prepared by: Kirsten Squarcia, City Clerk

Reviewed by: Katy Nomura, Assistant to the City Manager

Approved for Submission by: Dianne Thompson, City Manager

Attachments:

A – Draft Resolution

B – Resolution No. 18-083

C – Staff Report August 2018

D – Staff Report January 2019

E – Roundtable Staff Report February 2020

F – Funding Allocation Draft