



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Aviation
Administration**

Western-Pacific Region
Office of the Regional Administrator

777 S. Aviation Blvd., Ste.150
El Segundo, CA 90245

October 24, 2022

The Honorable Brad Sherman
Member, United States House of Representatives
5000 Van Nuys Blvd., Suite 420
Sherman Oaks, CA 91403

Dear Congressman Sherman,

I'm writing to provide an update on the proposed amendments to the Hollywood Burbank Airport (BUR) southern departures and the associated ongoing Environmental Assessment (EA).

Under the proposed amendments, the initial path of the OROSZ and SLAPP departure procedures would be a satellite-based segment, which would create a more precise, predictable, and defined flight path. This could reduce today's dispersion and would create a tighter initial turn to the west.

However, the preliminary noise analysis the FAA conducted during the ongoing preparation of the draft EA indicated the proposal likely would result in significant noise impacts to communities under the proposed flight path. Preliminary analysis indicates that some of the significant noise impacts would be in environmental justice (EJ) communities south and east of where aircraft currently fly.

In early May 2022, in accordance with FAA air traffic airspace procedure design policy, we convened a Full Working group comprised of FAA, airline, and airport representatives to examine six recommendations from the Southern San Fernando Valley Airplane Noise Task Force related to the BUR departure procedures. The group reviewed whether the recommendations meet FAA safety and efficiency air traffic criteria. Following a thorough analysis and discussion, the group determined the recommendations did not meet FAA safety criteria and therefore were not feasible.

However, please know that the FAA will continue preparing the draft EA, including an opportunity for public comment. The FAA will make a final decision after it completes its review under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

While we recognize this is not welcome news to some communities around BUR, we remain committed to working with the airport and communities while we continually strive to improve the safety and efficiency of flight in this country.

If you have any questions or if we can be of further assistance, please contact my office at (424) 405-7000.

Sincerely,

Tamara A. Swann

Tamara A. Swann
Regional Administrator (A)