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ROBERT M. HERTZBERG
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REPRESENTING LOS ANGELES COUNTY



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ELECTIONS AND
CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS
ENERGY, UTILITIES
AND COMMUNICATIONS
GOVERNANCE AND FINANCE
JUDICIARY

November 16, 2018

VIA Electronic Submission and U.S. Mail

Federal Aviation Administration
Operations Support Group
C/o Burbank Public Comments
220 S. 216th Street
Des Moines, WA 98198

RE: KBUR Proposed SID Procedures OROSZ THREE and SLAPP THREE

Dear Federal Aviation Administration Operations Support Group:

I am writing to express my deep concern regarding recent proposed changes to flight paths at both the Hollywood Burbank Airport (KBUR) and the Van Nuys Airport (KVNY). These proposals include embedded waypoints with very low minimum altitudes over the communities of Studio City and Sherman Oaks, which will inevitably suffer the consequences of increased noise and air pollution most acutely.

My office has received numerous calls from constituents and community organizations, from Burbank to Studio City, Sherman Oaks and Van Nuys, stating their concerns regarding the increased air travel over their neighborhoods. They worry – and rightly so – that the resulting increase in pollution will have devastating effects in residential areas, community parks, wildlife corridors and commercial districts. Schools and homes along the proposed routes are simply not designed to be under a flight path, and are not equipped with adequate soundproofing or air filtration.

Additionally, Los Angeles County's tax revenues will suffer exponentially if property values decline in the Santa Monica Mountains - including the Mulholland Corridor - due to the area becoming a "jet superhighway." Television and film shoots in Studio City and Sherman Oaks - a critical part of our local economy, with CBS Television Studios constituting a huge share of jobs and local tax revenues - would be permanently disrupted, as crews are forced to "hold a shot" every 90 seconds when a flight passes. Many on-location shoots would simply move elsewhere due to the constant noise.

The proposed procedures include waypoints directly over schools - Carpenter Community Charter (at 1,622 feet AGL) and The Buckley School (at 3,000 feet AGL). Between these schools, in elevated terrain, are Harvard-Westlake School, Bridges Academy, Dixie Canyon Avenue Elementary and Sherman

Oaks Elementary Charter - meaning close to 6,000 children would be affected. Because the waypoints are *below* the so-called "mixing level" of 3,000 feet, the children at these schools (who are "sensitive receptors") will be in contact with cancer-causing benzene, while inhaling microscopic particulates that embed in their lungs. Moreover, many student athletes practice at 7:00am when flight traffic is at its heaviest, creating a greater danger to student health. Parents are desperately worried about the cumulative effects of air pollution on their children over the long-term, and I implore you to heed their concerns.

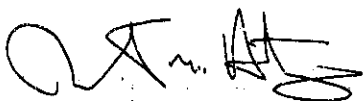
Critically, as we fight to contain increasingly frequent wildfires, the proposed procedures also adversely influence safety. Gaining altitude in ever-rising average temperatures while flying into a mountainside - with no ground access for emergency vehicles if there is an accident, and the potential for catastrophic urban wildfires - creates extreme danger.

For the forgoing reasons, I stand with Congressman Brad Sherman, Los Angeles City Attorney Michael N. Feuer, City Councilmember Paul Krekorian, City Councilmember David Ryu, Assemblyman Adrin Nazarian, Studio City Resident's Association, Mountains Recreation & Conservation Authority, and, the communities of Burbank, Sherman Oaks, Studio City, Toluca Lake, Van Nuys and Valley Viilage, in stating that we oppose the insertion of GPS waypoints with extremely low minimum altitudes in the heart of our communities.

The San Fernando Valley deserves –and demands – a comprehensive Environmental Impact Study before any new flight procedures are considered. I also urge you to provide additional time for adequate public review by extending the period for comment from the current 30 days ending November 18, 2018 to a full 90 days.

We look forward to your prompt response to our concerns and your anticipated future cooperation.

Sincerely,



ROBERT M. HERTZBERG
State Senator, Eighteenth District