

La Cienega Valley Association

Preserving Our Rural Way of Life

PO Box 31058

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lacienegavalley.com

August 30, 2024

James Harris, Airport Manager
Santa Fe Municipal Airport
City of Santa Fe
121 Aviation Drive
Santa Fe, NM 87507

RE: Comments on Proposed SAF Rules and Regulations 2024

Dear Mr. Harris,

The La Cienega Valley Association (LCVA) would like to express our gratitude for the opportunity to provide feedback on the proposed Santa Fe Municipal Airport (SAF) Rules and Regulations for 2024. Too often airport decisions impacting our community have been made with little or no community input. The LCVA, representing the communities of La Cienega and La Cieneguilla is committed to fostering a collaborative relationship with the Santa Fe Municipal Airport and value the efforts to engage with the community regarding the airport's operations.

After reviewing the draft document, we would like to raise several concerns and provide recommendations that we believe will benefit the surrounding communities and enhance the airport experience:

Noise Complaint Procedure: To ensure that community members can voice their concerns effectively and addressed adequately and appropriately, we recommend language stipulating a clear and comprehensive noise complaint procedure and process. The process should include a time line for complaint responses and what corrective actions that can be taken, The process should also include options for submitting complaints to include online, phone, mail and in person to ensure every member of our community has the opportunity to report issues easily.

Runway Operations: Generally airports rotate the default runway to distribute noise impacts more equitably over residential areas. That does not appear to be the case at the Santa Fe Airport where the same runway is consistently used as the default. We suggest implementing a rotation system for the default runway to mitigate the noise impact on any single area but more importantly we request that pilots be instructed to maintain their flight paths over the least inhabited areas to respect and minimize disruption to residents and local businesses.

Noise Mitigation and Environmental Impact of Vintage Jets: One of our primary concerns is the excessive noise and pollution created by the array of vintage jets utilized by the Jetwarbird Training Center. The LCVA strongly recommend the introduction of an ordinance to regulate and restrict the operation of vintage jets from SAF, given their significant noise pollution and

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environmental impact. In all honesty having a jet training center in a rural community simply doesn't make sense.

Does the City have information on the environmental impact of vintage jets as compared to modern jets? Is that a consideration? The noise from vintage jets is excessive, we request ordinance language that restricts hours of operation and directs where the jets can fly away from populated areas. The LCVA would support an ordinance prohibiting vintage jets from flying out of the Santa Fe Airport.

A related concern is ensuring there are adequate safety and security measures and trained staff in place for all air transportation needs and demands and emergency situations. We would like to see a system developed to alert local residents if an incident were to occur and the protocol to follow with any contingencies that may be required.

The LCVA is curious of the organization Fly Santa Fe and its relationship to airport management and operations. It has been difficult for us to determine the scope of the public-private relationship. Any clarity on that relationship is appreciated.

Thank you for your attention to these matters. The LCVA looks forward to a continuing dialogue with Santa Fe Airport for the benefit of our community, the airport and the traveling public.

Sincerely,



Andrea La Cruz-Crawford

LCVA President

On Behalf of the LCVA Board

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