

Public Comment Re Agenda Item No. 5 – October 12, 2023 CAA/OAA Meeting

My name is Pat OHara and I live in Oxnard Shores. I would like to address the issue of aircraft noise over our residential area. We in Oxnard Shores have been complaining about the noise for some time now. I personally have lived here for 7 years, and the noise issue has become increasingly worse over the past 2 years. I can see that the Department of Airports, through the activities of the Airport Authority, has taken some action to attempt to alleviate the issue. However, it is not enough, and has not been effective enough yet. I would like to address several aspects of this.

The Fly Friendly Program is a good start. However, not all flight schools are adhering to the suggested flight paths. Whether this is because they are experiencing some atmospheric or aircraft phenomena which prevent it, or whether they don't know about it or just don't care to comply, we on the ground will never know. However, the number of aircraft in the air at the same time performing touch and go's, where some are adhering to the patterns and others are not, suggests to me that it's not an atmospheric phenomena keeping them from flying friendly. Is the Airport Authority still having discussions with the flight schools to determine what is preventing them from flying over undeveloped land vs over our neighborhoods? Please address this. And once again, I will point out that the Fly Friendly suggested flight patterns are not friendly to those living in Oxnard Shores Mobile Home Park. (Some of the patterns flown by Ms. Filkins and presented at the September Airport Authority meeting are. Specifically, the right turn pattern, where the turn is well, and I mean WELL before the Edison Canal.)

Currently, work has begun to grade the North Shore development in preparation for housing construction. Can you address why this project was allowed to proceed given the number of aircraft overflights that have multiplied over the past years, given the admonition in the 1998 Part 150 Noise Study that land use in this area remain undeveloped? Did the Department of Airports share this information with the developers of this land? With the City of Oxnard (Lead Agency) when CEQA documentation was being prepared for this project?

At the September 2023 meeting of the Airport Authority, one of the Authority members said something about the people who complained about the noise. Due to the poor quality of sound during the meeting for people listening via Zoom or YouTube, it was difficult to impossible to determine all that was said. However, enough was audible to get the gist of the statement. Please correct me if I'm wrong, but I believe the statement was something along the lines that the Authority member hoped that we complainers would never have an emergency that would necessitate us or a loved one be transported to a hospital by plane or helicopter. I'm sure we all wish for that. However, we complainers are simply saying that we should not have to endure the excessive noise of these very noisy aircraft overhead, at times flying once a minute for hours on end, for days on end, in the event that we need emergency assistance. Aircraft from all over southern California are flying over our neighborhoods. There are undeveloped areas where they could train. Why us, why our neighborhood so much of the time?