



May 25, 2021

**Via Electronic Mail Only**

Ms. Joan Zatopek  
Aviation Planning and Development  
Manager  
Port of Oakland  
530 Water Street  
Oakland, CA 94607  
[jzatopek@portoakland.com](mailto:jzatopek@portoakland.com)

Re: Aviation Stakeholder Advisory Committee Participation in Planning Process for Oakland International Airport Terminal Development Project.

Dear Joan:

On behalf of the Citizens League for Airport Safety and Serenity (“CLASS”), I am writing to express our concern about Port staff’s decision to limit the Aviation Stakeholder Advisory Committee’s (“Advisory Committee”) participation in the Oakland International Airport Terminal Development Project (“Project”). Specifically, CLASS is concerned that the Port has gone back on its word regarding the Advisory Committee having an advisory role through the planning process for the Project.

For several years, Port staff has reported to the Advisory Committee regarding the pre-planning process for the Project and pledged to share information with the group as it became available. Port staff assured the Advisory Committee that the group would play an advisory role and indicated that the Advisory Committee’s input was welcomed and valued. Now, after only one recent meeting where we discussed operation projections, staff indicates that the group will be limited to commenting on the Project through the California Environmental Quality Act public review process. Under the Settlement Agreement, and consistent with past practice, the Advisory Committee has provided feedback about airport plans and projects and played an advisory role, as the name of the group indicates. The Port’s reversal of the assurances made to the Advisory Committee violates the spirit of the Settlement Agreement and erodes the trust that has been built with the community since the Advisory Committee was formed in 2006.



Additional meetings about the Port's plans related to the Project are important to help the Advisory Committee understand the project details and provide feedback to the Port early in the process. For example, it would be helpful for the group to have: revised aviation forecasts that are being used to prepare the EIR, drawings depicting specific elements of the Project, information and plans for the proposed Cargo and Support Facilities and the expansion and upgrade of the fuel system and fuel farm, and an understanding of why the airport decided to proceed with the Project without undertaking a Master Plan update.

CLASS appreciates the established working relationship with the Port. That relationship is built on mutual respect and trust that community representatives will have opportunities to learn about projects ahead of time and to provide meaningful feedback to the Port. We would like to continue to have a professional, friendly, and productive working relationship through this process and into the future. In this way, we are hopeful that the Port will hear the community's concerns early in the planning process and design the Project in such a way that the community can be supportive of the plans. To that end, we request that Port staff reconsider your position and continue to engage with the Aviation Stakeholder Advisory Committee in a meaningful way and does not relegate participation to formal comments submitted through the CEQA process.

Very truly yours,

Matt Pourfarzaneh, President  
CLASS

cc: Bryant Francis, Director of Aviation (bfrancis@portoakland.com)  
Kristi McKenney, Chief Operating Officer  
Matt Davis, Airside Operations Manager  
Colleen Liang, Environmental Planner  
Matt Pourfarzaneh, C.L.A.S.S. President  
Osa Wolff, C.L.A.S.S. attorney



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**Citizens' League for Airport Safety and Serenity**

A corporation of homeowner associations formed to protect safety, health & welfare  
of people living in communities near Oakland airport.

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