



Scenic Pacifica
Incorporated Nov. 22, 1957

CITY OF PACIFICA

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September 5, 2019

Docket Operations, M-30
U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT)
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Room W12-140, West Building Ground Floor
Washington, DC 20590-0001

Subject: CIVIL SUPERSONIC AIRCRAFT NOISE

To Whom It May Concern:

In response to steps the U.S. Department of Transportation and the Federal Aviation Administration are taking to advance the development of civil supersonic transport (SST) aircraft, the City of Pacifica, a California coastal community near San Francisco International Airport, would like to provide the following comments:

- The City of Pacifica opposes any rulemakings regarding supersonic aircraft that could lead to an increase in noise impacts, and related health effects, from aircraft flying over or in proximity to Pacifica, including sonic boom impacts intended to occur over the ocean but that may be heard in Pacifica;
- The previous generation of SSTs were relatively small planes that caused as much noise as larger planes. The City of Pacifica opposes DOT and FAA regulations that could create incentives for an increase in the number of small noisy planes, rather than fewer planes carrying a greater number of passengers;
- Any new SST aircraft to be built should meet or exceed the current Stage 5 noise requirements required of any new conventional aircraft model being certificated (or whatever the highest noise requirements are at the time of design);
- In addition to noise and health impact concerns, other potential environmental impacts, such as those from flying at much higher altitudes compared to conventional aircraft, should be thoroughly evaluated and transparently communicated to the public, and appropriately mitigated;

The City of Pacifica supports innovation in aircraft. However, as a quiet community of nearly 40,000 residents that have been extremely negatively impacted by the recent FAA NextGen program changes, aircraft innovation, and changes to regulations that drive innovation, should be focused on reducing noise and health impacts to communities rather than technologies that might increase aircraft noise.

Sincerely,



KEVIN WOODHOUSE
City Manager

cc: Mehmet Marsan, FAA Office of Environment and Energy (via e-mail)
Congresswoman Speier
Elizabeth Lewis, Chairperson, SFO Roundtable
Pacifica City Council