WHY IS THE FAA DRAGGING ITS FEET WHEN OUR SECURITY, HEALTH, AND SAFETY ARE AT STAKE?

A day late and with no explanation, last Friday the Federal Aviation Agency postponed a decision on the future of the Santa Monica Airport for the THIRD time. The legal issue is simple — so it’s now clear the FAA is deliberately stalling to block the City of Santa Monica from protecting the security, health, and safety of thousands of residents in Santa Monica and Los Angeles who are endangered every day by current airport operations.

Santa Monica Airport was built as a landing strip on City parkland in 1919. Today, though the rooftops of family homes are just 300 feet from the end of the runway, it’s used by multi-million dollar corporate and personal jets. Yet even though the City of Santa Monica owns the airport, the FAA has repeatedly blocked the City from imposing even the simplest and most sensible restrictions on aircraft operations to protect the security, health, and safety of thousands of nearby residents in Santa Monica and Los Angeles.

There’s no excuse for the FAA’s continued stalling. We don’t expect them to play fair. We fully expect to have to appeal their decision in court. But they are required by law to issue a ruling. Their continued failure to do so prevents the City from protecting the security, health, and safety of thousands in the flight path of corporate and personal jets taking off immediately over the rooftops of residential neighborhoods.

Our message to the FAA is simple: #FAADoYourJob. If you support the efforts of the City and Representatives Ted Lieu and Karen Bass to get a decision, go to www.FAADoYourJob.org and take action. Post on Facebook and Twitter. Join our email campaign!

We all have jobs to do. It’s about time the FAA does theirs.

Mayor Kevin McKeown
Mayor Pro Tempore Tony Vazquez
Gleam A. Davis
Councilmember Sue Himmelrich
Terry O’Day
Councilmember Pam O’Connor
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