



County of San Diego

PALOMAR AIRPORT ADVISORY COMMITTEE McClellan-Palomar Airport

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TO: Palomar Airport Area Residents

FROM: Ramona Finnila, Chairperson
Palomar Airport Advisory Committee

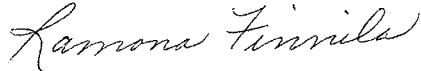
AIRPORT NOISE PROGRAM FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

The field of aviation is managed by a number of Federal, State and local agencies, each having responsibility for specific aspects of aircraft operations. Palomar Airport gathers aviation noise complaint data and considers aviation noise as an emphasis issue. Improved communication between the residential community and pilots is a primary goal of the airport. Community noise complaints inform, but do not establish noise abatement policy. Noise complaints do not result in "violations" or "fines" to pilots or aircraft operators at non-noise impacted airports such as Palomar Airport. By using reliable data as a metric, the airport staff can: identify emerging local trends in noise; predict and quantify impacts; track the effectiveness of mitigation programs; and reduce existing and future non-compatible land uses around the airport. Weather, major public events, tourism, pilot area knowledge, air traffic volume, public awareness, and community attitude also factor into a creditable noise abatement program. As one of sixteen civilian and military airports in San Diego County, a seldom considered impact to coastal and inland communities surrounding Palomar Airport is the effect of transitional aircraft overflight. Aircraft flying through the area sometimes determine the altitude or the course that air traffic controllers assign or approve and that Palomar Airport aircraft fly. Palomar Airport exercises no legal authority over airborne aircraft and complaints reporting unsafe or low flying aircraft should be directed to the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA).

Palomar Airport staff continuously review noise abatement procedures and community outreach programs for enhancement. The FAA reviews all airport noise abatement recommendations for compliance with federal regulations. In 2005, the Palomar Airport Advisory Committee (PAAC) formed an ad hoc committee with community participation

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to establish a "Fly Friendly" program, which included a presentation that PAAC members could deliver to interested community organizations. As an outgrowth of the presentation, the County Airports staff designed an Airports 101 seminar that provided the community a basic understanding of airports and how they function. The County Airports staff answers the frequently asked questions about noise abatement topics. To effectively reach the widest audience, the staff has reviewed the answers to the most commonly asked questions and has provided references for community members that wish to know more about the topic of aviation noise.



RAMONA FINNILA

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Attachment