

Martin Rubin, Director of Concerned Residents Against Airport Pollution
October 25, 2015

Comment regarding item 8-D, for October 27, 2015 Santa Monica city Council meeting.

Dear Santa Monica Mayor, City Council, City Manager, and City Attorney

The comments (reattached separately) that I emailed to you regarding the staff report on this item 8-D express my continued disappointment with the failure of the City of Santa Monica to effectively address the critical community public health concerns due to the aircraft emissions from Santa Monica Airport.

Since the late 1990s, I have been involved trying to draw attention to, and help correct, the extreme air pollution impacts emanating from Santa Monica Airport and impacting residential communities that border the airport.

For more than two decades, the City of Santa Monica has done relatively little, proactively, to address these critical community public health concerns, and in fact, I believe that the City has worked harder to keep the spotlight off of the City regarding toxic emissions that affect mostly Los Angeles residents.

This October 27, 2015 agenda item 8-D is the first agenda item on any SM City Council agenda that focuses solely on the issue of SMO emissions. Unfortunately, the item comes up very late on the agenda making attending the meeting very difficult for those wishing to speak and be heard publically. If you want to understand the depth of the impacts, you must listen to those who are impacted.

Continuing to allow the kind of operations at SMO that affect the health of mostly Los Angeles residents is unacceptable. The City of Santa Monica, owner and operator of SMO, has failed to even attempt arguing this issue with the FAA outside or inside of court. How many deaths have resulted from these toxic emissions? Has the City of Santa Monica investigated? The City thoroughly investigated the economic aspects regarding SMO; why not the negative health aspects?

The City has made it crystal clear to me that it is far more concerned about the liabilities that could arise from this issue than it is about protecting the multitudes whose public health continues to be compromised.

It would not be difficult for the City of Santa Monica decision-makers to get a clear understanding as to the extent of the air pollution impacts from SMO. You need only spend a few hours on any Sunday afternoon having a cup of tea at a home just a few hundred feet downwind from jet blast. If you are unwilling to be subjected to the poisoned air, you might reread a few of the numerous studies that have been made available over the past 15 years.

The City has the opportunity and the responsibility to make changes that will result in correcting this critical issue now and not in the year 2023. Time is of the essence!.

Thank you,
Martin Rubin,
Director of Concerned Residents Against Airport Pollution - Founded in 2002.