

# Stakeholder Connection



**Cindy Miscikowski**

## **A debt of gratitude to the creator of the LAX MP Stakeholder Liaison Office**

**CINDY MISCIKOWSKI** was elected to the Los Angeles City Council on June 3, 1997, and was re-elected in April 2001. For many years prior to that, she

worked as a deputy for then Councilmember Marvin Braude.

In an addition to her many outstanding achievements as a councilmember, in 2004 she developed a Consensus Plan that helped bring the master planning efforts for LAX to fruition. Through this Consensus Plan for LAX modernization, she ended decades of indecision over the future of LAX and set the groundwork for a safe and secure 21st century airport.

Because of her genuine concern that the public be provided adequate opportunities to be involved in both the planning and implementation process for the LAX Master Plan, she initiated, then orchestrated the development of the LAX Specific Plan. This document, among other things, mandated the creation of the LAX Master Plan Stakeholder Liaison Office, an essential element to the LAX Plan Compliance Process.

The Stakeholder Liaison Office provides for unprecedented stakeholder involvement in a major infrastructure project within the City of Los Angeles. Her foresight and

sensitivity to the need for public involvement in this process is a tribute to her as a political leader in Los Angeles.

When one adds her consensus building for the LAX Master Plan to her many other significant accomplishments as a councilmember (see below), it is clear that Cindy Miscikowski leaves a legacy of public service that few politicians can match and for which the City of Los Angeles will be forever grateful.

### ***Other Accomplishments.***

The Councilmember:

- Moved to streamline the recruitment and hiring of police and paramedic resources at all of our fire stations;
- Led efforts against secession and to improve services to all our residents;
- Instrumental in bringing the Braude Constituent Service Center to the San Fernando Valley;
- Authored Propositions U and O, important initiatives that were adopted by Los Angeles voters; and
- Led efforts to encourage balanced development that brought to the district the production of new housing units.

## **FAR Part 161 Study Is Underway**

On June 8, 2005 Los Angeles World Airports (LAWA) officially kicked off the 36 month LAX Part 161 Study (Study). The objective of the Study is to seek the FAA's authorization for a prohibition on the easterly departure of all aircraft from LAX during the hours of Midnight to 6:30 a.m. when the airport is operating in Over-Ocean Operations, or when it remains in Westerly Operations during these hours. This Proposed Restriction would not be in effect when LAX is operating in Easterly Operations during the hours of the Proposed Restriction. In addition, medical/mercy flights, military aircraft, and other government owned or operated aircraft involved in law enforcement or emergencies such as, fire/rescue operations will be exempt from the Proposed Restriction.

LAWA agreed to conduct the Study as part of the LAX Master Plan Environmental Impact Report (EIR) in the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Plan, and also made that promise in Section III.G of the Community Benefits Agreement negotiated with the LAX Coalition for Economic, Environmental, and Educational Justice in support of the LAX Master Plan. In addition, the LAX/Community Noise Roundtable (Roundtable) adopted this issue in its work program as a noise problem that needs to be mitigated. Though there are no guarantees that the FAA will adopt the recommendations from this study, this is the first and most important step in a complicated, but necessary process.

## THE LAX COALITION AND THE CBA

The LAX Coalition for Economic, Environmental and Educational Justice (LAX Coalition) is composed of community groups, labor unions, school districts, and environmental groups from the communities of South Los Angeles, Lennox and Inglewood. With the goal of negotiating rather than litigating, the Coalition recently negotiated a community benefits agreement (CBA), to offset negative community impacts from the proposed modernization plan of Los Angeles International Airport (LAX), and ensure that local residents reap benefits from the modernization plan.

Many groups and organizations were given opportunities to become part of the CBA negotiations during the organizing of the Coalition in 2003 and 2004, but for a variety of reasons many chose not to participate. Most of the items that the Coalition negotiated affect all of the communities surrounding the airport, so even though they were not at the table, those communities will reap the benefits of the CBA. The Coalition negotiated over a ten-month period on what turned out to be one of the largest such agreements in the country. The CBA addresses five distinct areas: 1) environmental mitigation; 2) educational enhancements; 3) business development opportunities; 4) job training; and 5) a first source hiring program. Now that the FAA has issued its Record of Decision, the Coalition and the LAWA staff are moving toward the implementation phase of the CBA. This will be a very arduous task, but with hard work and a spirit of cooperation it will get done.

For an agreement of this magnitude to be reached, there had to be cooperation between the City of Los Angeles, Los Angeles World Airports and its staff, and the Coalition. Special recognition goes to Mayor James Hahn and Councilwoman Cindy Miscikowski whose involvement and support were essential to the completion of the agreement.

### Signatories to the CBA:

#### School Districts

Inglewood Unified School District  
Lennox School District

#### Community Organizations

##### AGENDA

Clergy and Laity United for Economic Justice  
Community Coalition  
Inglewood Coalition for Drug and Violence Prevention  
Inglewood Democratic Club  
Lennox Coordinating Council  
Los Angeles Alliance for a New Economy  
Los Angeles Council of Churches  
Nation of Islam  
AME Minister's Alliance

#### Environmental Organizations

Coalition for Clean Air  
Communities for a Better Environment  
Community Coalition for Change  
Environmental Defense - Environmental Justice Project  
Natural Resources Defense Council  
Physicians for Social Responsibility Los Angeles

#### Labor Unions

Service Employees International Union Local 347  
Teamsters Local 911

## Opportunities for Impacted Residents

Los Angeles City Council approved the Community Benefits Agreement (CBA) on December 14, 2004, and in February 2005, Los Angeles World Airports (LAWA) and the LAX Coalition for Economic, Environmental, and Educational Justice (LAX Coalition) signed a CBA. This agreement addresses environmental, educational and economic concerns within the Inglewood, Lennox and South LA communities that are the result of the LAX Master Plan (MP). Two key elements of this agreement are employment and training opportunities during and after the implementation of the MP. Once

authorized by the Federal Aviation Administration, LAWA has agreed to fund a 15 million dollar job training program and provide additional funding for the First Source Hiring program over the next five years.

LAWA anticipates that the MP Jobs Training Program and First Source Hiring Program will be administered by the City of Los Angeles, Community Development Department (CDD). CDD may also engage the South Bay Workforce Investment Board to serve non-Los Angeles City residents.

CDD will establish the First Source Hiring component of the program with first priority given to

participants residing in the project impact area. The jobs referred in this program will be those available with airport employers.

This Program will serve as a model for other communities who seek to benefit from developments in their neighborhoods.

Questions regarding this initiative can be directed to Joe Rouzan, III, Project Coordinator, at [rouzan@cdd.lacity.org](mailto:rouzan@cdd.lacity.org).

