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April 24, 2015

Ms. Marina Landis
Environmental Specialist
Western Service Area – Operations Support Group,
AJV-W22 Federal Aviation Administration
1601 Lind Avenue, SW
Renton, WA 98057

Re: Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Assessment for the Phoenix Metroplex Project

Dear Ms. Landis:

The City of Scottsdale has reviewed the Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA) Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Assessment for the Phoenix Metroplex Project. We appreciate the opportunity to provide comments.

As a significant stakeholder in this project, The City of Scottsdale formally asks for a "seat at the table" to actively participate in the design process and to represent the needs of our residents and airport. The city also asks the FAA to conduct significant community outreach to educate Scottsdale residents.

FAA Order 1050.1E, Change 1, Environmental Impacts: Policies and Procedures, states in Section 208c:

"208c. Public input is important in defining the scope of FAA NEPA documents. Public involvement is required when the FAA prepares an EIS (40 CFR 1501.4(d)). Public involvement must be provided for, to the extent practicable, while an EA is being drafted (40 CFR 1501.4(b)). Although there is no standard approach to public scoping, it is important that FAA facilitate public participation in that process as well. Therefore, the FAA should tailor public scoping processes to match the complexity of the proposal."

FAA Order 1050.1E states that if the FAA decides to conduct scoping, it should be done in a way to obtain meaningful input and should be tailored to the complexity of the situation. Heightened sensitivity to air traffic changes in the Phoenix area since September 2014 has increased residents' desire to engage in the process that will determine the future flight path locations in their community.

Based on the demonstrated complexity and the controversy associated with air traffic changes, I request:

- The FAA provides a 45-day extension of the scoping comment deadline to afford stakeholders and the residents of Scottsdale, the opportunity to meaningfully participate in the NEPA scoping process.
 - During this initial scoping period, the city asks for a presentation to be made to educate residents on the Metroplex initiative and process.
 - The city requests scheduling meetings that are convenient for Scottsdale resident participation. The city can provide meeting space and help coordinate scheduling of these meetings.
- The FAA permit airports identified in its March 27 notice to participate in all route and procedure design meetings relevant to that airport as representatives of the communities they serve. This is consistent with the provisions of FAA Order 7100.41, which calls for inclusion of the airport operators in the working group process to provide "input on procedure and route design, including any potential operational or environmental impacts to the airport and surrounding communities." FAA Order 7100.41at A-5.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments. If you have any additional questions, please contact me at 480-312-7735.

Respectfully,



Gary P. Mascaro C.M., C.A.E.
Aviation Director
Scottsdale Airport

cc. Scottsdale Mayor and City Council
Scottsdale City Manager
Scottsdale Airport Advisory Commission
Arizona Business Aviation Association