

The Airport Land Use Commission (ALUC) for Lake County, has adopted an airport land use compatibility plan (ALUCP) for Lampson Field, which is the sole public use general aviation airport within the Lake County region. The Lake County Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan (2007) was adopted by the ALUC pursuant to the PUC, Section 21674.

General Plans

Per the California Public Utilities Code Section 21001 et seq. relating to the State Aeronautics Act, Section 21676(b) prior to the amendment of a general plan...within the planning boundary established by the airport land use commission pursuant to Section 21675, the local agency shall first refer the proposed action to the commission. If the commission determines that the proposed action is inconsistent with the commission's plan, the referring agency shall be notified. Any proposed development in the defined safety zones or airport influence area, therefore, must adhere to the safety criteria and restrictions defined in the Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan(s) formed by the ALUC pursuant to the PUC, Section 21674.

The Lake County General Plan and Local Area Plans should aim to meet the compatibility standards set forth in the ALUCP. This is in respect to safety, noise, overflight, and obstruction standards. Future projects that come forward from the plans and are within an airport land use plan are subject to a consistency review by the ALUC.

An ALUCP is crucial in minimizing noise nuisance and safety hazards around airports while promoting the orderly development in the vicinity of airports, as declared by the California Legislature. A responsibility of the ALUC is to assess potential risk to aircraft and persons in airspace and people occupying areas within the vicinity of the airport.

Housing

Caltrans Aeronautics stresses the importance of considering the compatibility policies in the ALUCP, with references in the Caltrans Aeronautics Handbook for supplemental guidance. Additionally, as an unfortunate commonality in California, Caltrans Aeronautics understands that cities and counties are facing affordable housing supply shortages and are looking for new areas to accommodate residential developments. Environmental justice and equity concerns should also be reviewed for consistency with goals identified in the California Transportation Plan 2050 (CTP 2050) and the California Aviation System Plan 2020 (CASP 2020). Caltrans Aeronautics notes that new laws regarding the provision of housing do not supersede existing laws, including Section 21670 of the California Public Utilities Code, which require counties to establish ALUCs and compatibility plans to protect public health, safety, and welfare.

Ms. Mireya Turner, Director, Community Development Department

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The protection of airports from incompatible land use encroachment is vital to California's economic future. Airports are an economic asset that should be protected through effective airport land use compatibility planning and engagement with stakeholders and the community. Although the need for compatible and safe land uses near airports is both a local and State issue, it is crucial to adhere to the requirement that airport staff, airport land use commissions and airport land use compatibility plans are vital to protecting an airport and the people residing and working in the vicinity of an airport. Consideration given to the issue of compatible land uses in the vicinity of an airport aims to relieve future conflicts between airports and their neighbors.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me at my email address: tiffany.martinez@dot.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tiffany Martinez". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Tiffany Martinez
Transportation Planner

c: State Clearinghouse <state.clearinghouse@opr.ca.gov>