

## California Department of Transportation

AERONAUTICS PROGRAM  
DIVISION OF TRANSPORTATION PLANNING  
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Governor's Office of Planning & Research

March 07 2024

March 7, 2024

### STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

Carl Hilbrants  
Senior Planner  
County of Santa Clara  
70 West Hedding Street  
San Jose, CA 95110

Electronically Sent <[carl.hilbrants@pln.sccgov.org](mailto:carl.hilbrants@pln.sccgov.org)>

#### Re: SCH #2024020273 - SJC ALUCP and AIA Amendment

Dear Mr. Hilbrants:

The California Department of Transportation, Caltrans Aeronautics, has reviewed the Negative Declaration Initial Study of the SJC ALUCP and AIA Amendment Project. One of the goals of the California Department of Transportation Aeronautics Program is to assist cities, counties, and Airport Land Use Commissions (ALUC) or their equivalent in understanding and complying with the State Aeronautics Act pursuant to the California Public Utilities Code (PUC), Section 21001 et seq. Caltrans encourages collaboration with our partners in the planning process and thanks you for including Caltrans Aeronautics in the review of the Negative Declaration Initial Study.

The State Aeronautics Act stipulates in PUC Section 21675(a), "The commission's airport land use compatibility plan shall include and shall be based on a long-range master plan or an airport layout plan, as determined by the Division of Aeronautics of the Department of Transportation, that reflects the anticipated growth of the airport during at least the next 20 years."

**Caltrans Aeronautics strongly encourages the ALUC to utilize the forecasting provided in the Norman Y. Mineta San Jose International Airport (SJC) Master Plan of June 2020 to ensure the compatibility planning objectives set forth in the State Aeronautics Act and the California Airport Land Use Handbook (Handbook).**

Section 2.2.6 Airport Master Plans and Airport Layout Plans of the Handbook defines as Airport Master Plan (AMP) as follows:

An AMP is an airport-sponsored, comprehensive planning study that usually describes existing conditions as well as interim and long-term development plans for the airport that will enable it to meet future

aviation demand. An AMP contains an FAA-approved activity forecast and an airport layout plan (ALP).

"An airport master plan is a comprehensive study of an airport and usually describes the short-, medium-, and long-term development plans to meet future aviation demand . . . The elements of a master planning process will vary in complexity and level of detail, depending on the size, function, issues, and problems of the individual airport (FAA 2007, p. 1)." The FAA reviews all elements of the AMP to ensure that sound planning techniques have been applied. However, the FAA only approves the following two elements of the AMP: 1) the 20-year forecast of demand and 2) the ALP (PG 2-5).

The Airport Master Plan forecasts SJC operation levels and noise contours through 2037, providing sufficient information to guide the intended role and future physical characteristics of the airport needed for compatibility planning, despite not extending at least 20 years into the future per the Handbook (PG 3-7). The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) approved 20-year forecast and the ALP ensure that sound planning techniques have been applied in the AMP for the airport.

Additionally, the ALUC shall submit to Caltrans Aeronautics one copy of the airport land use compatibility plan and each amendment to the plan per PUC 21675(d).

These comments reflect the areas of review by Caltrans Aeronautics regarding airport-related noise, safety, and land use planning issues. Thank you for the opportunity to review and comment on this proposal. If you have any questions, please contact me by email at [tiffany.martinez@dot.ca.gov](mailto:tiffany.martinez@dot.ca.gov).

Sincerely,



Tiffany Martinez  
Aviation Planner  
Caltrans Aeronautics

c: State Clearing House <[state.clearinghouse@opr.ca.gov](mailto:state.clearinghouse@opr.ca.gov)>