

Communication from Public

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Comments for Public Posting: Comment Attached.

Dear City Council,

Motion 22-1489 is vitally important **and more** is needed. I wish you to contemplate and answer the following questions I recently submitted to my family's council member, Bob Blumenfield:

1. I was told that all contracts and including expansion developments, or as they are sometimes misrepresented as "improvements", that exceed 5 years must receive City Council approval so if that is correct, why did city council permit Van Nuys airport to expand to the extent it has when the Valley communities pre-dated these expansions? City Council is obligated to protect the rights and well-being of their constituents, why was that not done?
2. Why weren't restrictions put on the development projects at the airport? This is something that is certainly within the city's discretion and the community group says that such restrictions or size limitation on development such as hangars or ramps could have effectively worked to control volume at the airport.
3. If the Board of Airport Commissioners are not paid, and have full time jobs outside of the commission, how can they possibly know, read or understand all these contracts being presented to them and if they are not reading them, why isn't City Council exercising due diligence so that someone is "watching the store" and knows what it is happening? Have you read all the contracts during your tenure?
4. At the end of the day, these failures fall upon City council because if you approved every single one of these leases without comprehending how the airport was developing, then you are culpable. If I learn how to navigate the city website, am I going to find that you voted "yes" to all these expansion contracts during your tenure as our council member?
5. The community group says that you should be submitting a motion that calls for the cease of all construction at Van Nuys airport until a new master plan has been updated with the participation of a city council mandated oversight committee that includes knowledgeable residents from each council district. I understand that this action was responsibly taken back in the early 1990s so there is precedent and justification for such an action to take place again considering the widespread devastation to our Valley environments. Will you write and push such a motion this month? Remember, LAWA has stated the airport is self sufficient and operating in excess so more development is NOT necessary which means, a moratorium will have no consequence but all benefit to the City and its citizens.
6. It is my understanding that another lease that includes a jet expansion that will introduce aircraft not currently being accommodated on the property has been approved by the airport board, which I'm told is tainted by evidence of impropriety during some bidding process. Do you intend to investigate the impropriety claims? Do you intend to vote no and push for City Council to responsibly reject this new lease? Can we count on you to finally take a stand and stop this action?

At this point, I think it is pretty clear that the management of Van Nuys airport has failed miserably and have not been forthcoming or truthful along the way. **This motion calls for report back from LAWA which means, City Council would be grossly irresponsible to accept ANY new lease until after they've received compliance from LAWA on this motion and had time to review LAWA's answers and supplied documentation. REJECT all VNY leases until you've had to UNDERSTAND what is happening.**