

HOLLISTER MUNICIPAL AIRPORT

Land Use Compatibility Plan



Prepared for the
San Benito County Airport Land Use Commission

April 19, 2012 Draft

Hollister Municipal Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan

April 19, 2012

(Draft)

Prepared for

Council of San Benito County Governments

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Chapter 1

Introduction



Introduction

OVERVIEW OF THE PLAN

As adopted by the Council of San Benito County Governments acting in its capacity as the Airport Land Use Commission (ALUC) for San Benito County, the basic function of this *Hollister Municipal Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan* is to promote compatibility between Hollister Municipal Airport and the land uses surrounding it to the extent that these areas have not already been devoted to incompatible uses. The plan accomplishes this function through establishment of a set of compatibility criteria applicable to new development around the airport. Neither this *Compatibility Plan* nor the ALUC have authority over existing land uses or over operation of the airport.

Geographically, the *Compatibility Plan* pertains to lands within the jurisdictions of the City of Hollister and San Benito County. Any city, special district, community college district, or school district that exists or may be established or expanded into the Hollister Municipal Airport Influence Area defined by this *Compatibility Plan* are also subject to the provisions of the plan. The authority of the ALUC does not extend to state, federal, or tribal lands.

AIRPORT LAND USE COMPATIBILITY PLANNING

The creation of airport land use commissions (ALUCs) and the preparation of airport land use compatibility plans are requirements of the California State Aeronautics Act (Public Utilities Code Section 21670 *et seq.*). Provisions for creation of ALUCs were first established under state law in 1967 (see Appendix B for a copy of the statutes). With limited exceptions, an ALUC is required in every county in the state. Furthermore, a compatibility plan is required for each public-use and military airport even in instances where an ALUC is not established.

Purpose and Objective

Although the law has been amended numerous times since its original enactment, the fundamental purpose of ALUCs to promote land use compatibility around airports has remained unchanged. As expressed in the present statutes, this purpose is:

“...to protect public health, safety, and welfare by ensuring the orderly expansion of airports and the adoption of land use measures that minimize the public’s exposure to excessive noise and

safety hazards within areas around public airports to the extent that these areas are not already devoted to incompatible uses.”

The compatibility plans ALUCs adopt are the basic tools that they use to achieve this purpose. The ultimate objective of ALUCs, though, is to ensure that land use actions taken by local agencies also adhere to this purpose. ALUCs pursue this objective by reviewing the general plans, specific plans, zoning ordinances, building regulations, and certain individual development actions of local agencies for consistency with the policies and criteria in the applicable compatibility plan. ALUCs also review master plans and other airport development plans for public-use airports proposed by airport operators to determine if those plans are consistent with the compatibility plan or if modifications should be made to the compatibility plan to reflect current airport planning.

Relationship between ALUCs and County and City Governments

The relationship between ALUCs and the governments of the counties and the cities within their jurisdiction is set forth in the State Aeronautics Act. For the most part, ALUCs act independently from the local land use jurisdictions. ALUCs must consult with the involved agencies regarding establishment of airport influence area boundaries (Public Utilities Code Section 21675(c)), but otherwise have the authority to adopt compatibility plans without approval from county or city governing bodies. ALUCs, though, do not have the authority to implement their own compatibility policies.

The responsibility for implementation of ALUC-adopted compatibility plans rests with the affected local agencies. Government Code Section 65302.3 establishes that each county and city affected by an airport land use compatibility plan must make its general plan and any applicable specific plans consistent with the ALUC compatibility plan. Alternatively, local agencies can take the series of steps listed in the Public Utilities Code Section 21676 and described later in this chapter to overrule the ALUC policies.

Local agencies’ other responsibility is to submit their plans and certain other proposed land use actions to the ALUC for review and determination of those actions’ consistency with the ALUC’s compatibility plan. Proposed adoption or amendment of general plans, specific plans, zoning ordinances, and building regulations always must be submitted to the ALUC. However, other actions such as ones associated with individual development proposals are subject to ALUC review only until such time as the agency’s general plan and specific plans have been made consistent with the ALUC plan or the agency has overruled the ALUC.

COMPATIBILITY PLAN POLICY FRAMEWORK

State Laws and Guidelines

Many of the procedures that govern how ALUCs operate are defined by state law. As noted earlier, statutory provisions in the Public Utilities Code establish the requirements for ALUC adoption of compatibility plans, which airports must have these plans, and some of the steps involved in plan adoption. The law also dictates the requirements for airport land use compatibility reviews by the ALUC. The types of actions that local jurisdictions must submit for review are specified, for example.

With respect to airport land use compatibility criteria, the statutes say little however. Instead, a section of the law enacted in 1994 refers to another document, the *Airport Land Use Planning Handbook* published by the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), Division of Aeronautics. Specifically, the statutes say that, when preparing compatibility plans for individual airports, ALUCs shall “be guided by” the information contained in the *Handbook*. The *Handbook* is not regulatory in nature, however, and it does not constitute formal state policy except to the extent that it explicitly refers to state laws. Rather, its guidance is intended to serve as the starting point for compatibility planning around individual airports.

The policies and maps in this *Compatibility Plan* take into account the guidance provided by the current edition of the *Handbook*, dated January 2002.

An additional function of the *Handbook* is established elsewhere in California state law. The Public Resources Code creates a tie between the *Handbook* and California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) documents. Specifically, Section 21096 requires that lead agencies must use the *Handbook* as “a technical resource” when assessing airport-related noise and safety impacts of projects located in the vicinity of airports.

The January 2002 edition of the *Handbook* is available for downloading from the Division of Aeronautics web site (www.dot.ca.gov/hq/planning/aeronaut).

Compatibility Plan Relationship to Airport Plans

Airport land use compatibility plans are distinct from airport master plans and other types of airport development plans, but are closely connected to them. In simple terms, airport master plans are adopted by the agency that owns and/or operates the airport. Master plans primarily address on-airport issues. In contrast, compatibility plans are normally adopted by an ALUC and are concerned with issues affecting surrounding lands.

The principal connection between the two types of plans stems from the California Public Utilities Code. Specifically, Section 21675(a) requires that ALUC plans be based upon a long-range airport master plan adopted by the airport owner/proprietor or, if such a plan does not exist for a particular airport, an airport layout plan may be used with the approval of the Caltrans Division of Aeronautics. Furthermore, the compatibility plan must reflect “the anticipated growth of the airport during at least the next 20 years.”

The connection works in both directions, however. While a compatibility plan must be based upon an airport master plan, Public Utilities Code Section 21676(c) requires that any proposed modification to an airport master plan be submitted to the ALUC to determine if the proposal is consistent with the compatibility plan. Provided that the off-airport compatibility implications of the proposed modifications are adequately addressed in the master plan, the outcome of this process usually is that the compatibility plan will need to be updated to mirror the new master plan.

GENERAL PLAN CONSISTENCY

As noted above, each local agency having jurisdiction over land uses within an ALUC’s planning area, also referred to as the Airport Influence Area, is required by state law to modify its general plan and any affected specific plans to be consistent with the compatibility plan. The law says that the local agency must take this action within 180 days of when the ALUC adopts or amends its plan.

Overrule Process

The only other course of action available to local agencies is to overrule the ALUC by a two-thirds vote of its governing body after making findings that the agency's plans are consistent with the intent of state airport land use planning statutes. Additionally, the local agency must provide both the ALUC and Caltrans Division of Aeronautics, with a copy of the local agency's proposed decision and findings at least 45 days in advance of its decision to overrule and must hold a public hearing on the proposed overruling (Public Utilities Code Section 21676(a) and (b)). The ALUC and the Division of Aeronautics may provide comments to the local agency within 30 days of receiving the proposed decision and findings. If comments are submitted, the local agency must include them in the public record of the final decision to overrule the ALUC (Sections 21676, 21676.5 and 21677.) Note that similar requirements apply to local agency overruling of ALUC actions concerning individual development proposals for which ALUC review is mandatory (Section 21676.5(a)) and airport master plans (Section 21676(c)).

Attaining Consistency

A general plan does not need to be identical with the ALUC compatibility plan in order to be consistent with the compatibility plan. To meet the consistency test, a general plan must do two things:

- > It must specifically address compatibility planning issues, either directly or through reference to a zoning ordinance or other policy document; and
- > It must avoid direct conflicts with compatibility planning criteria.

The land use jurisdictions affected by this *Compatibility Plan* may need to modify their general plans, specific plans, and other policy documents for consistency with the *Compatibility Plan*. It must be emphasized, however, that local agencies need not change land use designations to bring them into consistency with the ALUC criteria if the current designations merely reflect existing development. They merely would need to establish policies to ensure that the nonconforming uses would not be expanded in a manner inconsistent with this *Compatibility Plan* and that any redevelopment of the affected areas would be made consistent with the compatibility criteria.

Compatibility planning issues can be reflected in a general plan in several ways:

- > **Incorporate Policies into Existing General Plan Elements**—One method of achieving the necessary planning consistency is to modify existing general plan elements. For example, airport land use noise policies could be inserted into the noise element, safety policies could be placed into a safety element and the primary compatibility criteria and associated maps plus the procedural policies might fit into the land use element. With this approach, direct conflicts would be eliminated and the majority of the mechanisms and procedures necessary to ensure compliance with compatibility criteria could be fully incorporated into the local jurisdiction's general plan.
- > **Adopt a General Plan Airport Element**—Another approach is to prepare a separate airport element of the general plan. Such a format may be advantageous when the community's general plan also needs to address on-airport development and operational issues. Modification of other plan elements to provide cross-referencing and eliminate conflicts would still be necessary.
- > **Adopt Compatibility Plan as Stand-Alone Document**—Jurisdictions selecting this option would simply adopt as a local policy document the relevant portions of the *Compatibility Plan*—specifically,

the policies and maps in Chapters 2. Applicable background information from Chapter 3 could be included as well if desired. Changes to the community's existing general plan would be minimal. Policy reference to the *Compatibility Plan* would need to be added and any direct land use or other conflicts with compatibility planning criteria would have to be removed. Limited discussion of compatibility planning issues could be included in the general plan, but the substance of most compatibility policies would appear only in the stand-alone document.

- > **Adopt Airport Combining District or Overlay Zoning Ordinance**—This approach is similar to the stand-alone document except that the local jurisdiction would not explicitly adopt the *Compatibility Plan* as policy. Instead, the compatibility policies would be restructured as an airport combining district or overlay zoning ordinance. A combining zone serves as an overlay of standard community-wide land use zones and modifies or limits the uses permitted by the underlying zone. Flood hazard combining zoning is a common example. An airport combining zone ordinance can serve as a convenient means of bringing various airport compatibility criteria into one place. The airport-related height-limit zoning that many jurisdictions have adopted as a means of protecting airport airspace is a form of combining district zoning. Noise and safety compatibility criteria, together with procedural policies, would need to be added to create a complete airport compatibility zoning ordinance. Other than where direct conflicts need to be eliminated from the local plans, implementation of the compatibility policies would be accomplished solely through the zoning ordinance. Policy reference to airport compatibility in the general plan could be as simple as mentioning support for the airport land use commission and stating that policy implementation is by means of the combining zone. (An outline of topics which could be addressed in an airport combining zone is included in Appendix G.)

COMPATIBILITY PLANNING FOR HOLLISTER MUNICIPAL AIRPORT

Responsibilities

The responsibility for preparation of a compatibility plan for the Hollister Municipal Airport environs rests with the Council of San Benito County Governments which serves as the ALUC for San Benito County, with the designated body provisions of Public Utilities Code Section 21670.1.

Hollister Municipal Airport is situated in the northern portion of San Benito County. The Airport is located within the northern limits of the City of Hollister. Unincorporated lands of San Benito County adjoin the airport property to the north, northeast and west. The Airport's impacts are confined to lands within the County and the City of Hollister.

This *Compatibility Plan* replaces an earlier plan—*Hollister Municipal Airport Comprehensive Land Use Plan*—which the ALUC adopted for the airport in October 2001.

Sources of Information and Guidance

As required by California state law, the *California Airport Land Use Planning Handbook* provides guidance for the compatibility policies set forth in this *Hollister Municipal Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan*. The *Handbook* was used both to structure and define compatibility criteria and to establish the procedures to be followed by the ALUC and local agencies in implementation of the criteria.

The *Hollister Municipal Airport Master Plan* (accepted by the Hollister City Council in July 2004 (Resolution No. 2004-124) and the Simplified Airport Diagram (accepted by the Caltrans Division of Aeronautics in November 2010) are the primary sources of information used in this *Compatibility Plan* regarding the City's long-range development proposals for the airport. These development proposals include upgrading the Airport Reference Code to C-II, increasing the length of the primary runway to 7,000 feet by relocating Runway 31 northwest by 330 feet and extending Runway 13 northwest by 980 feet. Minor adjustments to the secondary runway (Runway 6-24) are also proposed.

With respect to aircraft activity projections, the *Compatibility Plan* again primarily relies upon data contained in the *Airport Master Plan*. The 2025 activity forecast contained in that plan remains reasonable as the 20-year forecast for the purposes of this *Compatibility Plan*. This forecast anticipates aircraft operations increasing from an estimated 53,000 takeoffs and landings in 2009 to approximately 130,000 in 20+ years.

Finally, a Working Group was established specifically for the *Compatibility Plan* project. The group's primary membership consisted of San Benito County ALUC staff and staff from the San Benito County Planning & Building Department, City of Hollister Planning Division, and Hollister Municipal Airport. The Working Group assisted with providing airport and land use data, reviewing discussion papers and draft materials, and provided comments for consideration in the administrative draft plan.

PLAN CONTENTS

This *Compatibility Plan* is organized into three chapters and a set of appendices. The intent of this introductory chapter is to set the overall context of airport land use compatibility planning in general and for Hollister Municipal Airport in particular.

The most important components of the plan are found in Chapter 2. That chapter contains the policies by which the ALUC operates and conducts compatibility reviews of proposed land use and airport development actions. It also specifies the compatibility criteria and other policies applicable to Hollister Municipal Airport and its environs.

Chapter 3 presents various background data regarding features, impacts, and environs of Hollister Municipal Airport. Chapter 3 also serves to document the data and assumptions upon which the compatibility policy maps for the airport are based.

Also included in this document are a set of appendices containing a copy of state statutes concerning airport land use commissions and other general information pertaining to airport land use compatibility planning. This material is mostly taken from other sources and does not represent ALUC policy except where cited as such in Chapter 2—specifically the state ALUC statutes and certain other laws (Appendix B) and Federal Aviation Regulations Part 77 (Appendix C).

Separately from this *Compatibility Plan*, an Initial Study of environmental impacts has been prepared pursuant to the requirements of the CEQA. Issues addressed include those identified in the 2007 California Supreme Court decision in *Muzzy Ranch Company v. Solano Airport Land Use Commission*. These issues include assessment of the potential future displacement of residential and nonresidential land use development as a result of implementation of this *Compatibility Plan*. A copy of the Initial Study and associated Negative Declaration is provided in Appendix I.

Chapter **2**

Policies



Policies

1. GENERAL APPLICABILITY

1.1. Purpose and Use

- 1.1.1. *Basic Purpose:* The basic purpose of this *Hollister Municipal Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan (Compatibility Plan)* is to articulate procedures and criteria, established in accordance with the California State Aeronautics Act (Public Utilities Code Section 21670 et seq.), applicable to airport land use compatibility planning in the vicinity of Hollister Municipal Airport, a public-use airport owned by the City of Hollister.
- 1.1.2. *Use by Affected Local Governmental Agencies:* The San Benito County Airport Land Use Commission (ALUC) and affected local agencies of San Benito County (see Policies 1.3.2) shall use the policies in this *Compatibility Plan* in the manner indicated below.
 - (a) The San Benito County Airport Land Use Commission (ALUC) shall:
 - (1) Formally adopt this *Compatibility Plan* in accordance with Public Utilities Code (PUC) Section 21674(c). The effective date of this *Compatibility Plan* is April 19, 2012.
 - (2) When a land use or airport-related action is referred to the ALUC for review in accordance with state law and as provided for by Section 1.5 of this *Compatibility Plan*, the ALUC shall make a determination as to whether such action is consistent with the criteria set forth herein.
 - (b) The County of San Benito, City of Hollister, and any future city that may be incorporated within the unincorporated areas of San Benito County having jurisdiction over land uses within portions of the Hollister Municipal Airport influence area shall:
 - (1) As required by state law (Public Utilities Code Section 21676(a)), modify its respective general plan, specific plan, and zoning ordinance to be consistent with the policies in this *Compatibility Plan*, or take certain steps to overrule the ALUC (see Section 4.4).
 - (2) Utilize the *Compatibility Plan*, either directly or as reflected in the appropriately modified general plan and zoning ordinance, when making planning decisions regarding proposed development of lands with the Hollister Municipal Airport influence area.
 - (3) Refer proposed land use and airport actions for mandatory review by the ALUC as specified by Policies 1.5.1 and 1.5.2 herein.

- (c) Special districts, school districts, and community college districts shall:
 - (1) Apply the policies of this *Compatibility Plan* when creating plans and making other planning decisions regarding the proposed development of lands under their control within the Hollister Municipal Airport influence area.
 - (2) Refer proposed land use actions for review by the ALUC as specified by Policy 1.5.3 herein.
- 1.1.3. *Use in Environmental Documents:* The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requires environmental documents for projects situated within an airport influence area to evaluate whether the project would expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive levels of airport-related noise or to airport-related safety hazards (Public Resources Code Section 21096).
 - (a) In the preparation of such environmental documents, the law specifically requires that the *Airport Land Use Planning Handbook* published by the California Division of Aeronautic be utilized as a technical resource.
 - (b) For any project within the Hollister Municipal Airport influence area, the compatibility criteria contained in this *Compatibility Plan* should also be addressed in the environmental document.

1.2. Definitions

The following definitions apply for the purposes of the policies set forth in this *Compatibility Plan*. Additional terms are defined in the *Glossary* (Appendix H).

- 1.2.1. *Airport:* Hollister Municipal Airport, a public-use airport owned by the City of Hollister.
- 1.2.2. *Airport Influence Area:* An area, as delineated herein, in which current or future airport-related noise, overflight, safety, or airspace protection factors may significantly affect land uses or necessitate restrictions on those uses. The airport influence area constitutes the area within which certain land use actions are subject to ALUC review to determine consistency with the policies herein. See Policy 1.3.1 and **Map 1** for description and depiction of the Hollister Municipal Airport influence area.
- 1.2.3. *Airport Land Use Commission (ALUC):* The Council of San Benito County Governments acting in its capacity as the Airport Land Use Commission for San Benito County.
- 1.2.4. *Airport Land Use Commission Executive Director:* The Executive Director of the Council of San Benito County Governments.
- 1.2.5. *Airspace Protection Area:* The area beneath the airspace protection surfaces for Hollister Municipal Airport as depicted on **Map 4**, *Airspace Protection Zones*.
- 1.2.6. *Aviation-Related Use:* Any facility or activity directly associated with the air transportation of persons or cargo or the operation, storage, or maintenance of aircraft at an airport or heliport. Such uses specifically include, but are not limited to, runways, taxiways, and their associated protection areas defined by the Federal Aviation Administration, together with aircraft aprons, hangars, fixed base operations facilities, terminal buildings, etc.
- 1.2.7. *Aviation Easement:* An easement that conveys rights associated with aircraft overflight of a property, including but not limited to creation of noise and limits on the height of structures and trees, etc. See Policy 4.1.1 for areas requiring an aviation easement and Appendix G for sample language.

- 1.2.8. *Compatibility Plan*: This document, the *Hollister Municipal Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan*.
- 1.2.9. *Existing Land Use*: A land use that either physically exists or for which local agency commitments to the proposal have been obtained. See Policy 1.4.3.
- 1.2.10. *Infill*: Development of vacant or underutilized land within established communities or neighborhoods that are comprised of existing uses inconsistent with the compatibility criteria set forth in this *Compatibility Plan*. See Policy 4.1.2 for criteria used to identify infill areas for the purposes of this *Compatibility Plan*.
- 1.2.11. *Local Agency*: For the purposes of this *Compatibility Plan* and consistent with Public Utilities Code Section 21670(f), San Benito County, City of Hollister, or any other local governmental entity such as a special district, school district, or community college district—including any future city or district—having jurisdictional territory lying within the Hollister Municipal Airport influence area as defined herein. These entities are subject to the provisions of this *Compatibility Plan*. See Policy 1.3.2.
- 1.2.12. *Major Land Use Action*: Actions related to proposed land uses for which compatibility with airport activity is a particular concern, but for which ALUC review is not always mandatory under state law. These types of actions are listed in Policy 1.5.5.
- 1.2.13. *Noise Impact Area*: The area within which the noise impacts, measured in terms of CNEL, generated by the airport may represent a land use compatibility concern. The noise impact zones for Hollister Municipal Airport are depicted on **Map 2**.
- 1.2.14. *Noise-Sensitive Land Uses*: Land uses for which the associated primary activities, whether indoor or outdoor, are susceptible to disruption by loud noise events. The most common types of noise sensitive land uses include, but are not limited to, the following: residential, hospitals, nursing facilities, intermediate care facilities, educational facilities, libraries, museums, places of worship, child-care facilities, and certain types of passive recreational parks and open space. See Section 3.2 for policies addressing noise concerns.
- 1.2.15. *Nonconforming Use*: An existing land use that does not comply with the compatibility criteria set forth in this *Compatibility Plan*. See Policy 4.1.3 for criteria applicable to land use actions involving nonconforming uses.
- 1.2.16. *Override*: An action that a local agency can take in accordance with provisions of state law if it wishes to proceed with a proposed project affecting lands within the airport influence area in spite of an ALUC finding that the action is inconsistent with this *Compatibility Plan*. See Section 4.4 for required steps that a local agency must take when overruling the ALUC.
- 1.2.17. *Project; Land Use Action; Development Proposal*: Terms similar in meaning and all referring to the types of land use matters, either publicly or privately sponsored, that are subject to the provisions of this *Compatibility Plan*. See Section 1.5 for actions subject to ALUC review.
- 1.2.18. *Real Estate Transaction Disclosure*: A form of buyer awareness documentation required by California state law and applicable to many transactions involving residential real estate including previously occupied dwellings. The disclosure notifies a prospective purchaser that the property is located in proximity to an airport and may be subject to annoyances and inconveniences associated with the flight of aircraft to, from, and around the airport. See Policy 3.5.8 for applicability. Also see Policy 3.5.7 for a related buyer awareness tool, *recorded overflight notification*.

- 1.2.19. *Reconstruction*: The rebuilding of an existing nonconforming structure that has been fully or partially destroyed as a result of a calamity (not planned reconstruction or redevelopment). See Policy 4.1.4.
- 1.2.20. *Recorded Overflight Notification*: A form of buyer awareness documentation recorded in the chain of title of a property stating that the property may be subject to annoyances and inconveniences associated with the flight of aircraft to, from, and around a nearby airport. Unlike an *aviation easement* (see Policy 4.1.1), a *recorded overflight notification* does not convey property rights from the property owner to the airport and does not restrict the height of objects. See Policy 3.5.7 for applicability. Also see Policy 3.5.8 for a related buyer awareness tool, *real estate transaction disclosure*.
- 1.2.21. *Redevelopment*: Development of a new use (not necessarily a new type of use) to replace an existing use at a density or intensity that may vary from the existing use. Redevelopment projects are subject to the provisions of this *Compatibility Plan* to the same extent as other forms of proposed development (see Policy 4.1.5).

1.3. Geographic Scope

- 1.3.1. *Airport Influence Area*: As defined in accordance with state law (Business and Professions Code Section 11010), the influence area of Hollister Municipal Airport encompasses all lands on which current or future airport-related noise, overflight, safety, or airspace protection factors may significantly affect land uses or necessitate restriction on those uses. The airport influence area constitutes the area within which certain land use actions are subject to ALUC review to determine consistency with the policies herein. The airport influence area as defined by the ALUC extends 14,200 feet (about 2.7 statute miles) from the ends of the runways.
- (a) In delineating the Hollister Municipal Airport influence area (see **Map 1**), the geographic extent of four types of compatibility concerns are taken into account:
- (1) Noise: Locations exposed to potentially disruptive levels of aircraft noise (see Noise Impact Zones on **Map 2**).
 - (2) Safety: Areas where the risk of an aircraft accident poses heightened safety concerns for people and property on the ground (see Safety Zones on **Map 3**).
 - (3) Airspace Protection: Places where height and certain other land use characteristics need to be restricted in order to prevent creation of physical, visual, or electronic hazards to flight within the airspace required for operation of aircraft to and from the airport (see Airspace Protection Zones on **Map 4**).
 - (4) Overflight: Locations where aircraft overflying can be intrusive and annoying to many people (see Overflight Zones on **Map 5**).
- (b) Each of these four concerns is separately addressed in this *Compatibility Plan* within its own “layer” representing that particular compatibility factor. See Section 3 for the policies and maps associated with each layer.
- (c) Other impacts sometimes created by airports (e.g., air pollution, automobile traffic, etc.) are not addressed herein and are not factors that the ALUC shall consider in reviewing land use projects.
- 1.3.2. *Affected Local Agencies*: The policies of this *Compatibility Plan* apply to certain local agencies in the County of San Benito having lands within the Hollister Municipal Airport influence

area. To the extent that they control or have long-range planning authority over lands within the Hollister Municipal Airport influence area, the local agencies affected by this plan are:

- (a) County of San Benito.
 - (b) City of Hollister.
 - (c) Any future city that may be incorporated within the unincorporated areas of San Benito County.
 - (d) Special districts, school districts, and community college districts.
- 1.3.3. *ALUC Review Areas:* The Hollister Municipal Airport influence area is divided into two sub-areas: Review Area 1 and Review Area 2. The requirements for referral of Major Land Use Actions to the ALUC for review differ between these two areas (see Policy 1.5.5). **Map 1** depicts the limits of each of the two review areas.
- (a) ALUC Review Area 1 encompasses locations where all four factors (noise, safety, airspace protections, and overflight) represent compatibility concerns. The boundary line matches the outer limits of Federal Aviation Regulations (FAR) Part 77 horizontal surface.
 - (b) ALUC Review Area 2 includes locations where airspace protection and/or overflight are compatibility concerns, but not noise or safety. The boundary line matches the outer limits of Federal Aviation Regulations (FAR) Part 77 conical surface.

1.4. Limitations of the ALUC and Compatibility Plan

- 1.4.1. *Agencies Not Affected by this Compatibility Plan:* Lands within the Hollister Airport influence area controlled by federal or state agencies or by Native American tribes are not subject to the provisions of this plan.
- 1.4.2. *Airport Operations:* In accordance with state law, neither the ALUC nor this *Compatibility Plan* have authority over airport operations including where and when aircraft fly, the types of aircraft flown, and other such matters (Public Utilities Code Section 21674(e)). Furthermore, the ALUC and this *Compatibility Plan* have no authority over the planning or design of aviation-related uses except as described below (see Policy 1.2.6 for definition of an aviation-related use). ALUC authority applies only as follows:
- (a) To the extent that the associated aviation-related facilities or activities could have off-airport land use compatibility implications and review of the proposed plans or design is required under state law (see Policy 1.5.2).
 - (b) Non-aviation development of airport property is *not* deemed to be a form of airport operations. Consequently, such development is subject to ALUC review just as is required for ALUC review of non-aviation development actions off airport property. The review may take place as part of an airport master plan or on an individual development project basis (see Policy 1.5.5(c)).
- 1.4.3. *Existing Land Uses:* In accordance with Public Utilities Code Section 21674(a), the policies of this *Compatibility Plan* do not apply to existing land uses, whether or not they are consistent with the *Compatibility Plan*. A land use is considered to be “existing” when one or more of the below conditions has been met prior to the adoption date of the

Compatibility Plan by the ALUC. The determination as to whether a specific project meets the qualifying criteria below is made by the local agency.

- (a) Qualifying Criteria: An existing land is one that either physically exists or for which local agency commitments to the proposal have been obtained:
 - (1) A tentative parcel or subdivision map has been approved and not expired;
 - (2) A vesting tentative parcel or subdivision map has been approved;
 - (3) A development agreement has been approved and remains in effect;
 - (4) A final subdivision map has been recorded;
 - (5) A use permit or other discretionary entitlement has been approved and not yet expired; or
 - (6) A valid building permit has been issued.
- (b) Expiration Date of Local Agreements: If a local agency's commitment to a development proposal expires, the proposal will no longer qualify as an "existing" land use. As such, the proposal shall be subject to the criteria of this *Compatibility Plan*.

1.4.4. *Existing Nonconforming Uses*: The ALUC has no authority over existing land uses even if those uses are not in conformance with the compatibility criteria set forth in this *Compatibility Plan*. That is, the ALUC has no ability to cause reduction or removal of land use incompatibilities from the airport environs. However, proposed changes to existing uses (i.e., reconstruction, redevelopment) *are* subject to ALUC purview if the changes would result in increased nonconformity with the compatibility criteria (see Policy 4.1.3).

1.4.5. *Development by Right*:

- (a) Nothing in these policies prohibits:
 - (1) Other than in Safety Zone 1 and/or within the CNEL 65 dB contour, construction of a single-family home on a legal lot of record as of the date of adoption of this *Compatibility Plan* if such use is permitted by local land use regulations.
 - (2) Construction of a secondary unit as defined by state law.
 - (3) Lot line adjustments provided that new developable parcels would not be created and the resulting density or intensity of the affected property would not exceed the applicable safety criteria indicated in **Table 2**.
 - (4) A family day care home serving 14 or fewer children either in an existing dwelling or in a new dwelling permitted by the policies of this *Compatibility Plan*.
- (b) The sound attenuation and aviation easement dedication requirements set by Policies 3.2.6 and 4.1.1 shall apply to development permitted under this policy.

1.5. Actions Subject to ALUC Review

1.5.1. *Mandatory Review of Land Use Actions*: As required by state law, prior to approving any of the following types of land use actions, the affected local agency (see Policy 1.3.2) must refer the action to the ALUC for a consistency determination with this *Compatibility Plan*:

- (a) The adoption or approval of any new general or specific plan or any amendment thereto that affects lands within the airport influence area (Public Utilities Code Section 21676(b)).

- (b) The adoption or approval of a zoning ordinance or building regulation, including any proposed change or variance to any such ordinance or regulation, that affects land within the airport influence area (Public Utilities Code Section 21676(b)).
- 1.5.2. *Mandatory Review of Airport Planning and Development Actions:* Under state law, planning and development actions involving airport property are subject to ALUC review. Prior to approving either of the following types of airport planning and development actions, the City of Hollister, as the proprietor of the Hollister Municipal Airport, must refer the action to the ALUC for determination of consistency with this *Compatibility Plan*.
- (1) Adoption or modification of a master plan for Hollister Municipal Airport, a public-use airport (Public Utilities Code Section 21676(c)).
 - (2) Any proposal for “expansion” of Hollister Municipal Airport if such expansion will require an amended Airport Permit from the state of California (Public Utilities Code Section 21664.5). As used herein, “expansion” primarily includes construction of a new runway, extension or realignment of an existing runway, establishment or enhancement of an instrument approach procedure, or related acquisition of land.
- 1.5.3. *Interim Review of Major Land Use Actions:* State law (Public Utilities Code Section 21676.5(a)) allows the ALUC to require the local agency to refer all actions, regulations, and permits involving land within an airport influence area to the ALUC for review under the circumstances listed below. Only those actions that the ALUC elects not to review are exempt from this requirement. With regard to land uses within the Hollister Municipal Airport influence area, ALUC policy is that only the major land use actions listed in Policy 1.5.5 shall be referred for ALUC review until such time as:
- (a) The ALUC finds that a local agency’s general plan or specific plan is consistent with the *Compatibility Plan*; or
 - (b) The local agency has overruled the ALUC determination of inconsistency (see Section 4.4).
- 1.5.4. *Voluntary Review of Major Land Use Actions:* After a local agency has revised its general plan or specific plan to be consistent with this *Compatibility Plan* (see Section 4.2) or has overruled the ALUC, the ALUC no longer has authority under state law to require that all actions, regulations, and permits be referred for review. However, the ALUC and the local agency can agree that the ALUC should continue to receive, review, and comment upon individual projects.
- (1) The ALUC requests local agencies to continue to refer major land use actions as listed in Policy 1.5.5 for informal review and comment. ALUC review of these types of projects can serve to enhance their compatibility with airport activity.
 - (2) The ALUC Executive Director is authorized on behalf of the ALUC to provide comments on major land use actions referred to the ALUC on a voluntary basis.
 - (3) Because the ALUC reviews of land use actions under these circumstances do not represent formal consistency determinations as is the case with actions referred under Policies 1.5.1 or 1.5.3, local agencies are not required to adhere to the overruling process if they elect to approve a project without incorporating design changes or conditions recommended by the ALUC or ALUC Executive Director.

1.5.5. *Major Land Use Actions:* The scope or character of certain major land use actions, as listed below, is such that their compatibility with airport activity is a potential concern. Even though these actions may be basically consistent with the local general plan or specific plan, sufficient detail may not be known to enable a full airport compatibility evaluation at the time that the general plan or specific plan is reviewed. To enable better assessment of compliance with the compatibility criteria set forth herein, ALUC review of these actions may be warranted. The circumstances under which ALUC review of these actions is to be conducted are indicated in Policies 1.5.3 and 1.5.4 above.

(a) Actions affecting land uses within Review Area 1.

- (1) Any proposed expansion of the sphere of influence of a city or district.
- (2) Proposed pre-zoning associated with future annexation of land to a city.
- (3) Proposed development agreements or amendments to such agreements.
- (4) Proposed residential development, including land divisions, consisting of 5 or more dwelling units or parcels.
- (5) Any discretionary development proposal for projects having a building floor area of 20,000 square feet or greater unless only ministerial approval (e.g., a building permit) is required.
- (6) Any discretionary development proposal for projects attracting more than 100 people (including employees, customers/visitors) to outdoor activities on the project site (e.g., flea markets).
- (7) Major capital improvements (e.g., water, sewer, or roads) which would promote urban uses in undeveloped or agricultural areas to the extent that such uses are not reflected in a previously reviewed general plan or specific plan.
- (8) Proposed land acquisition by a government entity for any facility accommodating a congregation of people (for example, a school or hospital).
- (9) Any non-aviation use of land within Safety Zone 1.
- (10) Any proposed object (including buildings, antennas, and other built or erected structures) having a height that requires review by the Federal Aviation Administration in accordance with Part 77 of the Federal Aviation (see Appendix B).
- (11) Any project having the potential to create electrical or visual hazards to aircraft in flight (see Policies 3.4.2(c) and 3.4.2(d)), including:
 - = Electrical interference with radio communications or navigational signals;
 - = Lighting which could be mistaken for airport lighting;
 - = Glare in the eyes of pilots of aircraft using the airport; and
 - = Impaired visibility near the airport.
- (12) Any project (e.g., water treatment facilities, waste transfer or disposal facilities, parks with open water areas) or plan (e.g., Habitat Conservation Plan) having the potential to cause an increase in the attraction of birds or other wildlife that can be hazardous to aircraft operations in the vicinity of an airport.

(b) Actions affecting land uses within Review Area 2.

- (1) Any proposed object (including buildings, antennas, and other structures) having a height that requires review by the Federal Aviation Administration in accordance with Part 77 of the Federal Aviation.

- (2) Any project having the potential to create electrical or visual hazards to aircraft in flight (see Policies 3.4.2(c) and 3.4.2(d)), including:
 - = Electrical interference with radio communications or navigational signals;
 - = Lighting which could be mistaken for airport lighting;
 - = Glare in the eyes of pilots of aircraft using the airport; and
 - = Impaired visibility near the airport.
 - (3) Any project (e.g., water treatment facilities, waste transfer or disposal facilities, parks with open water areas) or plan (e.g., Habitat Conservation Plan) having the potential to cause an increase in the attraction of birds or other wildlife that can be hazardous to aircraft operations in the vicinity of an airport.
 - (c) Proposed non-aviation development of airport property if such development has not previously been included in an airport master plan or community general plan reviewed by the ALUC.
 - (d) Proposed redevelopment of a property for which the existing use is consistent with the general plan and/or specific plan, but inconsistent (i.e., nonconforming) with the compatibility criteria set forth in this plan, shall be subject to ALUC review.
 - (1) This review requirement applies even if the general plan or specific plan has previously been reviewed by the ALUC and found to be consistent with this or a prior compatibility plan for Hollister Municipal Airport.
 - (2) This policy is intended to address circumstances that arise when a general or specific plan land use designation does not conform to ALUC compatibility criteria, but is deemed consistent with the compatibility plan because the designation reflects an existing land use. Proposed redevelopment of such lands voids the consistency status and is to be treated as new development subject to ALUC review even if the proposed use is consistent with the local general plan or specific plan. (Also see Policies 4.1.2 and 4.1.4.)
 - (e) Referring California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) environmental documents for ALUC review is not required. However, if an environmental document has been prepared for a land use action referred to the ALUC for a consistency review, a copy should be provided as part of the referral. Changes to the environmental document also should be recirculated to the ALUC for review.
 - (f) Any other proposed land use action, as determined by the local planning agency, involving a question of compatibility with airport activities.
- 1.5.6. *Overruling of ALUC by Local Agency:* In accordance with state law (Public Utilities Code Sections 21676(a), (b), and (c) and 21676.5(a)), any local agency contemplating overruling an ALUC determination that an action referred for mandatory ALUC review is inconsistent with this *Compatibility Plan* must give notice to the ALUC at least 45 days prior to the decision to overrule. The ALUC may provide comments on the proposed overruling decision. See Section 4.4 for additional requirements for overruling the ALUC.

2. REVIEW PROCESS

2.1. General

- 2.1.1. *Timing of Project Referral:* The precise timing of the ALUC's review of a proposed land use action may vary depending upon the nature of the specific project.
- (a) ALUC review of land use and airport plans and projects must be accomplished before final action by the local agency. In general, plans and projects should be referred to the ALUC at the earliest reasonable point in time so that the ALUC's review can be duly considered by the local agency prior to when the agency formalizes its actions. Depending upon the type of plan or project and the normal scheduling of meetings, ALUC review can be completed before, after, or concurrently with review by the local planning commission and other advisory bodies.
 - (b) Although the most appropriate timing for a proposed land use action to be referred to the ALUC for review is soon after a formal application has been submitted to the local agency, the completion of a formal application with the local agency is not required prior to a local agency's referral of a proposed land use action to the ALUC. Rather, a project applicant may request, and the local agency may refer, a proposed land use action to the ALUC for review, so long as the local agency is able to provide the ALUC with the project submittal information for the proposal, as specified and required in Section 2.3.1 of this *Compatibility Plan*.
- 2.1.2. *Public Input:* The ALUC shall provide public notice and obtain public input in accordance with Public Utilities Code Section 21675.2(d) before acting on any plan, regulation, or other land use proposal under consideration.
- 2.1.3. *Fees:* Any applicable review fees as established by the ALUC shall accompany the referral of actions for review by the ALUC.

2.2. Mandatory Review Process for General Plans, Specific Plans, Zoning Ordinances, and Building Regulations

- 2.2.1. *Initial ALUC Review of General Plan Consistency:* In conjunction with adoption or amendment of the *Hollister Municipal Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan*, the ALUC shall review the general plans, specific plans, zoning ordinances, and building regulations of affected local jurisdictions to determine their consistency with the ALUC's policies.
- (a) State law (Government Code Section 65302.3) requires that, within 180 days of the ALUC's adoption or amendment of this *Compatibility Plan*, each local agency affected by the plan must amend its general plan and any applicable specific plan to be consistent with the ALUC's *Compatibility Plan* or, alternatively, provide required notice, adopt findings, and overrule the ALUC in accordance with Public Utilities Code Section 21676(b).
 - (b) Prior to taking action on a proposed amendment of a general plan or specific plan as necessitated by Paragraph (a) of this policy, the local agency must refer a draft of the proposal to the ALUC for review and for a determination of consistency with this *Compatibility Plan* (Public Utilities Code Section 21676).

- (c) In conjunction with its referral of a general plan or specific plan amendment to the ALUC in response to the requirements of Paragraphs (a) and (b) above, a local agency must identify areas that it requests the ALUC to consider as existing development or infill in accordance with Policies 1.4.3 and 4.1.2, respectively, if it wishes to take advantage of these policy provisions. The ALUC will include a determination on these requests as part of its action on the consistency of the general plan and specific plans.
- 2.2.2. *Subsequent Reviews of Related Land Use Development Proposals:* Once a local agency's general plan and applicable specific plans have been made consistent with this *Compatibility Plan*, or the local agency has overruled an ALUC finding of inconsistency regarding those plans, subsequent land use development actions that are consistent both with those local plans and with any related ordinances and regulations also previously reviewed by the ALUC are *not* subject to formal ALUC review. Only under the conditions indicated in Policies 1.5.3 and 2.3.4 are these proposals referred to the ALUC for formal review.
- 2.2.3. *Required Submittal Information:* Copies of the complete text and maps of the plan, ordinance, or regulation proposed for adoption or amendment must be submitted to the ALUC. Any supporting material documenting that the proposal is consistent with the *Compatibility Plan* should be included. If the amendment is required as part of a proposed development project, then the information listed in Policy 2.3.1 shall also be included to the extent applicable.
- 2.2.4. *ALUC Action Choices:* When reviewing a general plan, specific plan, zoning ordinance, or building regulation for consistency with the *Compatibility Plan*, the ALUC has three choices of action:
- (a) Find the plan, ordinance, or regulation consistent with the *Compatibility Plan*. To make such a finding with regard to a general plan, the conditions identified in Section 4.2 must be met. If a local agency wishes to proceed with adoption or amendment of a general plan or specific plan or adoption or approval of a zoning ordinance or building regulation that has been found inconsistent by the ALUC, the agency must follow the overrule provisions of Public Utilities Code Section 21676(a) as described in Section 4.4 of this *Compatibility Plan*.
 - (b) Find the plan, ordinance, or regulation consistent with the *Compatibility Plan*, subject to conditions and/or modifications that the ALUC may require. Any such conditions should be limited in scope and described in a manner that allows compliance to be clearly assessed.
 - (c) Find the plan, ordinance, or regulation inconsistent with the *Compatibility Plan*. In making a finding of inconsistency, the ALUC shall note the specific conflicts or shortcomings upon which its determination is based.
- 2.2.5. *Response Time:* The ALUC must respond to a local agency's request for a consistency determination on a general plan, specific plan, zoning ordinance, or building regulation within 60 days from the date of referral (Public Utilities Code Section 21676(d)).
- (a) The date of referral is deemed to be the date on which all applicable project information as specified in Policy 2.2.3 is received by the ALUC Executive Director and the ALUC Executive Director determines that the application for a consistency determination is complete.

- (b) If the ALUC fails to make a determination within the 60-day period, the proposed action shall be deemed consistent with the *Compatibility Plan*.
- (c) The 60-day review period may be extended if the referring agency or project applicant agrees in writing or so states at an ALUC public hearing on the action.
- (d) Regardless of ALUC action or failure to act, the proposed action must comply with other applicable local, state, and federal regulations and laws.
- (e) The referring agency shall be notified of the ALUC's action in writing.

2.3. Review Process for Major Land Use Actions

2.3.1. *Required Submittal Information:* A proposed major land use action referred for ALUC (or ALUC Executive Director) review in accordance with Policies 1.5.3 and 1.5.4 should include the following information, as identified on the ALUC application:

- (a) Property location data (assessor's parcel number, street address, subdivision name, lot number).
- (b) An accurately scaled map depicting the project site location in relationship to the Hollister Municipal Airport boundary and runways.
- (c) A description of the proposed use(s), current general plan and zoning designations, and the type of land use action being sought from the local agency (e.g., zoning variance, special use permit, building permit).
- (d) If applicable, a detailed site plan and supporting data showing: site boundaries and size; existing uses that will remain; location of existing and proposed structures, open spaces, and water bodies; ground elevations (above mean sea level) and elevations of tops of structures and trees. Additionally:
 - (1) For residential uses, an indication of the potential or proposed number of dwelling units per acre (excluding any secondary units).
 - (2) For nonresidential uses, the total floor area for each type of proposed use, the number of auto parking spaces, and, if known, the number of people potentially occupying the total site or portions thereof at any one time.
- (e) Identification of any features, during or following construction, that would increase the attraction of birds or cause other wildlife hazards to aircraft operations on the airport or in its environs (see Policy 3.4.6(a)(6)). Such features include, but are not limited to the following:
 - (1) Open water areas.
 - (2) Sediment ponds, retention basins.
 - (3) Detention basins that hold water for more than 48 hours.
 - (4) Artificial wetlands.
- (f) Identification of any characteristics that could create electrical interference, confusing or bright lights, glare, smoke, or other electrical or visual hazards to aircraft flight.
- (g) Any environmental document (initial study, draft environmental impact report, etc.) that may have been prepared for the project.

- (h) Any staff reports regarding the project that may have been presented to local agency decision makers.
 - (i) Other relevant information that the ALUC or ALUC Executive Director determine to be necessary to enable a comprehensive review of the proposed action.
- 2.3.2. *ALUC's Action Choices:* The ALUC has three choices of action when making consistency determinations on major land use actions reviewed in accordance with Policies 1.5.3 and 1.5.4.: :
- (a) Find the project consistent with the *Compatibility Plan*.
 - (b) Find the project consistent with the *Compatibility Plan*, subject to compliance with such conditions as the ALUC may specify. Any such conditions should be limited in scope and described in a manner that allows compliance to be clearly assessed (e.g., the height of a structure).
 - (c) Find the project inconsistent with the *Compatibility Plan*. In making a finding of inconsistency, the ALUC shall note the specific conflicts upon which the determination is based.
- 2.3.3. *Response Time:* In responding to major land use actions referred for review, the policy of the ALUC is that:
- (a) When a major land use action is referred for review on a mandatory basis as required by Policy 1.5.3:
 - (1) Reviews by the ALUC shall be completed within 60 days of the date of submittal.
 - (2) The date of submittal is deemed to be the date on which all applicable project information as specified in Policy 2.3.1 is received by ALUC and the ALUC determines that the application for a consistency determination is complete.
 - (3) Reviews of projects appealed to the ALUC for a consistency determination shall be completed within 60 days of the date of the appeal.
 - (4) If the ALUC or the ALUC fail to make a determination within the above time periods, the proposed action shall be deemed consistent with the *Compatibility Plan*.
 - (b) When a major land use action is submitted on a voluntary basis in accordance with Policy 1.5.4, review by the ALUC Executive Director and/or the ALUC should be completed in a timely manner enabling the comments to be considered by decision-making bodies of the submitting agency.
 - (c) Regardless of action or failure to act on the part of the ALUC, the proposed action must comply with other applicable local, state, and federal laws and regulations.
 - (d) The referring agency shall be notified of the ALUC's action in writing.
- 2.3.4. *Subsequent Reviews of Related Land Use Development Proposals:* Once a project has been found consistent with the *Compatibility Plan*, it generally need not be referred for review at subsequent stages of the planning process (e.g., for a use permit after a zoning change has been reviewed). However, additional ALUC review is required if any of the following are true:
- (a) At the time of the original *ALUC* review, the project information available was only sufficient to determine consistency with compatibility criteria at a planning level of

detail, not at the project design level. For example, the proposed land use designation indicated in a general plan, specific plan, or zoning amendment may have been found consistent, but information on site layout, maximum intensity limits, building heights, and other such factors that may also affect the consistency determination for a project may not have yet been known.

- (b) The design of the project subsequently changes in a manner that affects previously considered compatibility issues and could raise questions as to the validity of the earlier finding of consistency. Proposed changes warranting a new review include, but are not limited to, the following:
 - (1) For residential uses, any increase in the number of dwelling units;
 - (2) For nonresidential uses, a change in the types of proposed uses, any increase in the total floor area, and/or a change in the allocation of floor area among different types of uses in a manner that could result in an increase in the intensity of use (more people on the site) to a level exceeding the criteria set forth in this *Compatibility Plan*;
 - (3) Any increase in the height of structures or other design features such that the height limits established herein would be exceeded or exceeded by a greater amount;
 - (4) Any new design features that would create visual hazards (e.g., certain types of lights, sources of glare, and sources of dust, steam, or smoke).
 - (5) Any new equipment or features that would create electronic hazards or cause interference with aircraft communications or navigation.
 - (6) Major site design changes (such as incorporation of clustering or modifications to the configuration of open land areas proposed for the site) to the extent that site design was an issue in the initial project review; and/or
 - (7) Any significant change to a proposed project for which a special exception was granted in accordance with Policy 4.1.6.
- (c) At the time of original ALUC review, conditions were placed on the project that require subsequent ALUC review.
- (d) The local jurisdiction concludes that further review is warranted.

2.4. Review Process for Airport Master Plans and Development Plans

2.4.1. *Required Submittal Information:* A Hollister Municipal Airport master plan or development plan submitted to the ALUC for review shall contain sufficient information to enable the ALUC to adequately assess the noise, safety, airspace protection, and overflight impacts of airport activity upon surrounding land uses.

- (a) When a new or amended master plan is the subject of the ALUC review, the noise, safety, airspace protection, and overflight impacts should be addressed in the plan report and/or in an accompanying environmental document. Proposed changes in airport facilities and usage that could have land use compatibility implications should be noted. Although the ALUC does not have a formal responsibility to review the environmental document, a copy should be included with the submittal.
- (b) For airport development plans, the relationship to a previously adopted master plan or other approved plan for the airport that has been reviewed by the ALUC should be

indicated—specifically, whether the proposed development implements an adopted/approved plan or represents an addition or change to any such previous plan. Any environmental document prepared for the project should be included in the submittal.

- (c) For either airport master plans or development plans, the following specific information should be included to the extent applicable:
 - (1) A layout plan drawing of the proposed facility or improvements showing the location of:
 - = Property boundaries;
 - = Runways or helicopter takeoff and landing areas;
 - = Runway or helipad protection zones; and
 - = Aircraft or helicopter approach/departure flight routes.
 - (2) A revised map of the airspace surfaces as defined by Federal Aviation Regulations Part 77 if the proposal would result in changes to these surfaces. A map reflecting the current configuration of the Hollister Municipal Airport airspace surfaces is included in Section 3.4 of this chapter.
 - (3) Updated activity forecasts, including the number of operations by each type of aircraft proposed to use the facility, the percentage of day versus night operations, and the distribution of takeoffs and landings for each runway direction. The effects of the proposed airport-related development on the forecast airport usage indicated in Chapter 3 of this *Compatibility Plan* should be described.
 - (4) Proposed flight track locations and projected noise contours. Differences from the flight track data and noise contours presented in Chapter 3 of this *Compatibility Plan* should be described.
 - (5) A map showing existing and planned land uses in the areas affected by aircraft activity associated with implementation of the proposed master plan or development plan.
 - (6) Identification and proposed mitigation of impacts on surrounding land uses to the extent that those impacts would be greater than indicated by the policy maps (**Maps 1 through 5**) included in this chapter.

2.4.2. *ALUC Action Choices for Plans of Existing Airport:* When reviewing a proposed new or revised airport master plan or new development plans for Hollister Municipal Airport, the ALUC has three action choices (see Section 4.3 for policies pertaining to the substance of the ALUC review of airport plans):

- (a) Find the airport plan consistent with the *Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan*.
- (b) Find the airport plan inconsistent with the *Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan*.
- (c) Establish the intent to modify the *Compatibility Plan* at a later date to reflect the assumptions and proposals in the airport plan—thereby making the airport plan consistent.

2.4.3. *Response Time:* The ALUC must respond to the submittal of an airport master plan or development plan within 60 days from the date of submittal (Public Utilities Code Section 21676(d)).

- (a) The date of submittal is deemed to be the date on which all applicable project information as specified in Policy 2.4.1 is received by ALUC Executive Director and the ALUC Executive Director determines that the application for a consistency determination is complete.
- (b) If the ALUC fails to make a determination within the specified period, the proposed action shall be deemed consistent with the *Compatibility Plan*.
- (c) Regardless of ALUC action or failure to act, the proposed action must comply with other applicable local, state, and federal regulations and laws.
- (d) The City of Hollister, as the airport proprietor, shall be notified of the ALUC's action in writing.

3. BASIC COMPATIBILITY CRITERIA

3.1. Evaluating Land Use Consistency

- 3.1.1. *Evaluating Compatibility of New Development*: The compatibility of proposed land uses within the Hollister Municipal Airport influence area shall be evaluated in accordance with:
 - (a) The specific noise, safety, airspace protection, overflight policies, and special compatibility policies set forth in Sections 3 and 4;
 - (b) The criteria listed in **Table 1, Noise Compatibility Criteria** and **Table 2, Safety Compatibility Criteria**; and
 - (c) The compatibility zones depicted in **Maps 2 through 5**.
- 3.1.2. *Compatibility Criteria Tables*: Table 1, *Noise Compatibility Criteria* and Table 2, *Safety Compatibility Criteria* lists general land use categories and indicates each use as being either “normally compatible,” “conditionally compatible,” or “incompatible” depending upon the compatibility zone in which it is located.
 - (a) For the purposes of assessing compliance with the usage intensity criteria:
 - (1) “Normally compatible” means that common examples of the use are compatible with the airport; uncommon examples of the use may require review to ensure compliance with compatibility criteria.
 - (2) “Conditional” means that the use is compatible if the listed conditions are met.
 - (3) “Incompatible” means that the use should not be permitted under any circumstances.
 - (b) When evaluating a proposed development, each land use category (e.g., agriculture, industrial, office) of a project shall be evaluated as a separate development and shall individually satisfy the criteria for the respective land use category in the noise and safety criteria tables.
 - (c) Land uses not specifically listed in the noise and safety criteria tables shall be evaluated using the criteria for similar listed uses.
 - (d) Local agencies may make exceptions for “conditional” or “incompatible” land uses associated with rare special events (e.g., an air show at the airport) for which a facility

is not designed and normally not used and for which extra safety precautions can be taken as appropriate.

3.2. Noise

- 3.2.1. *Policy Objective:* The purpose of noise compatibility policies is to avoid establishment of noise-sensitive land uses in the portions of airport environs that are exposed to significant levels of aircraft noise.
- 3.2.2. *Measures of Noise Exposure:* The magnitude of the exposure of lands around Hollister Municipal Airport to airport-related noise shall primarily be described in terms of Community Noise Equivalent Level (CNEL), the noise metric adopted by the State of California for land use planning purposes. The noise impacts are typically depicted by a set of contours, each of which represents points having the same CNEL value.
 - (a) The noise contours shall depict the greatest annualized noise impact, measured in terms of CNEL, anticipated to be generated by the airport over the planning time frame. In accordance with state law, the planning time frame utilized in this *Compatibility Plan* extends at least 20 years into the future.
 - (b) Single-event noise levels should be considered when evaluating the compatibility of highly noise-sensitive land uses such as residences, schools, libraries, and outdoor theaters. Susceptibility to speech interference and sleep disturbance are among the factors that make certain land uses noise sensitive. Single-event noise levels are especially important in areas that are regularly overflown by aircraft, but that do not produce significant CNEL contours (helicopter overflight areas are a particular example). Flight patterns for the Hollister Municipal Airport should be considered in the review process. Acoustical studies or on-site noise measurements may be required to assist in determining the compatibility of sensitive uses in terms of satisfying the exterior and interior noise standards established in Policies 3.2.5 and 3.2.6 and Table 1. Note that typical new building construction provides sufficient insulation to attenuate outdoor-to-indoor noise by at least 20 dB. Single-event noise levels are taken into account in Table 1 with respect to the acceptability of highly noise-sensitive land uses and also are factors in determination of the overflight zones defined in Section 3.5.
- 3.2.3. *Factors Considered in Setting Noise Compatibility Criteria:* Factors considered in setting the criteria in Table 1 include the following:
 - (a) Established state regulations and guidelines, including noise compatibility recommendations in the *California Airport Land Use Planning Handbook*.
 - (1) The California Building Code (California Code of Regulations, Title 24) requires that new hotels, motels, dormitories, apartment houses, and dwellings other than detached single-family residences located in areas that exceed CNEL 60 dB provide sound attenuation to ensure interior noise levels are not higher than CNEL 45 dB in any habitable room. All exterior noise sources are considered in determining compliance with this state requirement, not just airport noise.
 - (2) The *California Airport Land Use Planning Handbook* recommends applying the California noise attenuation standard of 45 dB CNEL to detached single-family residences.

- (b) The ambient noise levels in the community. Ambient noise levels influence the potential intrusiveness of aircraft noise upon a particular land use and vary greatly between rural, suburban, and urban communities.
- (c) The extent to which noise would intrude upon and interrupt the activity associated with a particular use.
- (d) The extent to which the land use activity itself generates noise.
- (e) The extent of outdoor activity associated with a particular land use.
- (f) The extent to which indoor uses associated with a particular land use may be made compatible with application of sound attenuation in accordance with Policy 3.2.6.

3.2.4. *Evaluating Noise Compatibility around Hollister Municipal Airport*: The noise compatibility of proposed land uses within the influence area of Hollister Municipal Airport shall be evaluated in accordance with the policies set forth in this section, including the noise impact zones depicted on **Map 2** and the criteria listed in **Table 1**.

- (a) Noise Impact Zones for Hollister Municipal Airport (**Map 2**): The noise impact zones depicted on **Map 2** are ones prepared for this *Compatibility Plan* in conjunction with the planning efforts for the 2009 Airport Layout Plan adopted by the City of Hollister. The noise contours represent a minimum 20-year projection of the airport's noise impacts. The noise impact zones are a composite of two sets of project noise contours reflecting a projected 130,000 annual aircraft operations on both the existing and future airfield configuration. Aircraft activity data upon which the contours are based are summarized in Chapter 3 of this *Compatibility Plan*. The ALUC should periodically review the projected CNEL contours and, in conjunction with the City of Hollister, update them as necessary to ensure that they continue to have a future time horizon of at least 20 years.
- (b) Noise Criteria (Table 1): The criteria in Table 1 indicate the maximum acceptable noise exposure for new residential land uses and a range of nonresidential land uses. Within the various noise exposure ranges, each land use type is shown as being either "normally compatible," "conditional," or "incompatible." The meaning of these terms is stated in the table and differs for indoor versus outdoor uses.

3.2.5. *Maximum Acceptable Exterior Noise Levels* : To minimize noise-sensitive development in noisy areas around the airport, new land use development shall be restricted in accordance with the following.

- (a) Within the airport-related 60 dB CNEL contour depicted in **Map 2**, new residential development—the creation of new residential lots or increase in density on existing lots—shall be prohibited. Exceptions are provided for existing residential lots (See Policy 1.4.5).
- (b) Within areas lying between the 55 dB and 60 dB CNEL contours of the airport (see **Map 2**), new residential development shall be restricted to a maximum density of 0.1 dwelling units per acre (average parcel size of ≥ 10 acres).
- (c) New nonresidential development shall be deemed incompatible in locations where the airport-related noise exposure would be highly disruptive to the specific land use. Applicable criteria are indicated in **Table 1**. Factors considered in establishing the maximum acceptable noise exposure are described in Policy 3.2.3.

- 3.2.6. *Maximum Acceptable Interior Noise Levels:* To the extent that the criteria in Table 1 and other policies herein permit the development, land uses for which interior activities may be easily disrupted by noise shall be required to comply with state or local interior noise level standards. If state and local standards conflict, the more stringent standard shall apply. For detached single-family residential uses allowed in areas where the CNEL exceeds 60 dB, ALUC policy is to require that residential structures attenuate exterior noise to a maximum interior noise level of 45 dB CNEL. .
- (a) The noise contours depicted in **Map 2** shall be used in calculating compliance with state or local standards. The calculations should assume that windows are closed.
 - (b) When a proposed building lies within multiple CNEL range zones (e.g., partly in 55-60 dB and partly in 60-65 dB), the higher range zone shall apply for the purposes of determining sound attenuation requirements unless less than 25% of the building floor area is within that zone. In such case, the lower range zone may be used.
 - (c) Where Table 1 indicates that buildings associated with a particular land use must be capable of attenuating exterior noise, acoustical data documenting that the structure will be designed to comply with state or local standards shall be provided.
 - (d) Exceptions to the interior noise level requirement of this policy may be allowed where evidence is provided that the indoor noise generated by the use itself exceeds the listed criteria.
- 3.2.7. *Aviation Easement Dedication Requirements:* Dedication of an aviation easement is required as a condition for approval of certain proposed development situated within the CNEL 55 dB contour in accordance with Policy 4.1.1 (see **Maps 2** and **5**).

3.3. Safety

- 3.3.1. *Policy Objective:* The intent of land use safety compatibility criteria is to minimize the risks associated with an off-airport aircraft accident or emergency landing. The policies focus on reducing the potential consequences of such events when they occur. Risks both to people and property in the vicinity of an airport and to people on board the aircraft shall be considered. (Note that land use features that can be the *cause* of an aircraft accident are addressed under Airspace Protection, Section 3.4.)
- 3.3.2. *Measures of Risk Exposure:* For the purposes of this *Compatibility Plan*, the risk that potential aircraft accidents pose to lands around Hollister Municipal Airport shall be defined in terms of the geographic distribution of where accidents are most likely to occur. Because aircraft accidents are infrequent occurrences, the pattern of accidents at any one airport cannot be used to predict where future accidents are most likely to happen around that airport. Reliance must be placed on data about aircraft accident locations at similar airports nationally, refined with respect to information about the types and patterns of aircraft usage at the individual airport. This methodology, as further described in Appendix D, is used to delineate the safety zones for Hollister Municipal Airport shown in **Map 2**.
- 3.3.3. *Factors Considered in Setting Safety Compatibility Criteria:* The principal factors considered in setting criteria applicable within each safety zone are:
- (a) The locations, delineated with respect to the airport runway, where aircraft accidents near transport and general aviation airports typically occur and the relative

concentration of accidents within these locations. The most stringent land use controls shall be applied to the areas with the greatest potential risks. The risk information utilized is the general aviation accident data and analyses contained in the *California Airport Land Use Planning Handbook*.

- (b) The runway length, approach categories, normal flight patterns, and aircraft fleet mix for Hollister Municipal Airport. These factors are reflected in the safety zone shapes and sizes.
- (c) The extent to which development covers the ground and thus limits the options of where an aircraft in distress can attempt an emergency landing.
- (d) The residential density limitations cannot be equated to the usage intensity limitations for nonresidential uses. Consistent with pervasive societal views and as suggested by the *California Airport Land Use Planning Handbook* guidelines, a greater degree of protection is warranted for residential uses.
- (e) A greater degree of protection is also warranted for certain uses that represent special safety concerns regardless of the number of people present (e.g., schools, hospitals). See Policy 3.3.8.

3.3.4. *Evaluating Safety Compatibility around Hollister Municipal Airport:* The safety compatibility of proposed land uses within the influence area of Hollister Municipal Airport shall be evaluated in accordance with the policies set forth in this section, including the safety zones depicted on **Map 3** and the criteria listed in **Table 2**.

- (a) Safety Zones for Hollister Municipal Airport (**Map 3**): The safety zones for Hollister Municipal Airport depicted in **Map 3** are a composite of the generic zones suggested in the *California Airport Land Use Planning Handbook*. The zone shapes and sizes reflect the existing and future runway length, approach categories, aircraft fleet mix, and normal flight patterns for Hollister Municipal Airport. The generic safety zones from the *California Airport Land Use Planning Handbook* are applied for Hollister Municipal Airport as follows:
 - (1) Runway 13-31: The generic safety zones for a medium general aviation runway are applied to the existing runway length of 6,350 feet. The safety zones for a long general aviation runway are used to reflect the ultimate runway length of 7,000 feet.
 - (2) Runway 6-24: The generic safety zones for a short general aviation runway are applied to both the existing runway length of 3,150 feet and ultimate runway length of 3,357 feet.
 - (3) Zone 1 is a composite of the existing and future runway protection zones depicted on the Airport Diagram prepared for this *Compatibility Plan* (see Exhibit 3-2 in Chapter 3).
- (b) Safety Criteria (Table 2): The safety criteria in Table 2 indicate the acceptability of new residential and nonresidential land uses within each safety zone.

3.3.5. *Residential Development Criteria:* In determining compliance with the residential density limits in Table 2, the following factors shall be considered.

- (a) The density of residential development shall be measured in terms of dwelling units per acre.

- (b) Within Safety Zones 1 and 5, new residential development shall be prohibited. Exceptions are provided for existing residential lots (See Policy 1.4.5). Clustering of new residential development is not applicable.
 - (c) Within Safety Zones 2 and 3, new residential development shall be limited to a maximum density of 0.1 dwelling units per acre (average parcel size of ≥ 10 acres). No more than 4 dwelling units shall be allowed in any individual acre if development is clustered. Buildings shall be located as far as practical from the extended runway centerline and normal aircraft flight paths.
 - (d) Within Safety Zone 4, new residential development shall be limited to a maximum density of 0.2 dwelling units per acre (average parcel size of ≥ 5 acres). No more than 4 dwelling units shall be allowed in any individual acre if development is clustered. Buildings shall be located as far as practical from the extended runway centerline and normal aircraft flight paths.
 - (e) Within Safety Zone 6, new residential development shall be restricted in accordance with intensity limits identified in Table 2: Safety Compatibility Criteria.
 - (f) For projects that are solely residential, the acreage evaluated equals the project site size which may include multiple parcels. See Policy 3.3.9 with regard to mixed-use development.
 - (g) The maximum allowable residential densities indicated in Table 2 are intended to include density bonuses and any other bonuses or allowances that local agencies may provide for affordable housing developed in accordance with the provisions of state and/or local law or regulation. The overall density of a development project, including any bonuses or allowances, must comply with the allowable density criteria in Table 2.
 - (h) Secondary units, as defined by state law, shall be excluded from density calculations.
 - (i) As indicated in Policy 1.4.5, construction of a single-family home, including a secondary unit as defined by state law, on a legal lot of record as of the date of adoption of this *Compatibility Plan* is allowed in all safety zones except Safety Zone 1 and 5 if such use is permitted by local land use regulations.
 - (j) In accordance with state law, a family day care home serving 14 or fewer children may be established in any existing dwelling or in any new dwelling permitted by the policies of this *Compatibility Plan*.
 - (k) See Policy 4.1.2 for infill criteria.
- 3.3.6. *Nonresidential Development Criteria:* The usage intensity of nonresidential development shall be measured in terms of the number of people per acre concentrated in areas most susceptible to aircraft accidents. The “sitewide average” and “single-acre” usage intensity (people per acre) limits indicated in Table 2 for each safety zone are the fundamental criterion against which the safety compatibility of most nonresidential land uses shall be measured. As a condition of approval, all new nonresidential development within the safety zones shall comply with both forms of intensity limits. Additional criteria apply to certain uses as also specified in **Table 2**. Proposed nonresidential development shall be evaluated in accordance with the following criteria:

- (a) Usage intensity calculations shall include all people (e.g., employees, customers/visitors) who may be on the project site at any single point in time, whether indoors or outdoors, during the normal busiest period.
 - (b) The project site may include multiple parcels.
 - (c) The single-acre intensity limits indicated in Table 2 apply to the most intensively used portions of a development site.
 - (d) Each component use within a nonresidential mixed-use development shall comply with the safety criteria in Table 2 unless the use is ancillary (less than 10% of total building floor area). Ancillary uses may be excluded from the single-acre intensity calculations but not the sitewide average intensity limits. Up to 10% of the total floor area may be devoted to an ancillary use of another type, even a use with a higher occupancy load factor, provided that the ancillary use is neither:
 - (1) An assembly room having more than 750 square feet of floor area (this criterion is intended to parallel the Universal Building Code standards) and a capacity of more than 50 people; nor
 - (2) A K-12 school, day care center, or other risk-sensitive use that is “incompatible” within the safety zone where the primary use is to be located.
 - (e) Other criteria may be applicable to uses of special concern (see Policy 3.3.8 and conditions in Table 2).
 - (f) Rare special events are exempt from satisfying the usage intensity limits in Table 2.
- 3.3.7. *Methods for Calculating Nonresidential Intensity:* Usage intensity (i.e., people per acre) is not a common metric in land use planning. Therefore, for the purposes of determining the concentration of people for various land uses, several methods are provided in Appendix E and briefly discussed below.
- (a) Calculation of Average-Acre Intensity: The sitewide average intensity of a proposed development may be calculated by determining the total number of people expected to be on site at any given time under normal busy use and dividing by the total number of acres of the project site. The number of occupants for a particular proposal or component thereof may be estimated by any of several methods:
 - (1) The square footage of the building divided by the typical square footage occupied by each person (see **Table 2** for common occupancy load factors). See **Exhibit 2A** for an example on how to calculate nonresidential intensity using this method.
 - (2) For uses with fixed seats—restaurants, theaters, for example—the occupancy should be based upon the number of customer seats plus the number of employees.
 - (3) For many commercial and industrial uses, the occupancy can be estimated by considering the number of parking spaces required by the local agency and multiplying by the average occupancy per vehicle (this method would not be suitable for land uses where many users arrive by transit, bicycle, or other means of transportation).

Exhibit 2A: Intensity Calculation Example

In this example, both the sitewide and single-acre intensity of a proposed warehouse facility is calculated using the common occupancy load factors [number of square feet per person] information in Table 2, Safety Criteria together with project specifications. The results are then compared with the maximum sitewide and single-acre intensity limits to determine consistency of the project with the safety criteria.



Table 2 Safety Criteria Data

Safety Zone 3 Intensity Limits

Max. Sitewide Average: 100 people per acre
Max. Single-Acre: 250 people per acre

Common Occupancy Load Factors

Office: approx. 215 s.f. per person
Light Industrial, Low Intensity: approx. 350 s.f. per person
Warehouse: approx. 1,000 s.f. per person

Project Data

Site Acreage: 3 acres
Office: 19,560 s.f.
Light Industrial: 24,000 s.f.
Warehouse: 65,000 s.f.

Occupancy

Office:	$\frac{19,560 \text{ s.f.}}{215 \text{ s.f. per person}}$	= 91 people
L-industrial:	$\frac{24,000 \text{ s.f.}}{350 \text{ s.f. per person}}$	= 69 people
Warehouse:	$\frac{65,000 \text{ s.f.}}{1,000 \text{ s.f. per person}}$	= 65 people
Total:		225 people

Intensity Results

The results of the intensity calculations indicate that the proposed development satisfies the sitewide and single-acre intensity criteria.

Sitewide Average

Total people = 225 people = 75 people per acre
Site Acreage: 3 acres

Single-Acre Acreage

Total people = 91,469 people = 160 people per acre
Site Acreage: 1 acre

- (b) Calculation of Single-Acre Intensity. The single-acre intensity of a proposed development may be calculated by determining the total number of people expected to be within any one-acre portion of the site, typically the most intensively used building or part of a building. Calculation of the single-acre intensity depends upon the building footprint and site sizes and the distribution of activities on the site.
- (1) For sites less than 1.0 acre, the single-acre intensity equals the total number of people on the site divided by the site size.

- (2) For sites more than 1.0 acre and a building footprint less than 1.0 acre, the single-acre intensity equals the total number of building occupants divided by the site size unless the project includes substantial outdoor occupancy in which case such usage should be taken into account.
 - (3) For sites having both site size and building footprint of more than 1.0 acre, the single-acre intensity shall normally be calculated as 1.0 divided by the building footprint in acres times the total number of building occupants. However, if the occupancy of the building is concentrated in one area—the office area of a large warehouse, for example—then the occupants of that area shall be included in the single-acre calculation.
 - (4) The 1.0-acre areas to be evaluated shall normally match the building footprints provided that the buildings are generally rectangular (reasonably close to square) and not elongated in shape and, for buildings larger than 1.0 acre, may represent a portion of the building.
- (c) **Local Agency Use of Alternative Calculation Methods.** A local agency or project applicant may propose an alternative method for measuring compliance with the usage intensity limits. In considering any such methods, the ALUC shall take into account the potential for the use of a building to change over time. A building could have planned low-intensity use initially, but later be converted to a higher-intensity use. Local agency permit language or other mechanisms to ensure continued compliance with the usage intensity criteria must be put in place.
- 3.3.8. *Land Uses of Special Concern:* Certain types of land uses represent special safety concerns irrespective of the number of people associated with those uses. Land uses of particular concern and the nature of the concern are listed below. Table 2 indicates the criteria applicable to these uses. In some cases, these uses are not allowed in portions of the airport environs regardless of the number of occupants associated with the use. In other instances these uses should be avoided—i.e., allowed only if a site outside the zone would not serve the intended function. When allowed, special measures (such as those listed in Table 2 for the particular use) should be taken to minimize hazards to the facility and occupants if the facility were to be struck by an aircraft.
- (a) **Uses Having Vulnerable Occupants:** These uses are ones in which the majority of occupants are children, elderly, and/or disabled—people who have reduced effective mobility or may be unable to respond to emergency situations. The primary uses in this category are:
- (1) Children's schools (grades K–12).

Exhibit 2B: Intensity Limits

The interrelationship between Intensity limit, normal occupancy load factor and Floor Area Ratio (FAR) is indicated in the two examples below. The examples reflect Zone 3 criteria: intensity limit of 100 people per acre, occupancy load factor of 200 square feet per person, and 0.46 FAR.

Example 1

200 square feet per person (occupancy load)
 $\times$ 100 people per acre (intensity limit)
 20,000 square foot building
 $\div$ 43,560 square feet per acre
 0.46 FAR

Example 2

43,560 square feet per acre
 $\times$ 0.46 FAR
 20,000 square foot building
 $\div$ 200 square feet per person (occupancy load)
 100 people per acre (intensity limit)

- (2) Day care centers (facilities with 15 or more children, as defined in the California Health and Safety Code).
 - (3) Hospitals, health care centers, and similar facilities, especially where patients remain overnight.
 - (4) Nursing homes.
 - (5) Inmate facilities.
- (b) Hazardous Materials Storage: Materials that are flammable, explosive, corrosive, or toxic constitute special safety compatibility concerns to the extent that an aircraft accident could cause release of the materials and thereby pose dangers to people and property in the vicinity. Facilities in this category include:
- (1) Facilities such as oil refineries and chemical plants that manufacture, process, and/or store bulk quantities of hazardous materials generally for shipment elsewhere.
 - (2) Facilities associated with otherwise compatible land uses where hazardous materials are stored in smaller quantities primarily for on-site use.
- (c) Critical Community Infrastructure: This category pertains to facilities the damage or destruction of which would cause significant adverse effects to public health and welfare well beyond the immediate vicinity of the facility. Among these facilities are:
- (1) Emergency services facilities such as police and fire stations.
 - (2) Emergency communications facilities; power plants, and other utilities.
- 3.3.9. *Mixed-Use Development*: For projects involving a mixture of residential and nonresidential uses, the following policies apply.
- (a) Where the residential and nonresidential uses are proposed to be situated on separate parts of the project site, the project shall be evaluated as separate developments. The residential density shall be calculated with respect to the area(s) to be devoted to residential development and the nonresidential intensity calculated with respect to the area(s) proposed for nonresidential uses. This provision means that the residential density cannot be averaged over the entire project site when nonresidential uses will occupy some of the area. The same limitation applies in reverse—that is, the nonresidential intensity cannot be averaged over an area that includes residential uses.
 - (b) Development in which residential uses are proposed to be located in conjunction with nonresidential uses in the same or nearby buildings on the same site must meet both residential density and nonresidential intensity criteria. The number of dwelling units shall not exceed the density limits indicated in Table 2. Additionally, the normal occupancy of the residential portion shall be added to that of the nonresidential portion and the total occupancy shall be evaluated with respect to the nonresidential usage intensity criteria cited in Table 2.
 - (c) Mixed-use development shall not be allowed where the residential component would be exposed to noise levels above the limits set in Table 1.
- 3.3.10. *Parcels Lying within Two or More Safety Zones*: For the purposes of evaluating consistency with the compatibility criteria set forth in Table 2, any parcel that is split by safety zone boundaries shall be considered as if it were multiple parcels divided at the safety zone boundary line. See **Exhibit 2C** for graphical example.

Exhibit 2C: Site Split by Safety Zones

In this example, the restaurant and office uses are split between Safety Zones 4 and 6. When determining compliance with the Zone 4 intensity limits, only the portions of these uses in Zone 4, together with the retail use that is fully in Zone 4 are considered and the site size is the 3.5 acres in Zone 4.

Safety Zone 4

Retail: $\frac{50,000 \text{ s.f.}}{170 \text{ s.f. per person}} = 294 \text{ people}$

Restaurant: $\frac{50\% \text{ of } 18,000 \text{ s.f.}}{60 \text{ s.f. per person}} = 150 \text{ people}$

Office: $\frac{50\% \text{ of } 24,000 \text{ s.f.}}{215 \text{ s.f. per person}} = 56 \text{ people}$

Total Occupancy = 500 people

Intensity: $\frac{500 \text{ people}}{3.5 \text{ acres}} = 143 \text{ people/acre}$
(meets Zone 4 sitewide average of 160 people/acre)

Safety Zone 6

All proposed uses are normally compatible.



- (a) Where no part of the building(s) proposed on the parcel/site fall within the more restrictive safety zone, the criteria for the safety zone where the proposed building(s) are located shall apply for the purposes of evaluating the compatibility of the proposed uses and determining other conditions to be placed upon the proposed project.
- (b) The density or intensity of development allowed within the more restricted portion of the project site can (and is encouraged to) be transferred to the less restricted portion. This full or partial transfer of development is permitted even if the resulting density or intensity in the less restricted area would then exceed the sitewide average intensity limits that would otherwise apply within that safety zone (see **Exhibit 2D**). Note that the single-acre criterion must still be satisfied. The purpose of this policy is to:
 - (1) Move people outside of the higher-risk zones; and
 - (2) To recognize local efforts to preserve prime agricultural lands. For example, the County's Transfer of Development Credit (TDC) Ordinance allows property owners to transfer their development rights from one property to another, thereby preserving prime agricultural and open space land while being compensated by the property owners who obtain the right to use those credits. Transfer of Development Credits may be available to property owners in the airport safety zones, especially

Exhibit 2D: Transferring Usage Intensity**Project Site**

Zone 3: 1.0 acres

Zone 4: 2.0 acres

Allowable Total Occupancy

Zone 3: 100 people/acre = 100 people

Zone 4: 160 people/acre = 320 people

Total Allowed on Site: 420 people

Transfer People from Zone 3 to Zone 4

Zone 3: 0 people

Zone 4: 320 + 100 = 420 people

* 420 people in 2.0 acres exceeds 160 people/acre limit for Zone 4, but is allowable under usage intensity transfer policy

where prime agricultural soils are present.

- 3.3.11. *Avigation Easement Dedication Requirements:* Dedication of an avigation easement is required as a condition for approval of certain proposed development situated within Safety Zones 1 through 5 in accordance with Policy 4.1.1 (see **Maps 3** and **5**).

3.4. Airspace Protection

- 3.4.1. *Policy Objective:* Airspace protection compatibility policies seek to prevent creation of land use features that can be hazards to the airspace required by aircraft in flight and have the potential for causing an aircraft accident to occur. Such hazards may be physical, visual, or electronic.
- 3.4.2. *Measures of Hazards to Airspace:* In evaluating the airspace protection compatibility of proposed development near Hollister Municipal Airport, three categories of hazards to airspace shall be taken into account: physical, visual, and electronic.
- (a) The height of structures and other objects situated near the airport are a primary determinant of physical hazards to the airport airspace.
 - (b) Land use features that have the potential to attract birds and certain other wildlife to the airport area are also to be evaluated as a form of physical hazards (FAA Advisory Circular 150/5200-33B, *Hazardous Wildlife Attractants on or Near Airports*).
 - (c) Visual hazards of concern include certain types of lights, sources of glare, and sources of dust, steam, or smoke.
 - (d) Electronic hazards are ones that may cause interference with aircraft communications or navigation.
- 3.4.3. *Factors Considered in Setting Airspace Protection Compatibility Criteria:* In establishing airspace protection policies, the ALUC relies upon regulations enacted by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and the State of California as outlined in this section. The ALUC policies are intended to help implement the federal and state regulations. Specific regulations are referenced in subsequent policies of this section.
- (a) The FAA has well-defined standards by which potential hazards to flight, especially airspace obstructions can be assessed. However, the FAA has no authority to prevent creation of such hazards. That authority rests with state and local government.
 - (b) State airspace protection standards mostly mirror those of the FAA. A key difference is that state law gives the California Department of Transportation, Division of Aeronautics and local agencies the authority to enforce the standards.
- 3.4.4. *Evaluating Airspace Protection Compatibility around Hollister Municipal Airport:* The airspace protection compatibility of proposed land uses within the influence area of Hollister Municipal Airport shall be evaluated in accordance with the policies in this section, including the airspace protection surfaces depicted on **Map 4**, Airspace Protection Zones.
- (a) Airspace Obstruction Zones for Hollister Municipal Airport (**Map 4**): The airspace protection zones depicted in **Map 4** were prepared for Hollister Municipal Airport in accordance with Federal Aviation Regulations (FAR) Part 77, *Safe, Efficient Use and Preservation of the Navigable Airspace*, and other applicable obstruction clearance

standards published by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) in Advisory Circular 150/5300-13, Change 17.

- (1) The Airspace Protection Zones are drawn in accordance with FAR Part 77, Subpart C and reflect the future runway lengths and instrument approaches.
 - = Nonprecision approach to Runway 13 with visibility minimums of 1 mile.
 - = Nonprecision approach to Runway 31 with visibility minimums as low as $\frac{3}{4}$ mile.
 - = Visual approaches to Runways 6 and 24.
- (2) The Critical Airspace Protection Zone encompasses the primary surface and the critical portions of the approach and transitional surfaces to where these surfaces intersect with the horizontal surface.
- (3) The FAA Height Notification Zone is established in accordance with FAR Part 77, Subpart B. The airspace surface extends outward and upward at a slope of 100 to 1 for a horizontal distance of 20,000 feet from the airport runways.

3.4.5. *Airspace Obstruction Criteria:* The criteria for determining the acceptability of a project with respect to height shall be based upon the standards set forth in Federal Aviation Regulations (FAR) Part 77, Subpart C, *Safe, Efficient Use and Preservation of the Navigable Airspace*. Additionally, where an FAA aeronautical study of a proposed object has been required as described in Policy 3.4.7, the results of that study shall be taken into account by the ALUC and the local agency.

- (a) Except as provided in Paragraphs (b) and (c) of this policy, no object, including a mobile object such as a vehicle or temporary object such as construction crane, shall have a height that would result in penetration of the airspace protection surface depicted for Hollister Municipal Airport in **Map 4, Airspace Protection Zones**. Any object that penetrates one of these surfaces is, by FAA definition, deemed an *obstruction*.
- (b) Within the Critical Airspace Protection Zone (see Policy 3.4.4(a)(2)), objects shall be limited in height consistent with the airspace protection surfaces defined by FAR Part 77 criteria. Elsewhere within the airspace protection area, any object is allowed to have a height of up to 35 feet above the ground (subject to local agency zoning limits) even if the object would penetrate an FAR Part 77 surface and thus constitute an obstruction.
- (c) Except as indicated in Paragraph (b), a proposed object having a height greater than 35 feet above the ground and that exceeds the airport's airspace protection surface shall be allowed only if *all* of the following apply:
 - (1) As the result of an aeronautical study, the FAA determines that the object would not be a hazard to air navigation.
 - (2) FAA or other expert analysis conducted under the auspices of the ALUC or the City of Hollister as the airport owner concludes that, despite being an airspace obstruction (not necessarily a hazard), the object would not cause any of the following:
 - = An increase in the ceiling or visibility minimums of the airport for an existing or planned instrument procedure (a planned procedure is one that is formally on file with the FAA);
 - = A reduction of the established operational efficiency and capacity of the airport, such as by causing the usable length of the runway to be reduced; or

= A conflict with the visual flight rules (VFR) airspace used for the airport traffic pattern or en route navigation to and from the airport.

- (3) Marking and lighting of the object will be installed as directed by the FAA aeronautical study or the California Division of Aeronautics and in a manner consistent with FAA standards in effect at the time the construction is proposed (Advisory Circular 70/7460-1J, *Obstruction Marking and Lighting*, or any later guidance).
- (4) An aviation easement is dedicated, in accordance with Policy 4.1.1, to the City of Hollister as owner of the airport.
- (5) The proposed project/plan complies with all other policies of this *Compatibility Plan*.

3.4.6. *Other Flight Hazards:* Land uses that may cause visual, electronic, or wildlife hazards, particularly bird strike hazards, to aircraft in flight or taking off or landing at the airport shall be allowed within the airport influence area only if the uses are consistent with FAA rules and regulations.

(a) Specific characteristics to be avoided include:

- (1) Sources of glare (such as from mirrored or other highly reflective buildings or building features) or bright lights (including search lights and laser light displays);
- (2) Distracting lights that could be mistaken for airport lights;
- (3) Sources of dust, steam, or smoke that may impair pilots' vision;
- (4) Sources of steam or other emissions that cause thermal plumes or other forms of unstable air;
- (5) Sources of electrical interference with aircraft communications or navigation; and
- (6) Any proposed use that creates an increased attraction for wildlife and that is inconsistent with FAA rules and regulations including, but not limited to, FAA Advisory Circulars 150/5200-33B, *Hazardous Wildlife Attractants On or Near Airports* and 150/5200-34A, *Construction or Establishment of Landfills near Public Airports*. Of particular concern are landfills and certain recreational or agricultural uses that attract large flocks of birds which pose bird strike hazards to aircraft in flight.

(b) To resolve any uncertainties with regard to the significance of the above types of flight hazards, local agencies should consult with FAA, Caltrans Division of Aeronautics, and Hollister Municipal Airport officials.

3.4.7. *Requirements for FAA Notification of Proposed Construction or Alteration:* The project proponent must submit notification of a proposal to the FAA where required by the provisions of FAR Part 77, Subpart B, and by the California Public Utilities Code, Sections 21658 and 21659. FAA notification requirements apply to all objects including structures, antennas, trees, mobile objects, and temporary objects such as construction cranes. The FAA will conduct an "aeronautical study" of the object(s) and determine whether the object(s) would be of a height that would constitute a hazard to air navigation. See Appendix C for a copy of FAR Part 77 and online procedures for filing Form 7460-1. The following requirements reflect ALUC policy:

- (a) Local agencies shall inform project proponents of the requirements for notification to the FAA. FAA notification is required under the following circumstances:

- (1) The project contains proposed structures or other objects that exceed the height standards defined in FAR Part 77, Subpart B, as applied to the Hollister Municipal Airport (see Policies 3.4.4(a)(1) and 3.4.4(a)(3)), unless the object is shielded by nearby taller objects as is exempted in accordance with FAR Part 77, Paragraph 77.15. Note that notification to the FAA under FAR Part 77, Subpart B, is required even for certain proposed construction that does not exceed the height limits allowed by Subpart C of the regulations.
 - (2) Any proposal for construction or alteration of a structure, including antennas, taller than 200 feet above the ground level at the site regardless of proximity to any airport.
- (b) Any proposed development project that includes construction of a structure or other object and that is required to be submitted to the ALUC for a consistency review in accordance with Policies 1.5.3 or 1.5.5 shall include a copy of the completed FAR Part 77 notification form (Form 7460-1) submitted to the FAA, if applicable, and of the resulting FAA findings from its aeronautical study (i.e., notice of determination letter).
 - (c) ALUC Review: The requirement for notification to the FAA shall not by itself trigger an airport compatibility review of an individual project by the ALUC. If the general plan of the local agency in which the project is to be located has been determined by the ALUC to be consistent with this *Compatibility Plan*, then no ALUC review is required. If the general plan has not been made consistent, then the proposed project must be submitted to the ALUC for review (see Policies 1.5.3 and 1.5.5).

3.5. Overflight

- 3.5.1. *Policy Objective:* Noise from individual aircraft operations, especially by comparatively loud aircraft, can be intrusive and annoying in locations beyond the limits of the noise impacts addressed by the policies in Section 3.2. Sensitivity to aircraft overflights varies from one person to another. The purpose of overflight compatibility policies is to help notify people about the presence of overflights near airports so that they can make more informed decisions regarding acquisition or lease of property in the affected areas. Overflight compatibility is particularly important with regard to residential land uses.
- 3.5.2. *Evaluating Overflight Compatibility:* The purpose of the overflight compatibility policy is to help notify people about the presence of aircraft overflight near airports so that they can make informed decisions regarding acquisition or lease of property in the affected areas. Overflight compatibility is particularly important with regard to residential land uses.

Unlike the function of the noise, safety, and airspace protection compatibility policies in this *Compatibility Plan*, the overflight compatibility policy, within the Routine Overflight Zone, set forth in this section, does not restrict the manner in which land can be developed or used. Within the Routine Overflight Zone boundary, dwelling units shall not be restricted by this *Compatibility Plan* if such units are permitted in the City of Hollister and County of San Benito respective General Plans. The boundary of the Routine Overflight Zone in this *Compatibility Plan* is shown on Map 5, Page 2-50.

The Routine Overflight Zone policy establishes the form and requirements for notification about airport proximity and aircraft overflights to be given in conjunction

with local agency approval of new development and with certain real estate transactions involving existing development.

The Routine Overflight Zone Policy requires that:

Any proposed general plan, general plan amendment, specific plan, specific plan amendment, zoning ordinance, zoning ordinance amendment, building regulation modification, or individual development proposal will be determined to be inconsistent with this *Compatibility Plan* if the proposed local action lacks sufficient provisions to ensure that:

- a. Recorded Deed Notices shall be recorded for all properties within the scope of the proposed local action if located or proposed within the Routine Overflight Zone. The Routine Overflight Zone boundary matches the outer boundary of the horizontal surface as defined by FAR Part 77.
- b. All owners, potential purchasers, occupants (whether as owners or renters), and potential occupants (whether as owners or renters) will receive full and accurate Real Estate Transaction Disclosure concerning the noise, safety, or overflight impacts associated with airport operations prior to entering any contractual obligation to purchase, lease, rent, or otherwise occupy any property or properties within the Routine Overflight Zone.

The compatibility of uses in the Routine Overflight Zone shall be preserved to the maximum extent feasible. Particular emphasis should be placed on preservation of existing agricultural and open space uses. General plan amendments (as well as other discretionary actions such as rezoning, subdivision approvals, use permits, etc.) proposed within *the Routine Overflight Zone* that would convert land to residential use or increase the density of residential uses should be subject to careful consideration of overflight noise impacts.

The intensity limits provided in Table 2: Safety Compatibility Criteria for Zone 6 shall apply within the overlying Routine Overflight Zone (i.e., Safety Zone 6).

- 3.5.3. *Measures of Overflight Exposure:* The loudness of individual aircraft noise events is a key determinant of where airport proximity and aircraft overflight notification is warranted. For general aviation airports such as Hollister Municipal Airport, the principal areas of overflight exposure are the locations beneath the airport traffic pattern and the common entry routes to the traffic pattern. The established traffic pattern altitude at Hollister Municipal Airport is 800 feet above the airport elevation for fixed-wing aircraft and 500 feet for helicopters. The boundary of the overflight area for Hollister Municipal Airport as depicted on **Map 5** is drawn to encompass locations where aircraft approaching and departing the airport typically fly at an altitude of less than 1,000 feet.
- 3.5.4. *Factors Considered in Setting Overflight Compatibility Criteria:* These factors include:
 - (a) Limitations of ALUC authority over existing land uses. To be most effective, overflight policies should establish notification requirements for transactions involving existing land uses, not just future development. However, the ALUC only has authority to set requirements for new development and to define the boundaries within which real estate transfer disclosure under state law is appropriate.

(b) Limitations of state real estate transfer disclosure law. State law applies to existing development, but not to all transactions. California state statutes (Business and Professions Code Section 11010 and Civil Code Sections 1102.6, 1103.4, and 1353) require that, as part of many residential real estate transactions, information be disclosed regarding whether the property is situated within an airport influence area.

- (1) These state requirements apply to the sale or lease of newly subdivided lands and condominium conversions and to the sale of certain existing residential property. In general, airport proximity disclosure is required with existing residential property transfer only when certain natural conditions (earthquake, fire, or flood hazards) warrant disclosure.
- (2) The statutes define an *airport influence area* as “the area in which current or future airport-related noise, overflight, safety, or airspace protection factors may significantly affect land uses or necessitate restrictions on those uses as determined by an airport land use commission.” (Note: The area within which the ALUC deems airport proximity disclosure to be appropriate for the Hollister Municipal Airport is identified on **Map 5, Overflight Zones.**)
- (3) Where disclosure is required, the state statutes dictate that the following statement shall be provided:

NOTICE OF AIRPORT IN VICINITY: This property is presently located in the vicinity of an airport, within what is known as an airport influence area. For that reason, the property may be subject to some of the annoyances or inconveniences associated with proximity to airport operations (for example: noise, vibration, or odors). Individual sensitivities to those annoyances can vary from person to person. You may wish to consider what airport annoyances, if any, are associated with the property before you complete your purchase and determine whether they are acceptable to you.

- (c) Need for continuity of notification to future property owners and tenants. To the extent that the ALUC sets notification requirements for new development, the policy should ensure that the notification runs with the land and is provided to prospective future owners and tenants.
- (d) Inappropriateness of avigation easement dedication solely for buyer awareness purposes. Avigation easements involve conveyance of property rights from the property owner to the party owning the easement and are thus best suited to locations where land use restrictions for noise, safety, or airspace protection purposes are necessary. Property rights conveyance is not needed for buyer awareness purposes.

3.5.5. *Evaluating Overflight Compatibility around Hollister Municipal Airport:* The policies in this section serve primarily to establish the form and requirements for notification about airport proximity and aircraft overflights to be given in conjunction with local agency approval of new residential development and with certain real estate transactions involving existing residential development. The overflight policies do not restrict the manner in which new residential uses can be developed in areas that are subject to routine aircraft overflights. Overflight policies do not apply to nonresidential development. The boundaries of the overflight zones around Hollister Municipal Airport are shown on **Map 5** and are delineated as follows:

- (a) The High Noise/Risk Zone encompasses areas within the 55 dB CNEL contour, Safety Zones 1 through 5 and the Critical Airspace Protection Zone.
 - (b) The Routine Overflight Zone boundary reflects areas commonly overflown by aircraft at an altitude of approximately 1,000 feet or less. This area lies within the outer boundary of the horizontal surface as defined by FAR Part 77, Subpart C.
 - (c) The Airport Influence Area boundary includes all areas within the established airport influence area for Hollister Municipal Airport. This area lies within the outer boundary of the conical surface as defined by FAR Part 77, Subpart C.
- 3.5.6. *Residential Density Limits:* The following residential density limits are established in portions of the airport environs subject to routine aircraft overflights.
- (a) Within the High Noise/Risk Zone boundary, residential uses are prohibited.
 - (b) Within the Routine Overflight Zone boundary, new residential development shall not be prohibited if allowed within the City's and County's respective General Plans. Recorded Overflight Notification and Real Estate Transaction Disclosure is required within the Routine Overflight Zone (see Policy 3.5.2).
 - (c) Within the Airport Influence Area boundary Real Estate Transaction Disclosure is required. New residential development shall not be prohibited if allowed within the City's and County's respective General Plans.
- 3.5.7. *ALUC Policy Regarding Recorded Overflight Notification:* As a condition for local agency approval of residential land use development within the Routine Overflight Zone boundary indicated on **Map 5**, an overflight notification shall be recorded.
- (a) The notification shall contain the language dictated by state law with regard to real estate transaction disclosure (see Policy 3.5.4(b)(3)) and shall be of a format similar to that indicated in Appendix G.
 - (b) The notification shall be evident to prospective purchasers of new residential property and shall appear on the property deed.
 - (c) A separate recorded overflight notification is not required where an aviation easement is provided.
 - (d) Recording of an overflight notification is not required for nonresidential development.
- 3.5.8. *ALUC Policy Regarding Real Estate Transaction Disclosure:* For the purposes of this *Compatibility Plan*:
- (a) The disclosure provisions of state law are deemed mandatory for *new* residential development and shall continue in effect as ALUC policy even if the state law is made less stringent or rescinded.
 - (b) Although not required by state law, the policy of this *Compatibility Plan* is that airport proximity disclosure should be provided as part of *all* real estate transactions (sale, lease, or rental) involving residential property within the Hollister Municipal Airport Influence Area and Routine Overflight Zone boundaries indicated on **Map 5**.
 - (c) The disclosure shall contain the language dictated by state law (see Policy 3.5.4(b)(3)) and shall be of a format similar to that indicated in Appendix G.

- (d) ALUC policy is that signs providing the above notice and a map of the Hollister Municipal Airport influence area be prominently posted in the real estate sales office and/or other key locations at any new residential development within the airport influence area.
- (e) It is not the responsibility of either the ALUC or local agencies to enforce real estate transfer disclosure with regard to the transfer of existing residences. Disclosure is a matter to be handled between private parties. The responsibility of the ALUC and local agencies is merely to provide information as to the locations within which airport proximity disclosure is appropriate and the suitable disclosure language to be used.

4. ADDITIONAL COMPATIBILITY POLICIES

4.1. Special Conditions for Land Use Actions

- 4.1.1. *Avigation Easement Dedication:* As a condition for approval of projects meeting the conditions in Paragraphs (a) and (b) below, the property owner shall be required to dedicate an avigation easement to the City of Hollister as owner of Hollister Municipal Airport.
 - (a) As depicted in **Map 5**, avigation easement dedication is required for all projects situated within the High Noise/Risk Zone boundary which includes the following portions of the Hollister Municipal Airport influence area:
 - (1) All locations within the CNEL 55 dB contour depicted on **Map 2**.
 - (2) All locations within Safety Zones 1 through 5 as depicted on **Map 3**.
 - (3) All locations within the Critical Airspace Protection Zone as depicted on **Map 4**.
 - (b) Avigation easement dedication shall be required for any proposed development except ministerial actions associated with modification of existing single-family residences.
 - (c) The avigation easement shall:
 - (1) Provide the right of flight in the airspace above the property;
 - (2) Allow the generation of noise and other impacts associated with aircraft overflight;
 - (3) Restrict the height of structures, trees and other objects in accordance with the policies in Section 3.4 and the Compatibility Policy Map: *Airspace Protection Zones* (**Map 4**) herein;
 - (4) Permit access to the property for the removal or aeronautical marking of objects exceeding the established height limit; and
 - (5) Prohibit electrical interference, glare, and other potential hazards to flight from being created on the property.
 - (d) An example of an avigation easement is provided in Appendix G.
- 4.1.2. *Infill:* Where land uses not in conformance with the criteria set forth in this *Compatibility Plan* exist at the time of the plan's adoption, infill development of similar land uses may be allowed to occur in that area even if the proposed land use is otherwise incompatible with respect to the compatibility criteria for that location.

- (a) Infill development is not permitted in the following locations.
 - (1) No type of infill development shall be permitted in Safety Zone 1 (the runway protection zones and within the runway primary surface).
 - (2) Residential infill development shall not be permitted within Safety Zone 2 (inner approach/departure zone) or Safety Zone 5 (sideline zone) except as allowed by Policy 1.4.5.
 - (3) Residential infill development shall not be allowed where the dwellings would be exposed to exterior, Hollister Municipal Airport-related, noise levels higher than CNEL 60 dB (that is, noise levels 5 dB or more above the acceptable limit for other new residential development as set by Policy 3.2.5(a)).
- (b) In other locations within Review Area 1, a project site can be considered for infill development if it falls within an area identified by the local agency (see Policy 2.2.1(c)) as suitable for infill development. (Infill is not applicable within Review Area 2 as land uses are not restricted in this area other than with respect to height limits.) The infill area must meet *all* of the following conditions:
 - (1) Already served with streets, water, sewer, and other infrastructure
 - (2) Comprised of existing uses inconsistent with the compatibility criteria set forth in this *Compatibility Plan*.
 - (3) At least 65% of the site's perimeter is bounded (disregarding roads) by existing uses similar to, or more intensive than, those proposed;
 - (4) A project site within an identified infill area must be no larger than 20 acres;
 - (5) The proposed project would not extend the perimeter of the infill area defined by the surrounding, already developed, incompatible uses; and
 - (6) Land uses proposed for the infill area are consistent with the local agency's zoning regulations governing the existing, already developed, surrounding area.
- (c) For infill residential development in Safety Zones 3 and 4, the average development density (dwelling units per acre) of the site shall not exceed the median density represented by all existing residential lots that lie fully or partially within a distance of 300 feet from the boundary of the defined infill area.
- (d) For infill nonresidential development, the average usage intensity (the number of people per acre) of the site's proposed use shall not exceed the lesser of:
 - (1) The median intensity of all existing nonresidential uses that lie fully or partially within a distance of 300 feet from the boundary of the defined infill area; or
 - (2) Double the intensity permitted in accordance with the criteria for that location as indicated in Table 2.

(For example, if the zone allows 100 people per acre and the median of nearby existing uses is 150 people per acre, the infill development would be limited to 150 people per acre rather than 200.)
- (e) The single-acre intensity limits for nonresidential development described in Policy 3.3.6 and listed in Table 2 are applicable to infill development. Also, the sound attenuation and avigation easement dedication requirements set by Policies 3.2.6 and 4.1.1 shall apply to infill development.

- (f) The ALUC's intent is that all parcels eligible for infill be identified at one time by the local agency.
 - (1) The local agency is responsible for identifying, in its general plan or other adopted planning document reviewed by the ALUC, the qualifying locations that lie within that agency's boundaries. This action may take place in conjunction with the process of amending a general plan for consistency with the ALUC plan or may be submitted by the local agency for consideration by the ALUC at the time of initial adoption of this *Compatibility Plan*.
 - (2) If a map identifying locations suitable for infill has not been submitted by the local agency and reviewed by the ALUC or the site of an individual project proposal does not fall within the identified infill area, the ALUC may evaluate the project to determine whether it would meet the qualifying conditions listed in Paragraphs (a) through (e) of this policy.
 - (3) In either case, the burden for demonstrating that an area or an individual site qualifies as infill rests with the affected land use agency and/or project proponent and is not the responsibility of the ALUC.

4.1.3. *Existing Nonconforming Uses:* The ALUC has no authority over existing land uses even if those uses are not in conformance with the compatibility criteria set forth in this *Compatibility Plan*. That is, the ALUC has no ability to cause reduction or removal of existing land use incompatibilities from the airport environs. However, proposed changes to existing uses *are* subject to ALUC purview if the changes would result in increased nonconformity with the compatibility criteria. Specifically, proposed changes to existing nonconforming uses (including a parcel or building) are limited as follows:

(a) Residential uses.

- (1) A nonconforming residential land use may be continued, sold, leased, or rented without ALUC restriction or review.
- (2) A nonconforming single-family dwelling may be maintained, remodeled, reconstructed, or expanded in size. The lot line of an existing single-family residential parcel may be adjusted. Also, a new single-family residence may be constructed on an existing lot in accordance with Policy 1.4.5. However:
 - = Any remodeling, reconstruction, or expansion must not increase the number of dwelling units. For example, a bedroom could be added to an existing residence, but an additional dwelling unit could not be built on the parcel unless that unit is a secondary dwelling unit as defined by state and local laws.
 - = A single-family residential parcel may not be divided for the purpose of allowing additional dwellings to be constructed.
- (3) Nonconforming multi-family residential dwellings may be maintained, remodeled, or reconstructed (see Policy 4.1.4). The size of individual dwelling units may be increased, but additional dwelling units may not be added.
- (4) The sound attenuation and avigation easement dedication requirements set by Policies 3.2.6 and 4.1.1 shall apply.

(b) Nonresidential uses.

- (1) A nonconforming nonresidential use may be continued, sold, leased, or rented without ALUC restriction or review.

- (2) Nonconforming nonresidential facilities may be maintained, altered, or, if required by state law, reconstructed (see Policy 4.1.4). However, any such work:
 - = Must not result in expansion of either the portion of the site devoted to the nonconforming use or the floor area of the buildings; and
 - = Must not result in an increase in the usage intensity (the number of people per acre) above the levels existing at the time of adoption of this *Compatibility Plan*.
 - (3) The sound attenuation and avigation easement dedication requirements set by Policies 3.2.6 and 4.1.1 shall apply.
 - (c) Children's schools (including grades K-12, day care centers with more than 14 children, and school libraries).
 - (1) Land acquisition for new schools or for expansion of existing schools is not permitted in any safety zone except Safety Zone 6.
 - (2) Replacement or expansion of buildings at existing school sites is not allowed in Safety Zones 2 or 5. One-time replacement or expansion of buildings at existing school sites in Safety Zones 3, 4 and 6 is allowed only if the expansion accommodates no more than 50 students. These limitations do not preclude work required for normal maintenance or repair.
- 4.1.4. *Reconstruction:* An existing nonconforming development that has been fully or partially destroyed as the result of a calamity—not planned reconstruction or redevelopment—may be rebuilt only under the following conditions:
- (a) Nonconforming single-family or multi-family residential uses may be rebuilt provided that the reconstruction does not result in more dwelling units than existed on the parcel at the time of the damage. Addition of a secondary dwelling unit to a single-family residence is permitted if in accordance with state law and local regulations.
 - (b) A nonconforming nonresidential development may be rebuilt provided that the reconstruction does not increase the floor area of the previous structure or result in an increased usage intensity (people per acre).
 - (c) Reconstruction under Paragraphs (a) or (b) above:
 - (1) Must have a permit deemed complete by the local agency within twenty-four (24) months of the date the damage occurred.
 - (2) Shall incorporate sound attenuation features to the extent required by Policy 3.2.6 and consistent with the California Noise Standards.
 - (3) Shall be conditioned upon dedication of an avigation easement to the City of Hollister if required under Policy 4.1.1.
 - (4) Shall comply with Federal Aviation Regulations Part 77 requirements (see Policy 3.4).
 - (5) Shall not be permitted where it would be in conflict (not in conformance) with the general plan or zoning ordinance of the local agency.
 - (6) Shall not preclude work required for normal maintenance and repair.
- 4.1.5. *Redevelopment:* Redevelopment projects are subject to the provisions of this *Compatibility Plan* to the same extent as other forms of proposed development. Redevelopment is

defined as development of a new use (not necessarily a new type of use) to replace an existing use at a density or intensity that may vary from the existing use.

- 4.1.6. *Special Conditions Exception:* The compatibility criteria set forth in this plan are intended to be applicable to all locations within the Hollister Municipal Airport influence area that are under the jurisdiction of the Airport Land Use Commission for San Benito County. However, there may be specific situations where a normally incompatible use can be considered compatible because of terrain, specific location, or other extraordinary factors or circumstances related to the site.
- (a) After due consideration of all the factors involved in such situations, the ALUC may find a normally incompatible use to be acceptable.
 - (b) In reaching such a decision, the ALUC shall make specific findings as to why the exception is being made and the nature of the extraordinary circumstances that warrant the policy exception. Additionally, the ALUC shall make the following specific findings that the land use will neither:
 - (1) Create a safety hazard to people on the ground or aircraft in flight; nor
 - (2) Result in excessive noise exposure for the proposed use.
 - (c) Approval of a special conditions exception for a proposed project shall require a two-thirds approval of the ALUC members voting on the matter.
 - (d) The burden for demonstrating that special conditions apply to a particular development proposal rests with the project proponent and/or the referring agency, not with the ALUC.
 - (e) The granting of a special conditions exception shall be considered site specific and shall not be generalized to include other sites.

4.2. General Plan Consistency with Compatibility Plan

In order for a general plan to be considered consistent with this *Compatibility Plan*, the following must be accomplished (see Chapter 1 and Appendix F for additional guidance):

4.2.1. *Elimination of Conflicts:* No direct conflicts can exist between the two plans.

- (a) Direct conflicts primarily involve general plan land use designations that do not meet the density or intensity criteria specified in Section 3 of this *Compatibility Plan*. In addition, conflicts with regard to other policies—height limitations in particular—may exist.
- (b) A general plan cannot be found inconsistent with the *Compatibility Plan* because of land use designations that reflect existing land uses even if those designations conflict with the compatibility criteria of this *Compatibility Plan*. General plan land use designations that merely reflect the existing uses are exempt from requirements for general plan consistency with the *Compatibility Plan*. This exemption derives from state law which proscribes ALUC authority over existing land uses. However, proposed redevelopment or other changes to existing land uses are not exempt from compliance with compatibility policies and are subject to ALUC review in accordance with Policy. To ensure that nonconforming uses do not become more nonconforming, general plans must include policies setting limitations on expansion and reconstruction of

nonconforming uses located within the Hollister Municipal Airport influence area consistent with Policies 4.1.3 and 4.1.4.

- (c) To be consistent with the *Compatibility Plan*, a general plan and/or implementing ordinance also must include provisions ensuring long-term compliance with the compatibility criteria. For example, future reuse of a building must not result in a usage intensity that exceeds the applicable standard or other limit approved by the ALUC.

4.2.2. *Establishment of Review Process:* Local agencies must define the process they will follow when reviewing proposed land use development within an airport influence area to ensure that the development will be consistent with the policies set forth in this *Compatibility Plan*. A general plan consistency checklist is provided in Appendix F.

- (a) Specifically, the process established must ensure that the proposed development is consistent with the land use or zoning designation indicated in the local agency's general plan, specific plan, zoning ordinance, and/or other development regulations that the ALUC has previously found consistent with this *Compatibility Plan* and that the development's subsequent use or reuse will remain consistent with the policies herein over time. Additionally, consistency with other applicable compatibility criteria—e.g., usage intensity, height limitations, aviation easement dedication—must be assessed.
- (b) This review process may be described either within land use plans themselves or in implementing ordinances. Local jurisdictions have the following choices for satisfying this review process requirement:
 - (1) Sufficient detail can be included in the general plan and/or referenced implementing ordinances and regulations to enable the local jurisdiction to assess whether a proposed development fully meets the compatibility criteria specified in the applicable compatibility plan (this means both that the compatibility criteria be identified and that project review procedures be described);
 - (2) The ALUC's compatibility plan can be adopted by reference (in this case, the project review procedure must be described in a separate policy document or memorandum of understanding presented to and accepted by the ALUC); and/or
 - (3) The general plan can indicate that all land use actions, or a list of action types agreed to by the ALUC, shall be submitted to the ALUC for review in accordance with the policies of Section 2.3.

4.3. Airport Plans

4.3.1. *Substance of Review:* In accordance with state law, any new or amended Hollister Municipal Airport master plan or development plan is subject to ALUC review for consistency with this *Compatibility Plan* (see Policy 1.5.2). In conducting any such review, the ALUC shall evaluate whether the airport plan would result in greater noise, safety, airspace protection, or overflight impacts than indicated in this *Compatibility Plan*. Attention should specifically focus on:

- (a) Proposals for facilities or procedures not assumed herein, specifically:
 - (1) Construction of a new runway or helicopter takeoff and landing area.
 - (2) Change in the length, width, or landing threshold location of an existing runway.

- (3) Establishment of an instrument approach procedure that changes the approach capabilities at a particular runway end.
 - (4) Modification of the flight tracks associated with existing visual or instrument operations procedures.
 - (b) New activity forecasts that are: (1) significantly higher than those used in developing the Hollister Municipal Airport Compatibility Policy Map: *Noise Impact Zones* (**Map 2**); or (2) assume a higher proportion of larger or noisier aircraft. However, normal growth in airport activity—that is, growth that is not induced by proposed new facilities or procedures—projected to occur over a more extended time period than is the basis for this *Compatibility Plan* shall not be considered an inconsistency even if larger noise contours result.
- 4.3.2. *Noise Impacts of Airport Expansion:* Any proposed expansion of airport facilities that would result in a significant increase in cumulative noise exposure (measured in terms of CNEL) shall include measures to reduce the exposure to a less-than-significant level. For the purposes of this plan, a noise increase shall be considered significant by the ALUC if:
- (a) In locations having an existing ambient noise level of CNEL 55 dB or less, the project would increase the noise level by 3.0 dB or more.
 - (b) In locations having an existing ambient noise level of more than CNEL 55 dB, the project would increase the noise level by 1.5 dB or more.
- 4.3.3. *Consistency Determination:* The ALUC shall determine whether the proposed airport plan or development plan is consistent with this *Compatibility Plan*. The ALUC shall base its determination of consistency on:
- (a) Findings that the development and forecasts identified in the airport plan would not result in greater noise, safety, airspace protection, or overflight impacts on surrounding land uses than are assumed in this *Compatibility Plan*.
 - (b) Consideration of:
 - (1) Mitigation measures incorporated into the plan or project to reduce any increases in the noise, safety, airspace protection, and overflight impacts to a less-than-significant level in accordance with provisions of CEQA; or
 - (2) In instances where the impacts cannot be reduced to a less-than-significant level, a statement of overriding considerations approved by the project proponent in accordance with provisions of CEQA.
 - (c) A determination that any nonaviation development proposed for locations within the airport boundary (excluding federal- or state-owned property) will be consistent with the compatibility criteria and policies indicated in this *Compatibility Plan* with respect to that airport (see Policy 1.2.6 for definition of aviation-related use).

4.4. Overruling the ALUC

- 4.4.1. *ALUC Determination of “Incompatible”:* In accordance with (Public Utilities Code Sections 21676(a), (b), and (c)), if the ALUC determines that a proposed project is inconsistent with the *Compatibility Plan*, the local agency shall be notified and the governing body of that agency has the option under state law to overrule the ALUC decision.

- 4.4.2. *Specific Findings by Local Agency*: A local agency can proceed with adoption or amendment of a general plan or specific plan, adoption or approval of a zoning ordinance or building regulation, or modification of an airport master plan (Public Utilities Code Sections 21676(a), (b), and (c)) or, under conditions specified in Section 1.5.3, a major land use action (Public Utilities Code Section 21676.5(a)) affecting the airport influence area in spite of an ALUC finding that the action is inconsistent with this *Compatibility Plan*. However, the local agency must make specific findings that the proposed local action is consistent with the purposes of Article 3.5 of the California Public Utilities Code, as stated in Section 21670. Such findings may not be adopted as a matter of opinion, but must be supported by substantial evidence. Specifically, the governing body of the local agency must make specific findings that the proposed project will not:
- (a) Impair the orderly, planned expansion of Hollister Municipal Airport;
 - (b) Adversely affect the utility or capacity of the airport (such as by reducing instrument approach procedure minimums); or
 - (c) Expose the public to excessive noise and safety hazards.
- 4.4.3. *Notification and Voting Requirements*: The local agency must do all of the following:
- (a) Provide to the ALUC and the Caltrans Division of Aeronautics a copy of the proposed decision and findings to overrule the ALUC at least 45 days prior to the hearing date (see Policy 1.5.6).
 - (b) Hold a public hearing on the matter. The public hearing shall be publicly noticed consistent with the agency's established procedures.
 - (c) Include in the public record of any final decision to overrule the ALUC comments received from the ALUC, Caltrans Division of Aeronautics, Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) or public.
 - (d) Make a decision to overrule the ALUC by a two-thirds vote of its governing body.
- 4.4.4. *Liability*: If a local agency other than the City of Hollister overrules the ALUC, the City of Hollister as the agency that owns and operates the airport "shall be immune from liability for damages to property or personal injury caused by or resulting directly or indirectly from the public agency's decision to override the commission's action or recommendation" (Sections 21678 and, with slightly different wording, 21675.1(f)). Note that the law does not indicate who will become liable if the agency that overrules the ALUC is also the owner of the airport.

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Noise Attenuation Criteria	Exterior Noise Exposure ¹ (CNEL dB)					Additional Criteria
Noise attenuation for new development to comply with interior noise level standards (see Policy 3.2.6)	≤ 55	55-60	60-65	65-70	≥ 70	Conditions below apply to Normally Compatible (green cells) as well as Conditional land uses (yellow cells)
Land Use Category ²	Land Use Acceptability (see page 2-44 for legend)					
Outdoor Uses (limited or no activities in buildings)						
Natural Land Areas: woods, brush lands, desert						Compatible at levels indicated, but noise disruption of natural quiet will occur
Water: flood plains, wetlands, lakes, reservoirs						
Agriculture (except residences and livestock): crops, orchards, vineyards, pasture, range land						
Livestock Uses: feed lots, stockyards, breeding, fish hatcheries, horse stables						Exercise caution with uses involving noise-sensitive animals ³
Outdoor Major Assembly Facilities (capacity ≥ 1,000 people): spectator-oriented outdoor stadiums, amphitheaters, fairgrounds, zoos						Exercise caution if clear audibility by users is essential ⁴
Group Recreation (limited spectator stands): athletic fields, water recreation facilities, picnic areas						Exercise caution if clear audibility by users is essential ⁴
Small/Non-Group Recreation: golf courses, tennis courts, shooting ranges						Exercise caution if clear audibility by users is essential ⁴
Local Parks: children-oriented neighborhood parks, playgrounds						Exercise caution if clear audibility by users is essential ⁴
Camping: campgrounds, recreational vehicle/motor home parks						
Cemeteries (excluding chapels)						Compatible at levels indicated, but noise disruption of outdoor activities will occur
Residential and Lodging Uses						
Single-Family Residential (<8 d.u./ac) ⁵ : individual dwellings, townhouses, mobile homes, bed & breakfast inns						Max. density is 0.1 du/ac (≥10 acres) in areas between 55 and 60 dB CNEL contours; locate dwelling outside of zone when feasible; noise attenuation applies within the Routine Overflight Zone shown in Map 5 See Policies 3.2.6 and 3.5.5
Multi-Family Residential (≥8 d.u./ac) ⁵ : condominiums, apartments, agricultural-related housing						Noise attenuation applies within the Routine Overflight Zone shown in Map 5 See Policy 3.5.5
Long-Term Lodging (> 30 nights): extended-stay hotels, dormitories						
Short-Term Lodging (≤30 nights): hotels, motels, other transient lodging (except conference/assembly facilities)						
Congregate Care: retirement homes, assisted living, nursing homes, intermediate care facilities						

Table 1

Noise Compatibility Criteria

Hollister Municipal Airport

Noise Attenuation Criteria	Exterior Noise Exposure ¹ (CNEL dB)					Additional Criteria
Noise attenuation for new development to comply with interior noise level standards (see Policy 3.2.6)	≤ 55	55-60	60-65	65-70	≥ 70	Conditions below apply to Normally Compatible (green cells) as well as Conditional land uses (yellow cells)
Land Use Category ²	Land Use Acceptability (see page 2-44 for legend)					
Educational and Institutional Uses						
Family day care homes (≤ 14 children)						Allowed only in existing dwellings within the CNEL 55 dB contour (see Policy 3.3.5(h)). Allowed with noise attenuation where new residential is allowed within the Routine Overflight Zone shown in Map 5 (see Policy 3.5.5)
Children's Schools: K-12, day care centers (> 14 children); school libraries						Noise attenuation required within the Routine Overflight Zone boundary shown in Map 5
Adult Education classroom space: adult schools, colleges, universities (excluding aviation-related schools)						Applies only to classrooms (acoustical study may be warranted); offices, laboratory facilities, gymnasiums, outdoor athletic facilities, and other uses to be evaluated as indicated for those land use categories
Community Libraries						Noise attenuation required within the Routine Overflight Zone boundary shown in Map 5
Indoor Major Assembly Facilities (capacity ≥ 1,000 people): auditoriums, conference centers, concert halls, indoor arenas						
Indoor Large Assembly Facilities (capacity 300 to 999 people): movie theaters, places of worship, cemetery chapels, mortuaries						Acoustical study may be warranted for noise-sensitive uses (e.g., places of worship)
Indoor Recreation: gymnasiums, club houses, athletic clubs, dance studios						
In-Patient Medical: hospitals, mental hospitals						Acoustical study may be warranted
Out-Patient Medical: health care centers, clinics						
Penal Institutions: prisons, reformatories						
Public Safety Facilities: police, fire stations						
Commercial, Office, and Service Uses						
Major Retail: regional shopping centers, 'big box' retail						Outdoor dining or gathering places incompatible above CNEL 65 dB
Local Retail: community/neighborhood shopping centers, grocery stores						Outdoor dining or gathering places incompatible above CNEL 65 dB
Eating/Drinking Establishments: restaurants, fast-food dining, bars						Outdoor dining or gathering places incompatible above CNEL 65 dB
Limited Retail/Wholesale: furniture, automobiles, heavy equipment, lumber yards, nurseries						
Offices: professional services, doctors, finance, civic; radio, television & recording studios, office space associated with other listed uses						
Personal & Miscellaneous Services: barbers, car washes, print shops						
Vehicle Fueling: gas stations, trucking & transportation terminals						

Table 1, continued

Noise Attenuation Criteria	Exterior Noise Exposure ¹ (CNEL dB)					Additional Criteria
Noise attenuation for new development to comply with interior noise level standards (see Policy 3.2.6)	≤ 55	55-60	60-65	65-70	≥ 70	Conditions below apply to Normally Compatible (green cells) as well as Conditional land uses (yellow cells)
Land Use Category ²	Land Use Acceptability (see page 2-44 for legend)					
Industrial, Manufacturing, and Storage Uses						
Hazardous Materials Production: oil refineries, chemical plants						Noise attenuation required for office areas of industrial facilities See Policy 3.2.6
Heavy Industrial						Noise attenuation required for office areas of industrial facilities See Policy 3.2.6
Light Industrial, High Intensity: food products preparation, electronic equipment						Noise attenuation required for office areas of industrial facilities See Policy 3.2.6
Light Industrial, Low Intensity: machine shops, wood products, auto repair						Noise attenuation required for office areas of industrial facilities See Policy 3.2.6
Research & Development						
Indoor Storage: wholesale sales, warehouses, mini/other indoor storage, barns, greenhouses						
Outdoor Storage: public works yards, automobile dismantling						
Mining & Extraction						
Transportation, Communication, and Utilities						
Rail & Bus Stations						
Transportation Routes: road & rail rights-of-way, bus stops						
Auto Parking: surface lots, structures						
Communications Facilities: emergency communications, broadcast & cell towers						
Power Plants						
Electrical Substations						
Wastewater Facilities: treatment, disposal						
Solid Waste Disposal Facilities: landfill, incineration						
Solid Waste Transfer Facilities, Recycle Centers						

Table 1, continued

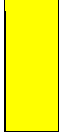
Land Use Acceptability		Interpretation/Comments
		<i>Normally Compatible</i> <i>Indoor Uses:</i> Either the activities associated with the land use are inherently noisy or standard construction methods will sufficiently attenuate exterior noise to an acceptable indoor community noise equivalent level (CNEL); for land use types that are compatible because of inherent noise levels, sound attenuation must be provided for associated office, retail, and other noise-sensitive indoor spaces in accordance with Policy 3.2.6. <i>Outdoor Uses:</i> Except as noted in the table, activities associated with the land use may be carried out with minimal interference from aircraft noise
		<i>Conditional</i> <i>Indoor Uses:</i> Building structure must be capable of attenuating exterior noise from all noise sources in accordance with Policy 3.2.6. <i>Outdoor Uses:</i> Caution should be exercised with regard to noise-sensitive outdoor uses; these uses are likely to be disrupted by aircraft noise events; acceptability is dependent upon characteristics of the specific use ²
		<i>Incompatible</i> <i>Indoor Uses:</i> Unacceptable noise interference if windows are open; at exposures above CNEL 65 dB, extensive mitigation techniques required to make the indoor environment acceptable for performance of activities associated with the land use <i>Outdoor Uses:</i> Severe noise interference makes the outdoor environment unacceptable for performance of activities associated with the land use
Notes ¹ For the purposes of these criteria, the exterior noise exposure generated by aircraft activity at Hollister Municipal Airport is defined by the projected noise contours illustrated on Map 2 of this <i>Compatibility Plan</i> . ² Multiple land use categories and compatibility criteria may apply to a project. Land uses not specifically listed shall be evaluated using the criteria for similar uses. ³ This caution is directed at the project proponent and is not intended to preclude approval of the project. ⁴ Noise-sensitive land uses are ones for which the associated primary activities, whether indoor or outdoor, are susceptible to disruption by loud noise events. See <i>Policy 1.2.14</i> for examples of noise-sensitive uses. ⁵ Residential density limits provided in terms of dwelling units per acre (du/ac). Construction of a single-family home, including a second dwelling unit as defined by state law, allowed on a legal lot of record if such use is permitted by local land use regulations. A family day care home (serving ≤ 14 children) may be established in any dwelling. See <i>Policy 1.4.5</i> .		

Table 1, continued

Usage Intensity Criteria ¹	Safety Zone						Additional Criteria
	1	2	3	4	5	6	Numbers below indicate zone in which condition applies
Max. Sitewide Average Intensity (people/acre)	10	60	100	150	100	300	
Max. Single-Acre Intensity (people/acre)	20	120	300	450	300	1,200	
Land Use Category ²	Land Use Acceptability (see page 2-49 for legend)						
Outdoor Uses (limited or no activities in buildings)							
Natural Land Areas: woods, brush lands, desert							1: Objects above runway elevation not allowed in Object Free Area (OFA) ³
Water: flood plains, wetlands, lakes, reservoirs ³							1: Objects above runway elevation not allowed in Object Free Area (OFA) ³
Agriculture (except residences and livestock): crops, orchards, vineyards, pasture, range land							1: Not allowed in Object Free Area (OFA) ³ All: Exercise caution with uses that attract birds and other wildlife
Livestock Uses: feed lots, stockyards, breeding, fish hatcheries, horse stables ³							All: Exercise caution with uses that attract birds and other wildlife
Outdoor Major Assembly Facilities (capacity ≥1,000 people): spectator-oriented outdoor stadiums, amphitheaters, fairgrounds, zoos ⁴							6: Allowed only if alternative site outside zone would not serve intended function
Group Recreation (limited spectator stands): athletic fields, water recreation facilities, picnic areas							3: Allowed only if alternative site outside zone would not serve intended function
Small/Non-Group Recreation: golf courses, tennis courts, shooting ranges ³							2: Allowed only if alternative site outside zone would not serve intended function and intensity criteria met
Local Parks: children-oriented neighborhood parks, playgrounds							
Camping: campgrounds, recreational vehicle/ motor home parks							3,4: Allowed only if intensity criteria met
Cemeteries (except chapels)							
Residential and Lodging Uses							
Single-Family Residential (<8 du/ac) ⁵ : individual dwellings, townhouses, mobile homes, bed & breakfast inns, dormitories							2-4: Locate dwelling outside zone when feasible 2,3: Max. density is 0.1 du/ac (≥ 10 acres) 4: Max. density is 0.2 du/ac (≥ 5 acres) 6: Intensity limits as indicated
Multi-Family Residential (≥8 du/ac) ⁵ : condominiums, apartments, agricultural-related housing							
Long-Term Lodging (>30 nights): extended-stay hotels, dormitories [approx. 200 s.f./person] ⁶							4: Allowed only if intensity criteria met
Short-Term Lodging(≤30 nights): hotels, motels, other transient lodging (except conference/assembly facilities) [approx. 200 s.f./person] ⁶							3, 4,5: Allowed only if intensity criteria met
Congregate Care: retirement homes, assisted living, nursing homes, intermediate care facilities							

Table 2

Safety Compatibility Criteria

Hollister Municipal Airport

Usage Intensity Criteria ¹	Safety Zone						Additional Criteria
	1	2	3	4	5	6	
Max. Sitewide Average Intensity (people/acre) Max. Single-Acre Intensity (people/acre)	10 20	60 120	100 300	150 450	100 300	300 1,200	Numbers below indicate zone in which condition applies
Land Use Category ²	Land Use Acceptability (see page 2-49 for legend)						
Educational and Institutional Uses							
Family day care homes (≤14 children)							3, 4, 6: Allowed only in existing dwellings or where new single-family residential is allowed See Policy 3.3.5(h)
Children's Schools: K-12, day care centers (>14 children); school libraries							3, 4: No new sites or land acquisition 6: No new sites or land acquisition within ½ mile of runway 3, 4, 6: Bldg replacement/expansion allowed for existing school sites; expansion limited to ≤50 students (not school staff)
Adult Education classroom space: adult schools, colleges, universities [approx. 40 s.f./person] ⁶							3, 4: Intensity limits as indicated; also see individual components of campus facilities (e.g., assembly facilities, offices, gymnasiums)
Community Libraries [approx. 100 s.f./person] ⁶							3, 4: Intensity limits as indicated
Indoor Major Assembly Facilities (capacity ≥1,000 people): auditoriums, conference centers, concert halls, indoor arenas ⁴							6: Allowed only if beyond ½ mile from runway and alternative site outside zone would not serve intended function; not allowed within ½ mile of runway
Indoor Large Assembly Facilities (capacity 300 to 999 people): movie theaters, places of worship, cemetery chapels, mortuaries ⁴ [approx. 15 s.f./person] ⁶							3, 4: Intensity limits as indicated
Indoor Recreation: gymnasiums, club houses, athletic clubs, dance studios [approx. 60 s.f./person] ⁶							3, 4: Intensity limits as indicated
In-Patient Medical: hospitals, mental hospitals							3, 4: No new sites or land acquisition; replacement/expansion of existing facilities limited to existing size
Out-Patient Medical: health care centers, clinics [approx. 240 s.f./person] ⁶							3, 4: Intensity limits as indicated
Penal Institutions: prisons, reformatories							
Public Safety Facilities: police, fire stations							3, 4: Allowed only if alternative site outside zone would not serve intended public function 5: Allowed only if airport serving
Commercial, Office, and Service Uses							
Major Retail: regional shopping centers, 'big box' retail [approx. 110 s.f./person] ⁶							3, 4: Intensity limits as indicated; capacity <1,000 people per bldg; evaluate eating/ drinking areas separately if >10% of total floor area
Local Retail: community/neighborhood shopping centers, grocery stores [approx. 170 s.f./person] ⁶							3, 4: Intensity limits as indicated; evaluate eating/ drinking areas separately if >10% of total floor area
Eating/Drinking Establishments: restaurants, fast-food dining, bars [approx. 60 s.f./person] ⁶							2-5: Intensity limits as indicated
Limited Retail/Wholesale: furniture, automobiles, heavy equipment, lumber yards, nurseries [approx. 250 s.f./person] ⁶							2, 5: Intensity limits as indicated; design site to place parking inside and bldgs outside of zone if possible

Table 2, continued

Usage Intensity Criteria ¹	Safety Zone						Additional Criteria
	1	2	3	4	5	6	
Max. Sitewide Average Intensity (people/acre) Max. Single-Acre Intensity (people/acre)	10 20	60 120	100 300	150 450	100 300	300 1,200	Numbers below indicate zone in which condition applies
Land Use Category ²	Land Use Acceptability (see page 2-49 for legend)						
Offices: professional services, doctors, finance, civic; radio, television & recording studios, office space associated with other listed uses [approx. 215 s.f./person] ⁶							2-5: Intensity limits as indicated
Personal & Miscellaneous Services: barbers, car washes, print shops [approx. 200 s.f./person] ⁶							2-5: Intensity limits as indicated
Vehicle Fueling: gas stations and fueling facilities at trucking & transportation terminals							5: Allowed only if airport serving
Industrial, Manufacturing, and Storage Uses							
Hazardous Materials Production: oil refineries, chemical plants							3-6: Allowed only if alternative site outside zone would not serve intended function; Fire Marshal to determine if special design features should be incorporated into structure to withstand damage from aircraft collision; exercise caution with uses creating plumes and other airspace hazards ³
Heavy Industrial							2-5: Avoid bulk production/storage of hazardous (flammable, explosive, corrosive, or toxic) materials; permitting agencies to evaluate possible need for special measures to minimize hazards if struck by aircraft
Light Industrial, High Intensity: food products preparation, electronic equipment [approx. 200 s.f./person] ⁶							2-5: Intensity limits as indicated; avoid bulk production/storage of hazardous (flammable, explosive, corrosive, or toxic) materials; permitting agencies to evaluate possible need for special measures to minimize hazards if struck by aircraft
Light Industrial, Low Intensity: machine shops, wood products, auto repair [approx. 350 s.f./person] ⁶							2 - 4: Intensity limits as indicated 5: Single story only; max. 10% in mezzanine 2-5: Avoid bulk production/storage of hazardous (flammable, explosive, corrosive, or toxic) materials; permitting agencies to evaluate possible need for special measures to minimize hazards if struck by aircraft
Indoor Storage: wholesale sales, warehouses, mini/other indoor storage, barns, greenhouses [approx. 1,000 s.f./person] ⁶							2: Single story only; max. 10% in mezzanine
Research & Development [approx. 300 s.f./person] ⁶							3, 5: Intensity limits as indicated; avoid bulk storage of hazardous (flammable, explosive, corrosive, or toxic) materials; permitting agencies to evaluate possible need for special measures to minimize hazards if struck by aircraft
Outdoor Storage: public works yards, automobile dismantling							2: Avoid bulk storage of hazardous materials (flammable, explosive, corrosive, or toxic) or materials that would create airspace hazards (reflective materials, wildlife attractants) ³
Mining & Extraction ³							2: Allowed only if intensity criteria met; exercise caution with activities that would create airspace hazards ³

Table 2, continued

Usage Intensity Criteria ¹	Safety Zone						Additional Criteria
	1	2	3	4	5	6	
Max. Sitewide Average Intensity (people/acre)	10	60	100	150	100	300	Numbers below indicate zone in which condition applies
Max. Single-Acre Intensity (people/acre)	20	120	300	450	300	1,200	
Land Use Category ²	Land Use Acceptability (see page 2-49 for legend)						
Transportation, Communication, and Utilities							
Airport Terminals: airline, general aviation							
Rail & Bus Stations							2: Allowed only if alternative site outside zone would not serve intended public function 5: Allowed only if airport serving
Transportation Routes: road & rail rights-of-way, bus stops							1: Not allowed in Object Free Area (OFA) ³
Auto Parking: surface lots, structures							1: Not allowed in Object Free Area (OFA) ³
Communications Facilities: emergency communications, broadcast & cell towers ³							3-5: Allowed only if alternative site outside zone would not serve intended public function; not allowed within ½ of runway 6: Not allowed within ½ mile of runway
Power Plants ³							3, 4: Primary plants not allowed; peaker plants only
Electrical Substations ³							2, 5: Allowed only if alternative site outside zone would not serve intended public function
Wastewater Facilities: treatment, disposal							2, 5: Allowed only if alternative site outside zone would not serve intended public function
Solid Waste Disposal Facilities: landfill, incineration ³							2: Allowed only if alternative site outside zone would not serve intended public function
Solid Waste Transfer Facilities, Recycle Centers ³							

Table 2, continued

Land Use Acceptability		Interpretation/Comments
		<i>Normally Compatible</i>
		<i>Conditional</i>
		<i>Incompatible</i>
Notes ¹ Usage intensity criteria applicable to all nonresidential development (i.e., Normally Compatible as well as Conditional land uses). Nonresidential development must satisfy both forms of intensity limits (see Policy 3.3.6). See Note 6 below and Policy 3.3.7 for information on how to calculate nonresidential intensity. Up to 10% of total floor area may be devoted to ancillary use (see Policy 3.3.6(c)). ² Multiple land use categories and compatibility criteria may apply to a project. Land uses not specifically listed shall be evaluated using the criteria for similar uses. ³ These uses may pose hazards to flight as they may attract birds or other wildlife; generate dust or other visual hazards; or create physical hazards (e.g., power lines or other tall objects). See <i>Section 3.4</i> for applicable airspace protection policies. ⁴ Capacity of people for Large and Major Assembly Facilities obtained from International Building Code. ⁵ Residential density limits provided in terms of dwelling units per acre (du/ac). Construction of a single-family home, including a second dwelling unit as defined by state law, allowed on a legal lot of record if such use is permitted by local land use regulations. A family day care home (serving ≤ 14 children) may be established in any dwelling. See <i>Policies 1.4.5</i> and <i>3.3.5(h)</i>. ⁶ Common occupancy load factors (approximate number of square feet per person) source: Mead & Hunt, Inc. based upon information from various sources including building and fire codes, facility management industry sources, and ALUC surveys. The common occupancy load factors represent the maximum occupancy during a normal peak period occupancy, not on the highest attainable occupancy used in building and fire codes. Common occupancy load factors provided in the table for specific land uses may be used as a means of calculating the usage intensity of a proposed development. See Policy 3.3.7 for other methods of calculating usage intensities.		

Table 2, continued

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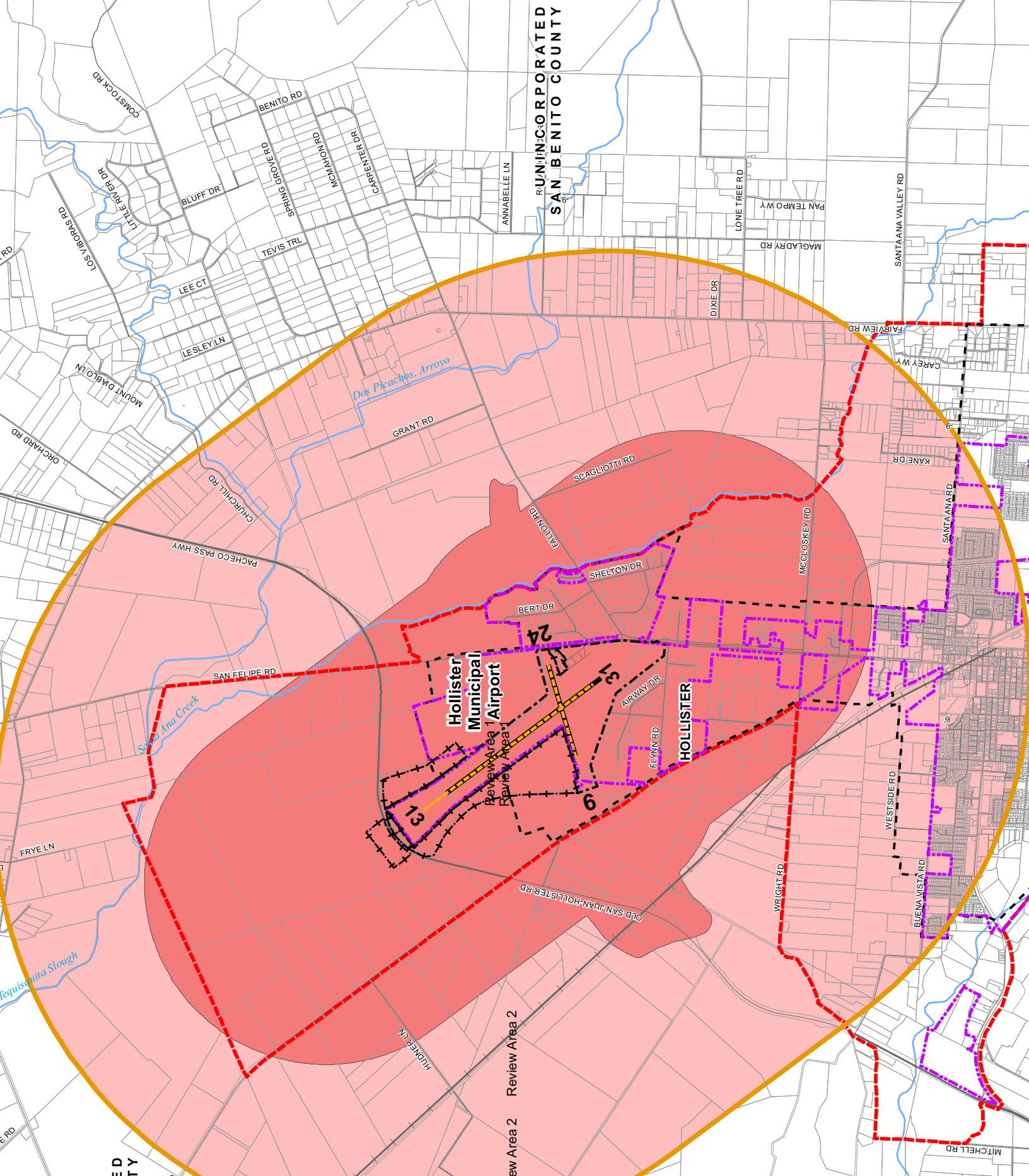
Table 2, continued

- Existing Airport
- Future Property
- Hollister City Limits
- Hollister Sphere of Influence
- Hollister Planning Area
- Parcels
- Existing Runway
- Future Runway
- Roads
- Rail Roads
- Rivers
- Policy Boundary
- Airport Influence
- Airport Influence
- ALUC Review
- ALUC Review

Notes

1. ALUC Review will consider all four factors (noise, overflight) represented by the boundary is a contour line. CNEI 55 noise contours.
2. ALUC Review will consider airspace protection concerns, but not the outer boundary matches the outer surface.

Hollister Land Use





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- The map displays the proposed layout for the Hollister Municipal Airport. A red dashed line indicates the proposed runway, with a length of 4100' marked. A yellow dashed line indicates the proposed taxiway, with a width of 1900' marked. The map is divided into six color-coded zones: Zone 1 (Runway) in red, Zone 2 (Inner) in orange, Zone 3 (Inner) in yellow, Zone 4 (Outer) in light yellow, Zone 5 (Sideline) in pale yellow, and Zone 6 (Traffic) in light green. The map also shows the surrounding area, including the city of Hollister, the San Benito County Jail, and the San Benito County Sheriff's Office. The map is titled 'HOLLISTER MUNICIPAL AIRPORT' and 'SAN BENITO COUNTY'.

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1. Safety zone surrounding composite of general Airport Land Use Plan. See Exhibit 3-6.
2. See Section 3.3 criteria.
3. Avigation easement zones 1 through 5.
4. Buyer awareness Routine Overflight Zone

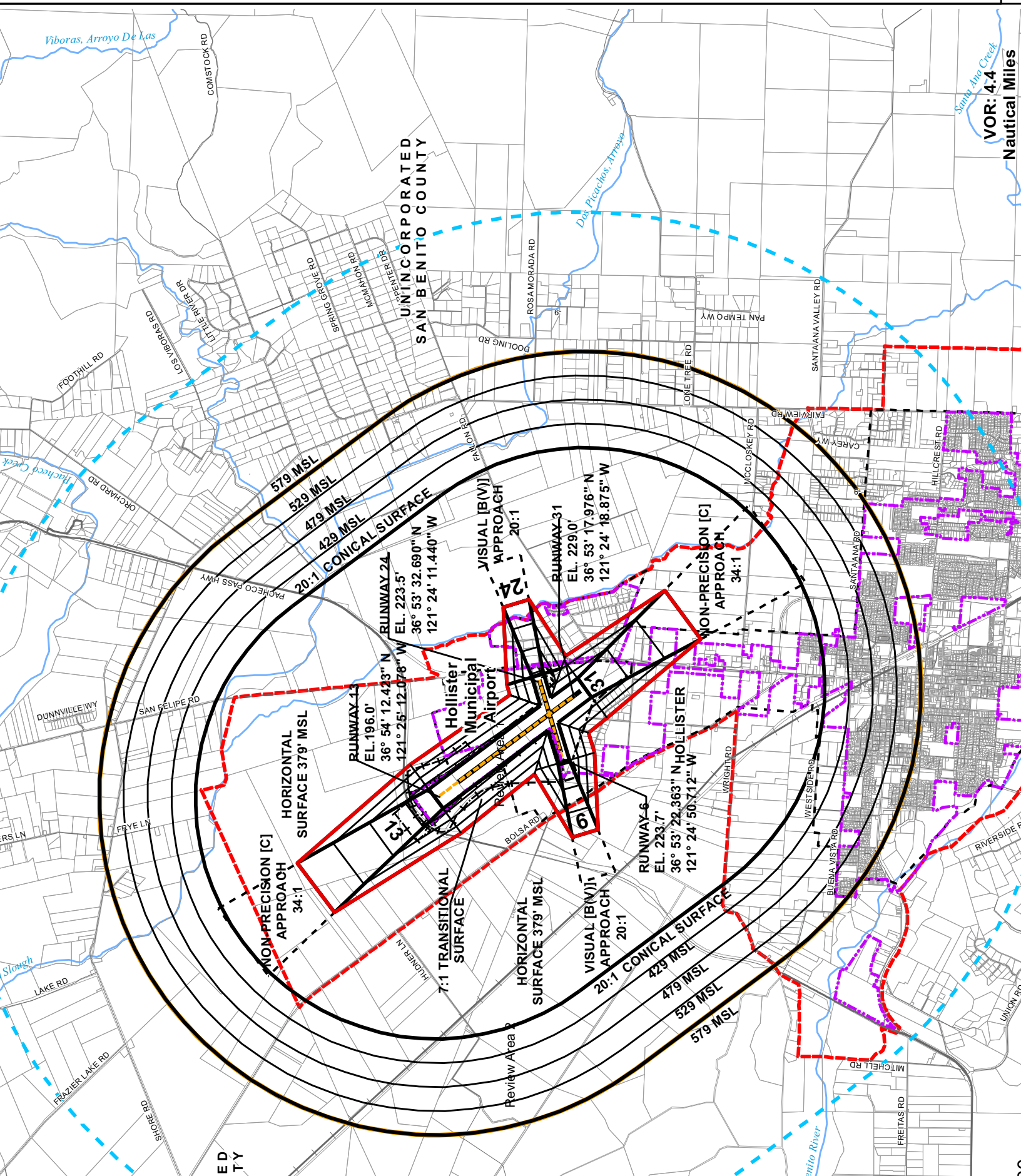
Holliston
Land Use

- Policy Boundaries**
- Airport Influence
 - Airspace Protection
 - Critical Airspace
 - FAA Height No

1. The Airspace Program. The FAA is in accordance with FDOT's vision for the future runway program for all runways except the existing runway. The approach type area on the surface are generally Airspace surfaces and approach type.
2. The Critical Airspace. This encompasses the portions of the approach surface where these surface.

2. The Critical Airspace encompasses the portions of the approach where these surface winds are present.
3. The FAA Height is in accordance with the

Holliston
Land Use



- Future Property
- Existing Airport
- Hollister City
- Hollister Sphere
- Hollister Plan
- Existing Runway
- Future Runway
- Roads
- Railroads
- Parcels
- Rivers

Policy Boundary



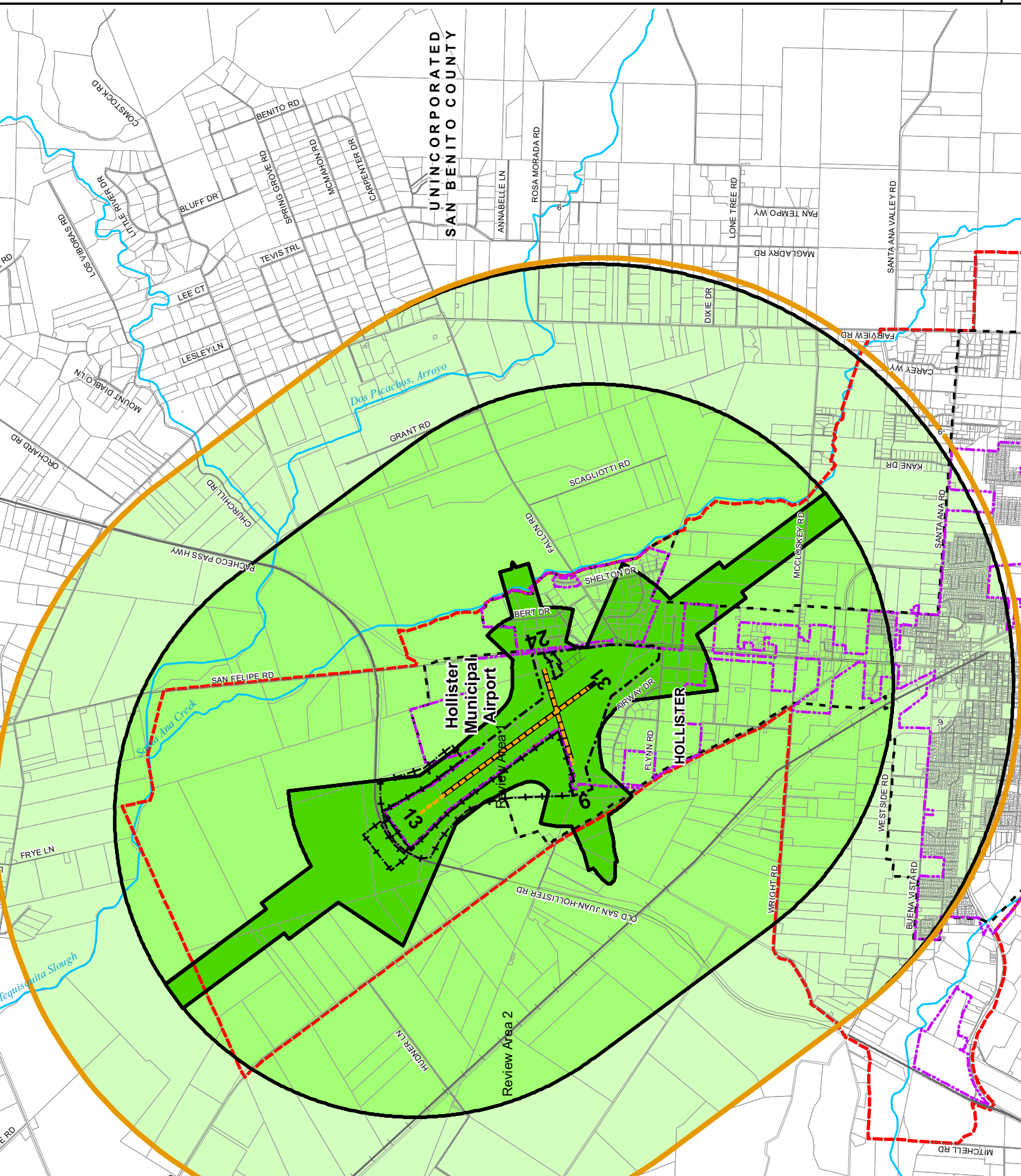
Overflight Zone



Notes

1. Aviation Easement Noise/Risk Zone. Zone boundary is defined as critical portions of the surface where these surfaces are located.
2. Recorded Deed Zone. Zone boundary is defined as horizontal surface.
3. Real Estate Disposition Zone. Zone boundary is defined as surface as defined.

Hollister Land Use



Chapter **3**

Background Data: Hollister Municipal Airport and Environs



Background Data: Hollister Municipal Airport and Environs

INTRODUCTION

Chapter 3 documents information regarding Hollister Municipal Airport and its environs to provide the setting upon which this *Hollister Municipal Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan* is based. The physical configuration of the runway system and the volume and characteristics of the aircraft operations are critical determinants of the impacts that aircraft activity has on surrounding land uses. As described in this chapter, significant changes to the runway configuration are expected at Hollister Municipal Airport. This change, coupled with variations to the amount and types of aircraft operations at the airport, have been taken into account in the plan preparation.

The character of current and planned land uses in the area surrounding the airport is also considered in the development of the compatibility policies. While significant changes to land use are not anticipated in the airport environs, it is important that new development take place in a manner that is compatible with the airport.

AIRPORT HISTORY AND DEVELOPMENT

History

Hollister Municipal Airport is located in the City of Hollister in northern San Benito County. The airport began as a private grass strip in 1912 and was later known as Turner Field serving the agricultural uses of the region. Other important events in the airport's history include:

- > In 1936, airmail delivery service began at the airport.
- > With the escalation of World War II in 1941, the Navy purchased the property. The Navy operated the airport as the Naval Air Auxiliary Station Hollister until June 1946 when joint civilian-military activity was allowed.
- > In 1947, the Navy transferred the title of the airport to the City of Hollister
- > In 1996, Runway 13-31 was extended and 22 acres of land was purchased for airport development.

- > In 2001, an aviation easement was purchased to protect the 20:1 approach surface to Runway 6. Additionally, an Automated Weather Observing System (AWOS), beacon, and security fence were installed.

Existing Airfield System

Hollister Municipal Airport has two intersecting runways: Runways 13-31 and 6-24. Runway 13-31, the primary runway, is aligned with the prevailing wind direction in a northwest/southeast alignment—winds are commonly out of the northwest. The crosswind runway (Runway 6-24) is aligned east/west. Both runways are lighted for night use.

Runway 13-31 is the longest runway at the airport with a length of 6,350 feet. Additionally, it is the only runway served with a straight-in instrument approach. Runway 31 is equipped with a LPV (localizer performance with vertical guidance) instrument approach, with visibility minimums of 1¼ mile and a decision altitude of 553 feet MSL (323 AGL). Large aircraft, such as business jets and Cal Fire aircraft, almost exclusively use Runway 13-31.

Above Ground Level (AGL)—an elevation datum given in feet above ground level.

Mean Sea Level (MSL)—an elevation datum reported in feet above mean sea level (the midpoint between the highest and lowest sea levels)

Runway 6-24 is 3,150 feet in length and 100 feet wide. Runway 6-24 is a visual runway—it has no straight-in approach procedures. As a crosswind runway, Runway 6-24 allows aircraft, particularly smaller aircraft which are susceptible to strong crosswinds, to safely land and depart the airport when wind conditions do not favor the primary runway. Local weather patterns indicate that winds are out of the northwest in the morning, favoring Runway 31. In the afternoon, winds shift and blow out of the west, favoring Runway 24. **Exhibit 3-1** provides a tabular summary of major features and proposed changes at Hollister Municipal Airport.

AIRPORT PLANS

Airport land use compatibility plans and airport master plans are closely interrelated. Section 21675(a) of the California Public Utilities Code requires that an airport land use compatibility plan be based upon a long-range airport master plan adopted by the airport owner/proprietor. If such a plan does not exist for a particular airport, an airport layout plan may be used with the approval of the California Division of Aeronautics. Furthermore, the compatibility plan must reflect “the anticipated growth of the airport during at least the next 20 years.” The status of airport plans for Hollister Municipal Airport is summarized below.

Airport Master Plan Status

In 2003, the City of Hollister prepared an Airport Master Plan for Hollister Municipal Airport. On July 19, 2004, the City Council “accepted” the Master Plan by resolution (Resolution No. 2004-124) and authorized submittal of the Hollister Municipal Airport Layout Plan (ALP) drawing set to the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) for approval. The Master Plan study evaluated the airport’s capabilities and role, forecast future aviation demand for 2025, and identified development of new or expanded facilities that would be required to accommodate anticipated increases in aircraft activity.

Airport Layout Plan Status

The Hollister Municipal Airport Layout Plan (ALP) drawing set dated January 22, 2009, coincides with the future development proposed in the 2003 Master Plan. The 2009 ALP drawing set includes an Interim ALP and an Ultimate ALP. The Interim ALP reflects minor improvements to the existing runway system, a future fire attack base for the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (Cal Fire) and future land acquisition. The Ultimate ALP includes the following long-term development proposals:

- > Upgrading the airport to an Airport Reference Code (ARC) C-II facility from an ARC B-II airport;
- > Lengthening the primary runway (Runway 13-31) northward for an ultimate length of 7,000 feet;
- > Lengthening the crosswind runway (Runway 6-24) westward for a future length of 3,357 feet;
- > Acquiring property for building area development and to control the land underlying the future Runway Protection Zone for Runway 13; and
- > Establishing a precision instrument approach for Runway 31 to allow the airport to operate during low visibility.

In August 2009, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) conditionally approved the near-term projects depicted on the Interim ALP. The conditional approval requires that an environmental determination be completed by the airport proprietor prior to project construction. As for the long-term projects depicted on the Ultimate ALP, the FAA will financially support the projects once the airport proprietor justifies the need for the facilities.

Simplified Airport Diagram

Discussions between the FAA and the City of Hollister indicate that establishing a future precision instrument approach to Runway 31 is likely not needed given good weather conditions (i.e., visibility) at the airport for most of the year. Therefore, a Simplified Airport Diagram was prepared for the purposes of this *Compatibility Plan*. The Airport Diagram replaces the future precision approach for Runway 31, as depicted on the Ultimate ALP, with a GPS-based nonprecision instrument approach with visibility minimums of as low as $\frac{3}{4}$ mile. All other development proposals reflected on both the 2009 Interim and Ultimate ALPs remain in effect.

The Airport Diagram was accepted by the City of Hollister and San Benito County ALUC in October 2010. In accordance with state law (Section 21675(a)), the Airport Diagram was submitted to and approved by the California Department of Transportation, Division of Aeronautics on November 18, 2010, for the purposes of this *Compatibility Plan*. The Airport Diagram is presented in **Exhibit 3-2**.

Aircraft Activity Forecasts

The 2003 Master Plan forecasted 380 based aircraft and 129,600 annual aircraft operations by 2025. The 2010 Airport Diagram reflects the future facilities required to support this forecast activity. The Master Plan forecast was derived based on the following assumptions:

- > Continued population growth in San Benito County;
- > A shortage of available and affordable hangar space at other airports in the San Francisco Bay Area coupled with less restrictive airspace at Hollister Municipal Airport; and

- > Available capacity for parking based aircraft.

Based on the analysis of the 2003 Master Plan and the proposed expansion of the aircraft parking areas as depicted on the 2010 Airport Diagram, the master plan forecast of approximately 130,000 annual operations continues to be reasonable for compatibility planning purposes. Using this forecast to cover the required 20-year time frame also reflects the recent decline in aircraft activity in response to the downturn in the economy and rising fuel prices. Therefore, the activity forecast for this *Compatibility Plan* is 130,000 annual operations for 2030.

The existing and anticipated share of the forecast activity by specific types of aircraft is summarized in **Exhibit 3-4**. The future fleet mix for the airport is expected to match national trends. The FAA anticipates that the growth in business and corporate general aviation aircraft will outpace growth of aircraft used for sport or personal use. Business/corporate aircraft typically include turboprops and jets, while personal/sport aircraft include single- and multi-engine piston powered aircraft. Operations by fire-attack aircraft are also expected to increase, as the ALP shows a future base for the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection.

Future Airfield System

Modifications to the configuration of the airfield must be considered in the *Compatibility Plan*, as noise and safety impacts may shift and affect surrounding land uses previously excluded from the airport influence area. The 2010 Airport Diagram illustrates the airport in its existing and ultimate configurations. Significant anticipated alterations to the airfield system are described below.

Runway 13-31

As described above, the principal change proposed for Runway 13-31 is to lengthen the runway from 6,350 feet to 7,000 feet. To achieve this length, 980 feet would be added at the northwest (Runway 31) end of the runway, while the landing threshold for Runway 13 would be relocated by 330 feet to the northwest. According to the 2003 Master Plan, this extension is necessary to accommodate regular takeoffs and landings by larger aircraft, such as the Canadair CL-600 jet and CalFire aircraft. Operations by this class of aircraft would also require an upgrade in the Airport's Reference Code (ARC) from a B-II to a C-II category. Also proposed are future straight-in nonprecision instrument approaches with visibility minimums of $\frac{3}{4}$ mile and 1 mile for Runways 13 and 31, respectively.

Upgrading the ARC and instrument approaches would increase the size of the RPZs for each runway. Future land acquisition is proposed for the areas underlying the portions of the future RPZ for Runway 13 extending beyond the current airport property. The future RPZ for Runway 31 would remain essentially on-airport except for a small portion that would overlie the intersection of Highway 156 (San Felipe Road) and Fallon Road.

Runway 6-24

The principal change proposed for Runway 6-24 is replacement of the lead-in taxiways with entrance taxiways at right angles to the runway ends. As part of this project, the end of Runway 6 would be relocated 207 feet west to attain the maximum available runway length of 3,357 feet. As a visual runway, the size of the RPZs for Runway 6-24 will not change. However, the RPZ for Runway 6 would shift west of its current position to reflect the westerly shift in the runway end.

AIRPORT ENVIRONS

Hollister Municipal Airport lies entirely within the city limits of Hollister. Unincorporated lands of San Benito County adjoin the airport property to the north, northeast and west. Existing land uses within the airport environs include agriculture and open space to the north and west and industrial uses to the east and south. Low-density residential uses are located approximately 1 mile south of the airport. The downtown area of Hollister, which includes denser residential and commercial uses, is located approximately 2.5 miles south of the airport.

According to the City of Hollister's 2005-2023 General Plan, planned land uses within the vicinity of the airport include Airport Support, Industrial, and Commercial. The County's General Plan designates much of the unincorporated lands as Agriculture. The County is in the process of updating its General Plan which was last adopted in 1980.

Unincorporated lands immediately north, west, and east of the airport are included in the City of Hollister's sphere of influence and planning area. The sphere of influence identifies unincorporated lands within Hollister's ultimate service area. The City of Hollister reviews development proposals submitted to San Benito County for these areas for consistency with land use policies outlined in the City's General Plan. Hollister provides comments on these projects for consideration by San Benito County. The Hollister planning area boundary identifies unincorporated lands that are slated for potential annexation.

EXHIBIT DESCRIPTIONS

The following exhibits illustrate the compatibility factors and other data which comprise the basis for the compatibility maps included in Chapter 2 of this *Compatibility Plan*.

Tables and Maps

- > *Airport Features Summary* — **Exhibit 3-1** provides a tabular summary of major features and proposed changes at Hollister Municipal Airport.
- > *Simplified Airport Diagram* — **Exhibit 3-2** shows the Simplified Airport Diagram which was approved by Caltrans Division of Aeronautics in November 2010 for compatibility planning purposes. The Airport Diagram reflects the existing and ultimate configuration of the airfield system, RPZs, instrument approaches, and airport property.
- > *Compatibility Factor: Part 77 Airspace* — Federal Aviation Regulations (FAR) Part 77 airspace surfaces for Hollister Municipal Airport are illustrated in **Exhibit 3-3**. The airspace surfaces reflect the future runway lengths and instrument approaches for all runways except Runway 31. For Runway 31, the existing runway end location and instrument approach type are reflected, as the existing airspace surface are generally more restrictive than the airspace surfaces reflecting the future runway end and approach type. FAR Part 77 establishes standards and notification requirements for objects affecting navigable airspace. Notification allows the FAA to evaluate the potential hazardous effect of proposed construction on air navigation and to identify mitigating measures to prevent or minimize the adverse impacts to the safe and efficient use of navigable airspace.
- > *Airport Activity Data Table* — **Exhibit 3-4** summarizes base year (2010) and future (2030) aircraft activity data.

- > *Compatibility Factors: Noise and Overflight* — The 2030 noise contours for the airport are shown in **Exhibit 3-5**. These mapped noise contours represent the 20-year forecast of 130,000 annual operations. The noise contours reflect the ultimate runway configuration as presented in the 2010 Airport Diagram. Also depicted are the flight tracks which were modeled to create the noise contours. The flight tracks reflect the common traffic patterns at the airport.
- > *Compatibility Factor: Safety* — The area of safety concern is depicted in **Exhibit 3-6** using the generic safety zones from the *California Airport Land Use Planning Handbook* published by the Caltrans Division of Aeronautics in January 2002. The generic safety zones translate nationwide aircraft accident distribution pattern data into a set of distinct zones with regular geometric shapes and sizes. The generic safety zones for medium (4,000 to 5,999 feet) and long ($\geq 6,000$ feet) general aviation runways are applied to the existing and ultimate runway lengths for Runway 13-31, respectively. Generic safety zones for short general aviation runways ($< 4,000$ feet) are shown for Runway 6-24. The general risk factors prevalent in each zone are noted below.
 - = *Zone 1: Runway Protection Zone* encompasses lands immediately beyond the runways. This area is exposed to the highest degree of risk.
 - = *Zone 2: Inner Approach/Departure Zone* encompasses areas overflowed at low altitudes typically only 200 to 400 feet above runway elevation.
 - = *Zone 3: Inner Turning Zone* encompasses locations where aircraft are typically turning from the base to final approach legs of the standard traffic pattern and are descending from traffic pattern altitude.
 - = *Zone 4: Outer Approach/Departure Zone* is situated along the extended runway centerline beyond Zone 2 and is especially significant at airports that have straight-in instrument approach procedures or a high volume of operations that result in an extended traffic pattern.
 - = *Zone 5: Sideline Zone* encompasses close-in areas lateral to runways and, for most airports, lies on airport property.
 - = *Zone 6: Traffic Pattern Zone* contains the aircraft traffic pattern. Risk concern primarily is with uses for which potential consequences are severe (e.g., children's schools, hospitals, power plants).
- > *Airport Environs Information* — **Exhibit 3-7** provides a summary of City and County land use policies, as well as the status of local plans.
- > *General Plan Land Uses: City of Hollister and County of San Benito* — **Exhibits 3-8A and 3-8B** depict the General Plan land uses designations for the city and county.

GENERAL INFORMATION

- > *Airport Ownership*
 - =City of Hollister
 - =Airport lies in northwestern limits of City
- > *Property Size:* 343 acres^b
- > *Airport Classification:* General Aviation (GA) Airport
- > *Airport Elevation:* 229.6 ft. MSL (surveyed)^b

AIRPORT PLANNING DOCUMENTS

- > *Simplified Airport Diagram*
 - =Dated March 1, 2010; accepted by San Benito County ALUC and City of Hollister in October 2010; approved for compatibility planning purposes by Caltrans Division of Aeronautics in November 2010
- > *Airport Layout Plan Drawing*
 - =Dated January 22, 2009; conditionally approved by FAA August 2009
- > *Airport Master Plan*
 - =Accepted by Hollister City Council July 19, 2004 (Resolution No. 2004-124)

RUNWAY/TAXIWAY DESIGN^{a, b}

Runway 13-31

- > *Airport Reference Code:* B-II
- > *Critical Aircraft:* Cessna Citation III
- > *Dimensions:* 6,350 ft. long, 100 ft. wide
- > *Pavement Strength (main landing gear configuration)*
 - =30,000 lbs. (single wheel)
 - =45,000 lbs. (dual wheel)
- > *Average Gradient:* 0.4% (rising to south)
- > *Runway Lighting:* Medium Intensity Runway Lights (MIRL), Runway End Identifier Lights (REILs)
- > *Primary Taxiways:* Taxiway A full-length on east

Runway 6-24

- > *Airport Reference Code:* B-II
- > *Critical Aircraft:* Beech King Air 350
- > *Dimensions:* 3,150 ft. long, 100 ft. wide
- > *Pavement Strength (main landing gear configuration)*
 - =30,000 lbs. (single-wheel)
 - =45,000 lbs. (dual-wheel)
- > *Average Gradient:* 1.0% (rising to west)
- > *Runway Lighting:* MIRL, REIL on Runway 24 only
- > *Primary Taxiways:* Taxiway C full-length on south

APPROACH PROTECTION

- > *Existing Runway Protection Zones (RPZ)^{a, b}*
 - =Runway 13: on airport
 - =Runway 31: on airport; established Avigation Easement east of Highway 156 (16.4 acres)
 - =Runway 6: 13% off property; future acquisition
 - =Runway 24: 69% off property; existing Avigation Easement on portion
- > *Approach Obstacles^c*
 - =Runway 6: 65 ft. hill, 1,700 ft. from runway, 100 ft. right of centerline, clear 23:1 slope
 - =Runway 24: 15 ft. road, 510 ft. from runway, clear 20:1 slope

TRAFFIC PATTERNS AND APPROACH PROCEDURES^c

- > *Airplane Traffic Patterns*
 - =Runway 13-31: Left traffic
 - =Runway 31: Left traffic
 - =Pattern Altitude: 800 ft. AGL for fixed-wing aircraft; 500 ft. AGL for helicopters
- > *Instrument Approach Procedures*
 - =Runway 31 RNAV (GPS)
 - Straight-in LPV: 1¼ statute miles visibility, decision height 323 ft. above TDZE^d
 - Straight-in LNAV: 1 statute mile visibility, decision height 650 ft. above TDZE^d
- > *Approach Aids*
 - =Airport: Beacon, wind indicator, and segmented circle
 - =Runway 13: PAPI (2-Light), on left, 3.00° glide path
 - =Runway 31: PAPI (2-Light), on left, 3.00° glide path
 - =Runway 24: VASI (4-Light), on left, 3.75° glide path
- > *Traffic Advisories*
 - =Helicopters right traffic
 - =Model aircraft club operates 3 miles WNW (290°) at 500 ft. AGL
 - =Fire fighting aircraft operate June through October
 - =Glider activity on and in vicinity of airport
 - =Skydiving activity

BUILDING AREA

- > *Aircraft Parking Location*
 - =Building area southeast of airfield
- > *Aircraft Parking Capacity^a*
 - =Hangar spaces: 125
 - =Tie-downs: 120
- > *Other Facilities and Services^c*
 - =Fuel: 100LL, Jet A
 - =Airframe and powerplant service
 - =Cal Fire air attack base

Exhibit 3-1

Airport Features Summary

Hollister Municipal Airport

PLANNED FACILITY IMPROVEMENTS^{a, b}

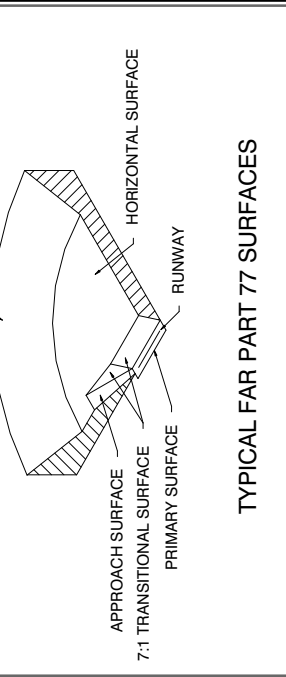
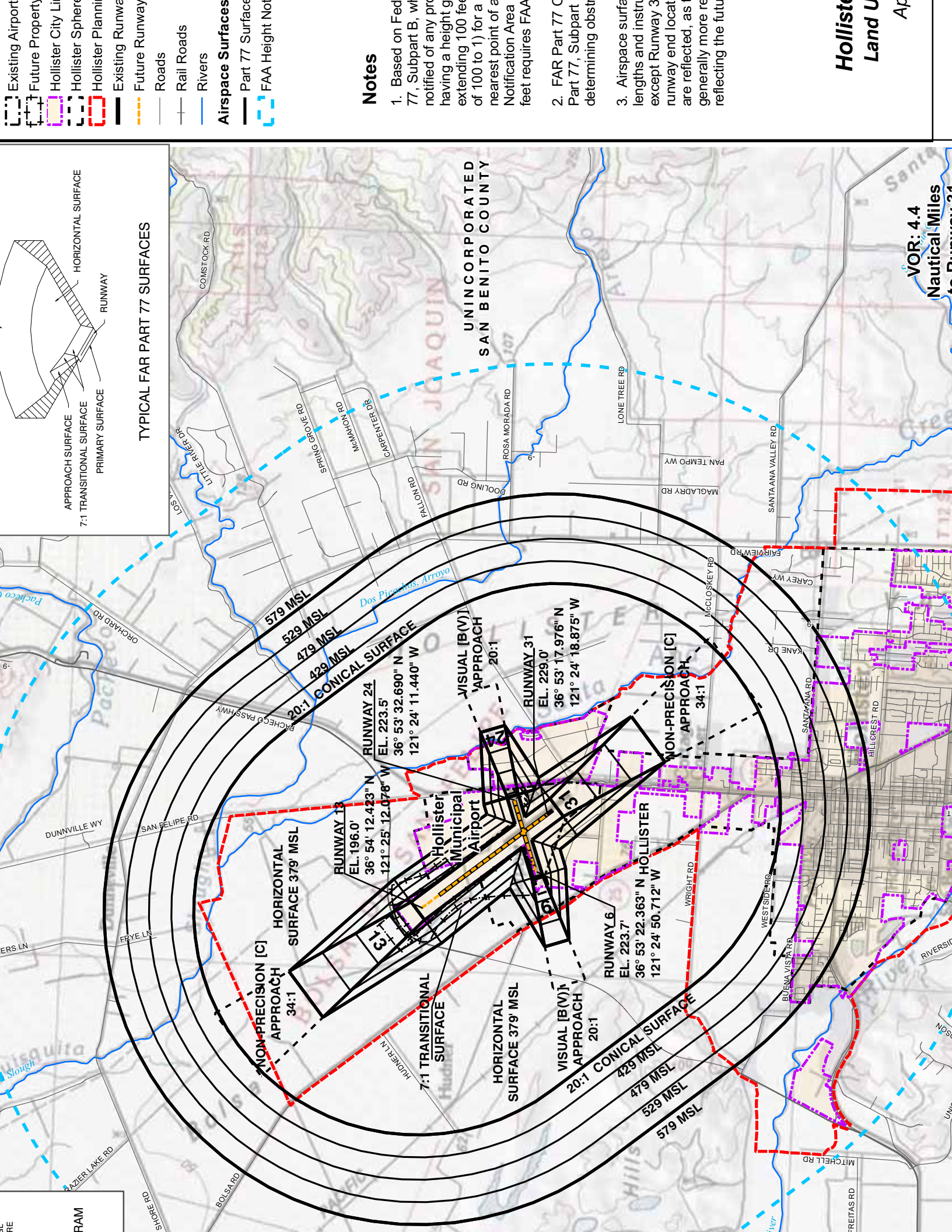
- > *Runway 13-31*
 - =Upgrade Airport Reference Code to C-II
 - =Increase length to 7,000 ft. by relocating Runway 31 northwest by 330 ft. and extending Runway 13 northwest by 980 ft.
 - =Nonprecision approach to Runway 13 with 1 mile approach visibility minimums
 - =Nonprecision approach to Runway 31 with ¾ mile visibility minimums
 - =Runway Lighting: High Intensity Runway Lights
 - =Replace PAPI-2 with PAPI-4 (13 and 31)
 - =Increase dual-wheel pavement strength to 60,000 lbs
 - =RPZ land acquisition
- > *Runway 6-24*
 - =Acquire Avigation Easement for RPZs
 - =Replace VASI-4 with PAPI-2 on Runway 24
 - =Holding Aprons: Ends of both runways
 - =PAPI-2 on Runway 6
 - =REIL on Runway 6
 - =Relocate Runway 6 to west, 207 ft.
- > *Taxiway A*
 - =Relocation to 400 ft. from Runway 13-31 for C-II

RUNWAY PROTECTION ZONES (RPZ)^{a, b}

	<i>Existing</i> 2009	<i>Ultimate</i> 2030
> <i>Runway 13</i>	500' x 1,000' x 700'	500' x 1,700' x 1,010'
> <i>Runway 31</i>	500' x 1,000' x 700'	1,000' x 1,700' x 1,510'
> <i>Runway 6</i>	500' x 1,000' x 700'	No Change
> <i>Runway 24</i>	500' x 1,000' x 700'	No Change

Notes:

^a Source: Airport Master Plan (2003)^b Source: Airport Diagram (2010)^c Source: Form 5010^d Touchdown Zone Elevation (TDZE)**Exhibit 3-1, continued**



Notes

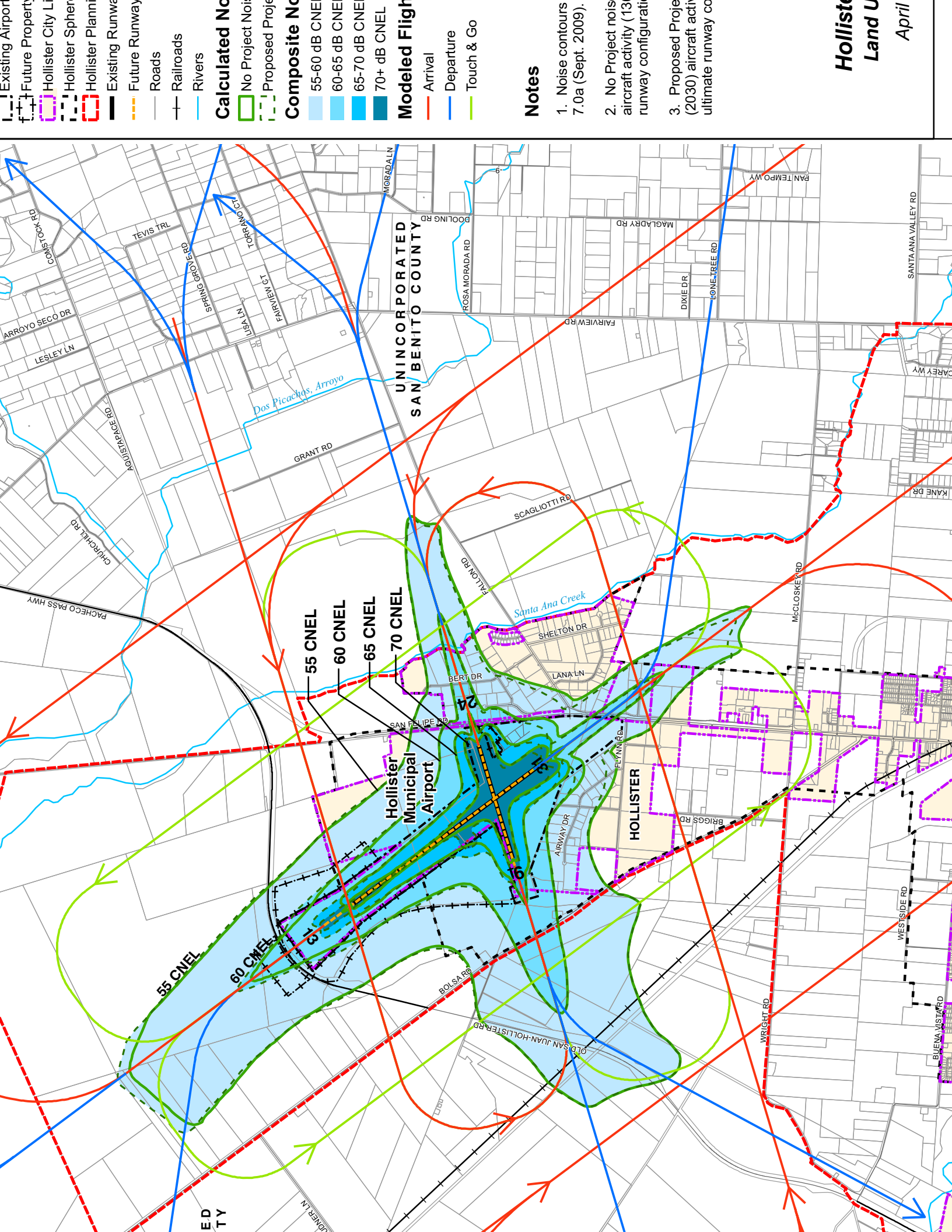
1. Based on Federal Aviation Regulations, Part 77, Subpart B, which requires that any proposed structure having a height greater than 100 feet extending 100 feet from the nearest point of a runway or a communication area requires FAA approval.
2. FAR Part 77, Subpart C, requires that any structure determining obstructions to flight be reflected, as generally more reflective than the actual structure, reflecting the future.
3. Airspace surface lengths and instructions except Runway 3, runway end location are reflected, as generally more reflective than the actual structure, reflecting the future.

Hollister
Land Use
VOR: 4.4
Nautical Miles
1 inch = 1 mile

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BASED AIRCRAFT ^a			TIME OF DAY DISTRIBUTION ^b		
	Base Year 2010	Forecast 2030		Base Year 2010	Forecast 2030
<i>Aircraft Type</i>			<i>Propeller Aircraft ^e</i>		
Single-Engine Piston	96	297	Day (7am to 7pm)	85%	no
Twin-Engine Piston	6	25	Evening (7pm to 10pm)	10%	change
Turboprop	2	10	Night (10pm to 7am)	5%	
Business Jet	7	10			
Helicopter	1	8	<i>Jets/CalFire</i>		
Other ^d	14	30	Day (7am to 7pm)	95%	no
<i>Total Aircraft</i>	<i>126</i>	<i>380</i>	Evening (7pm to 10pm)	4%	change
			Night (10pm to 7am)	1%	
AIRCRAFT OPERATIONS ^a			RUNWAY USE DISTRIBUTION ^c		
	Base Year 2010	Forecast 2030		Base Year 2010	Forecast 2030
<i>Total</i>			<i>Propeller Aircraft - Takeoffs/Landings</i>		
Annual	53,000	130,600	Runway 13	5%	
Average Day	145	356	Runway 31	50%	no
<i>Distribution by Aircraft Type</i>			Runway 6	5%	change
Single-Engine Piston	81.0%	77.0%	Runway 24	40%	
Twin-Engine Piston	7.5%	4.0%	<i>Business Jet - Takeoffs</i>		
Turboprop	8.5%	10.0%	Runway 13	5%	
Business Jet	0.8%	5.0%	Runway 31	85%	no
Helicopter	0.5%	3.0%	Runway 6	0%	change
CalFire	1.5%	1.0%	Runway 24	10%	
<i>Distribution by Type of Operation</i>			<i>Business Jet - Landings</i>		
Local (touch-and goes)	40%	40%	Runway 13	5%	
Itinerant	60%	60%	Runway 31	75%	no
			Runway 6	0%	change
			Runway 24	20%	
FLIGHT TRACK USAGE			<i>CalFire - Takeoffs</i>		
	Base Year 2010	Forecast 2030	Runway 13	0%	
<i>Propeller Aircraft - Arrivals</i>			Runway 31	100%	no
Straight-in	50%	50%	Runway 6	0%	change
90 degree left turn	50%	50%	Runway 24	0%	
<i>Propeller Aircraft - Departures</i>			<i>CalFire - Landings</i>		
Straight-in	50%	50%	Runway 13	0%	
45 degree left turn	50%	50%	Runway 31	50%	no
<i>Jets/CalFire - Arrivals</i>			Runway 6	0%	change
Straight-in	100%	100%	Runway 24	50%	
<i>Jets/CalFire -Departures</i>			<i>Touch-and-Go Operations</i>		
Straight-out	100%	100%	Runway 13	15%	
			Runway 31	35%	no
			Runway 6	15%	change
			Runway 24	35%	

Sources:^a Sources: airport management, 2010 5010 Form, and 2003 Airport Master Plan (Table 5C).^b Sources: airport management and 2001 CLUP (Table 3-1).^c Sources: airport management, 2001 CLUP (Table 3-1) and 2003 Airport Master Plan (Table 5B).^d Other aircraft include gliders and ultralights.^e Propeller aircraft include single-engine piston, multi-engine piston, turboprops and helicopters. Future helicopter operations modeled on Runway 13-31. Future helicopter parking apron located northwest of runway intersection.**Exhibit 3-4****Airport Activity Data Summary****Hollister Municipal Airport**



- Existing Runway
- Future Proposed Runway
- Hollister City
- Hollister Sphere
- Hollister Plan
- Existing Runway
- Future Runway
- Roads
- Rail Roads
- Parcels
- Rivers

Safety Zones

- No Project Safety Zone
- Proposed Project Safety Zone

Composite Safety Zones

- Zone 1 - Runway
- Zone 2 - Inner
- Zone 3 - Inner
- Zone 4 - Outer
- Zone 5 - Side
- Zone 6 - Traffic
- Object Free Area

Notes

1. Safety zone shown in Planning Handbook
2. No Project safety configuration. Runway; Runway; Runway
3. Proposed Project configuration. Runway; Runway; Runway
4. Zone 1 adjusted depicted on the Site for planning purposes



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AIRPORT SITE

- > *Location*
 - =Within limits of City of Hollister
 - =Located in north central San Benito County
 - =38 miles southeast of San Jose
 - =40 miles east of Monterey
 - =Highway 25 west of airport
 - =Highway 156 east of airport
- > *Nearby Terrain*
 - =Airport situated on valley floor east of Diablo Range

EXISTING AIRPORT AREA LAND USES

- > *General Character*
 - =Industrial development and airport support immediately border airport to south and east within city limits
 - =Agricultural uses and open space border airport to north and west
 - =Downtown area Hollister located approximately 2.5 miles south of airport
- > *Runway Approaches*
 - =North (Runway 13): Agricultural lands, open space
 - =South (Runway 31): Agricultural lands, industrial warehouses, and airport support
 - =East (Runway 6): Agricultural lands, open space
 - =West (Runway 24): Agricultural lands and industrial warehouses

ESTABLISHED AIRPORT COMPATIBILITY MEASURES

- > *City of Hollister General Plan (2005)*
 - =Land Use:
 - Implement the airport land use plan (*HS.C*)
 - Review new development for compatibility with the Hollister Municipal Airport Comprehensive Land Use Plan (*HS.U*)
 - =Noise:
 - Protection of residential areas from unacceptable noise levels [Not Airport Specific] (*HS3.1*)
 - Review proposed development north of Wright Rd./McCloskey Rd. for compatibility with operations at Hollister Airport and applicable noise regulations (*HS3.7*)
 - =Safety:
 - Establish compatible land use zones around Hollister Airport consistent with Hollister Airport Planning and avoid residential dwellings in aircraft flight zones. (*HS1.11*)
- > *County of San Benito General Plan (1980)*
 - =Land Use:
 - County shall direct residential population growth away from areas zoned or planned for industrial use by the County or the City of Hollister or City of San Juan Bautista (*Policy 13*)

AIRPORT ENVIRONS LAND USE JURISDICTIONS

- > *City of Hollister*
 - =Airport and incorporated lands east and south of airport
- > *County of San Benito*
 - =Unincorporated lands west, north and east of airport

STATUS OF COMMUNITY PLANS

- > *City of Hollister*
 - =City of Hollister General Plan (Adopted December 2005)
- > *County of San Benito*
 - =San Benito County General Plan (adopted in 1980 with amendments through 1995; update in progress)

PLANNED AIRPORT AREA LAND USES

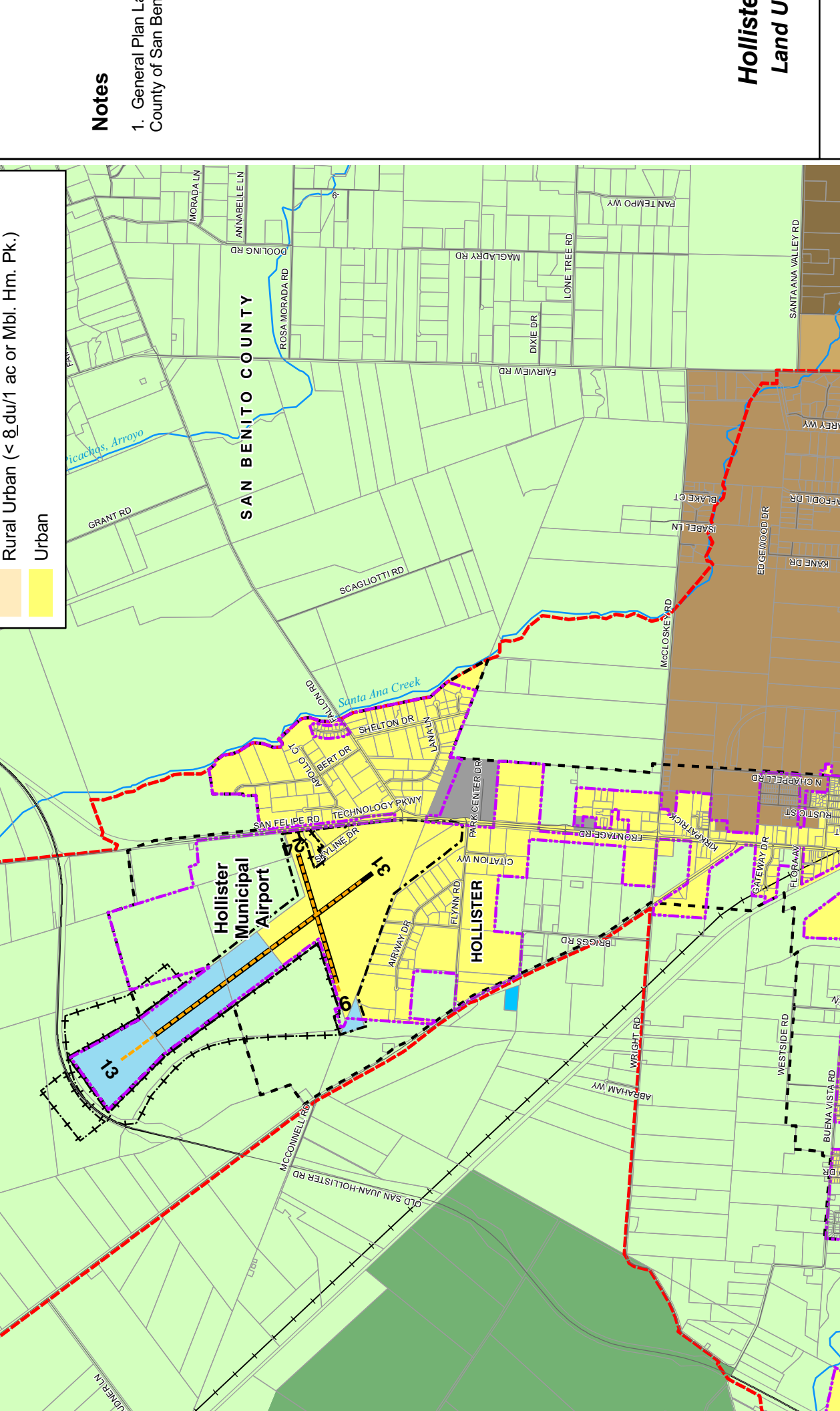
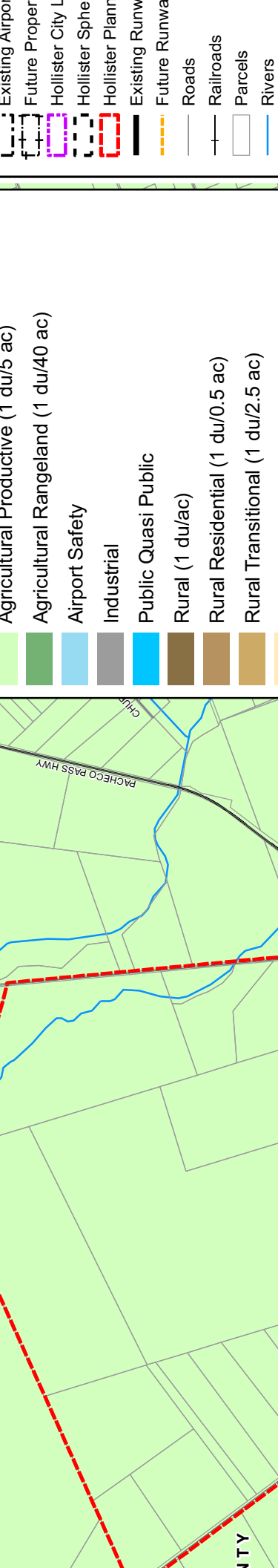
- > *City of Hollister*
 - =North: agriculture, industrial
 - =South: airport support, industrial
 - =East: airport support, industrial
 - =West: agricultural, industrial

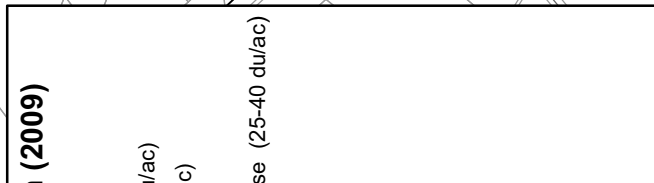
- =Land Use (con't):
 - New development in the vicinity of airports shall be consistent with the types of land use and densities prescribed in adopted airport master plans (Policy 14)
 - Direct industrial development to unincorporated lands within close proximity to transportation systems, natural resources and existing industrial operations or to isolated areas that are appropriate for certain types of industry
- =Noise:
 - Ensure that County land near airports, particularly land lying within future clear zones, will be reserved for only those uses deemed to be compatible with the high noise levels associated with an airport. Such uses might include open space, agriculture, cemetery, golf course or appropriate industrial uses (Policy 1)
 - Work with the City of Hollister to establish flight patterns which minimize noise impacts on existing and anticipated residential and commercial areas (Policy 2)
 - Encourage the establishment of an Airport Land Use Commission and to encourage the adoption of a noise abatement program by the Airport Commission consistent with FAA standards and California Noise Regulations for Airports (Policy 3)

Exhibit 3-7

Airport Environs Information

Hollister Municipal Airport





Appendices



Foundations of Airport Land Use Compatibility Planning

INTRODUCTION

This appendix outlines the policy foundations upon which airport land use compatibility planning in California is based. Much of the material presented here is drawn from the January 2002 edition of the *California Airport Land Use Planning Handbook* published by the California Division of Aeronautics. (For those seeking more detail, the *Handbook* is available on-line at the Division's web site: www.dot.ca.gov/hq/planning/aeronaut/htmlfile/landuse.html.)

In the beginning of this discussion, it is important to recognize that relatively little of the policy foundations for airport land use compatibility planning come directly from statutes or are otherwise regulatory in nature. The applicable California statutes deal primarily with the *process* of compatibility planning, not with *criteria* defining what land uses are or are not compatible with airports. The statutes require airport land use commissions to “be guided by” information in the state *Handbook*, but the *Handbook* does not constitute formal state policy or regulation. On the federal level, the guidance is even less regulatory in nature. The U.S. Constitution precludes federal government regulation of local land uses. Federal government direct involvement in airport land use compatibility planning occurs mostly because of the federal grant funding upon which airports rely. Beyond this type of involvement, various federal agencies have established nonregulatory guidelines that pertain to airport land use compatibility.

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT POLICIES

Federal airport land use compatibility policies are concerned mostly with noise issues. Several statutes deal specifically with aircraft noise. These statutes are implemented through regulations and policies of individual federal agencies, in particular the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). Guidance with regard to safety is primarily limited to FAA regulations concerning airport design and protection of airport airspace.

Statutes

Three statutes are of particular relevance to airport land use compatibility planning in that they both support and limit the actions that airports can take to mitigate noise impacts.

- > **Aviation Safety and Noise Abatement Act of 1979 (ASNA)**—Among the stated purposes of this act is “to provide assistance to airport operators to prepare and carry out noise compatibility programs.” The law establishes funding for noise compatibility planning and sets the requirements by which airport operators can apply for funding. The law does not require any airport to develop a noise compatibility program—the decision to do so is the choice of each individual airport proprietor. Regulations implementing the act are set forth in Federal Aviation Regulations Part 150.

- > **Airport and Airway Improvement Act of 1982 (AAIA)**—This act established the Airport Improvement Program (AIP) through which federal funds are made available for airport improvements and noise compatibility planning. The act has been amended several times, but remains in effect as of early 2009. Land use compatibility provisions of the act are implemented primarily by means of the assurances that airports must provide in order to receive federal airport improvement grants.
- > **Airport Noise and Capacity Act of 1990 (ANCA)**—In adopting this legislation, Congress' stated intention was to try to balance local needs for airport noise abatement with national needs for an effective air transportation system. To accomplish this objective, the act did two things: (1) it directed the FAA to establish a national program to review noise and access restrictions on aircraft operations imposed by airport proprietors; and (2) it established requirements for the phase-out of older model, comparatively louder, "Stage 2" airline aircraft from the nation's airline fleet by January 2000. These two requirements are implemented by Federal Aviation Regulations Part 161 and 91, respectively.

Federal Aviation Administration

The most significant FAA policies having a bearing on airport land use compatibility are found in Federal Aviation Regulations and, secondarily, in certain Advisory Circulars.

- > **Federal Aviation Regulations Part 36, Noise Standards: Aircraft Type and Airworthiness Certification**—This part of the Federal Aviation Regulations sets the noise limits that all newly produced aircraft must meet as part of their airworthiness certification.
- > **Federal Aviation Regulations Part 91, General Operating and Flight Rules**—This part of the Federal Aviation Regulations sets many of the rules by which aircraft flights within the United States are to be conducted. Rules governing noise limits are set forth in Subpart I. Within this subpart is a provision which mandated that all Stage 2 civil subsonic aircraft having a maximum gross weight of more than 75,000 pounds be phased out of operation within the United States by January 1, 2000. These FAR implements the requirements set forth in the Airport Noise and Capacity Act of 1990.
- > **Federal Aviation Regulations Part 150, Airport Noise Compatibility Planning**—As a means of implementing the Aviation Safety and Noise Abatement Act of 1979, the FAA adopted these regulations establishing a voluntary program that airports can utilize to conduct airport noise compatibility planning. "This part prescribes the procedures, standards, and methodology governing the development, submission, and review of airport noise exposure maps and airport noise compatibility programs, including the process for evaluating and approving or disapproving these programs." Part 150 also prescribes a system for measuring airport noise impacts and presents guidelines for identifying incompatible land uses. Airports that choose to undertake a Part 150 study are eligible for federal funding both for the study itself and for implementation of approved components of the local program.

The noise exposure maps are to be depicted in terms of average annual Day-Night Average Sound Level (DNL) contours around the airport. For the purposes of federal regulations, all land uses are considered compatible with noise levels of less than DNL 65 dB. At higher noise exposures, selected land uses are also deemed acceptable, depending upon the nature of the use and the degree of structural noise attenuation provided. In setting the various compatibility guidelines, however, the regulations state that the designations:

“...do not constitute a Federal determination that any use of land covered by the [noise compatibility] program is acceptable or unacceptable under federal, state, or local law. *The responsibility for determining the acceptable and permissible land uses and the relationship between specific properties and specific noise contours rests with the local authorities.* FAA determinations under Part 150 are not intended to substitute federally determined land uses for those determined to be appropriate by local authorities in response to locally determined needs and values in achieving noise compatible land uses.”
[emphasis added]

Note that the DNL noise metric is the same as the CNEL (Community Noise Equivalent Level) metric used in California except that DNL does not include a penalty weighting for evening (7:00 to 10:00 p.m.) operations—each operation is counted as if it were three operations—as does CNEL. Both metrics apply a 10-fold weighting—each operation is counted 10 times—for nighttime activity (10:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m.).

- > **Federal Aviation Regulations Part 161, Notice and Approval of Airport Noise and Access Restrictions**—This part of the federal regulations implements the Airport Noise and Capacity Act of 1990. It codifies the analysis and notification requirements for airport proprietors proposing aircraft noise and access restrictions on Stage 2 or Stage 3 aircraft weighing 75,000 pounds or more. Among other things, an extensive cost-benefit analysis of proposed restrictions is required. The analysis requirements are closely tied to the process set forth in FAR Part 150 and are more stringent with respect to the quieter, Stage 3 aircraft than for Stage 2.
- > **Federal Aviation Regulations Part 77, Objects Affecting Navigable Airspace**—FAR Part 77 establishes standards for determining obstructions to navigable airspace and the effects of such obstructions on the safe and efficient use of that airspace. The regulations require that the FAA be notified of proposed construction or alteration of objects—whether permanent, temporary, or of natural growth—if those objects would be of a height that would exceed the FAR Part 77 criteria. The height limits are defined in terms of imaginary surfaces in the airspace extending about two to three miles around airport runways and approximately 9.5 miles from the ends of runways having a precision instrument approach. FAR Part 77 is applicable to both civilian and military airports although the specific standards differ.

When notified of a proposed construction, the FAA conducts an aeronautical study to determine whether the object would constitute an airspace hazard. Simply because an object (or the ground) would exceed an airport’s airspace surfaces established in accordance with FAR Part 77 criteria does not mean that the object would be considered a hazard. Various factors, including the extent to which an object is shielded by nearby taller objects, are taken into account. The FAA may recommend marking and lighting of obstructions.

The FAA has no authority to remove or to prevent construction or growth of objects deemed to be obstructions. Local governments having jurisdiction over land use are typically responsible for establishing height limitation ordinances that prevent new, and enable removal of existing, obstructions to the FAR Part 77 surfaces. Federal action in response to new airspace obstructions is primarily limited to three possibilities:

- = For airports with instrument approaches, an obstruction could necessitate modification to one or more of the approach procedures (particularly greater visibility and/or cloud ceiling minimums) or even require elimination of an approach procedure.
- = Airfield changes such as displacement of a landing threshold could be required (especially at airports certificated for commercial air carrier service).

=The owner of an airport could be found in noncompliance with the conditions agreed to upon receipt of airport development or property acquisition grant funds and could become ineligible for future grants (or, in extreme cases, be required to repay part of a previous grant).

- > **FAA Advisory Circular 150/5300-13, Airport Design**—The primary function of this Advisory Circular is to establish standards for dimensions and other features of civilian airport runways, taxiways, and other aircraft operating areas. For the most part, these airport components are all on airport property. One that is sometimes not entirely on airport is the runway protection zone (RPZ). RPZs are trapezoidal-shaped areas located at ground level beyond each end of a runway. The Advisory Circular describes their function as being “to enhance protection of people and property on the ground.” The dimensions of RPZs vary depending upon:

- =The type of landing approach available at the airport (visual, nonprecision, or precision); and
- =Characteristics of the critical aircraft operating at the airport (weight and approach speed).

Ideally, each runway protection zone should be entirely clear of all objects. The *Airport Design* Advisory Circular strongly recommends that airports own this property outright or, when this is impractical, to obtain easements sufficient to control the land use. Acquisition of this property is eligible for FAA grants (except at some small airports which are not part of the national airport system). Even on portions of the RPZs not under airport control, the FAA recommends that churches, schools, hospitals, office buildings, shopping centers, and other places of public assembly, as well as fuel storage facilities, be prohibited. Automobile parking is considered acceptable only on the outer edges of RPZs (outside the extended object free area).

Other Federal Agencies

- > **U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)**—A report published in 1974 by the EPA Office of Noise Abatement and Control continues to be a source of useful background information. Entitled *Information on Levels of Environmental Noise Requisite to Protect Public Health and Welfare with an Adequate Margin of Safety*, this report is better known as the “Levels Document.” The document does not constitute EPA regulations or standards. Rather, it is intended to “provide state and local governments as well as the federal government and the private sector with an informational point of departure for the purposes of decision-making.” Using Yearly Day-Night Average Sound Level (DNL) as a measure of noise acceptability, the document states that “undue interference with activity and annoyance” will not occur if *outdoor* noise levels in residential areas are below DNL 55 dB and *indoor* levels are below DNL 45 dB. These thresholds include an “adequate margin of safety” as the document title indicates.
- > **Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)**—HUD guidelines for the acceptability of residential land use are set forth in the Code of Federal Regulations Title 24, Part 51, “Environmental Criteria and Standards.” The guidelines identify a noise exposure of DNL 65 dB or less as acceptable, between 65 and 75 dB as normally acceptable if appropriate sound attenuation is provided, and above DNL 75 dB as unacceptable. The goal for interior noise levels is DNL 45 dB. These guidelines apply only to new construction supported by HUD grants and are not binding upon local communities.
- > **Department of Defense Air Installations Compatibility Use Zones (AICUZ) Program**—The AICUZ Program was established by the DOD in response to growing incompatible urban development around military airfields. DOD Instruction Number 4165.57 (November 8, 1977) provides

the overall guidance for the program and mandates preparation of an AICUZ plan for each installation. Each of the military services has its own individual guidelines for implementing the basic instructions. The Air Force guidelines, for example, are defined in Air Force Instruction 32-7063, *Air Installation Compatible Use Zone Program* (April 17, 2002) and Air Force Handbook 32-7084, *AICUZ Program Manager's Guide* (March 1, 1999). The Air Force publications describe the two objectives of the AICUZ program as being: to assist local, regional, state, and federal agencies in protecting public health, safety, and welfare by promoting compatible development within the area of influence of military installations; and to protect Air Force operational capability from the effects of land uses which are incompatible with aircraft operations. AICUZ plans prepared for individual military airfields serve as recommendations to local land use jurisdictions, but have no regulatory function.

Each AICUZ plan delineates the installation's area of influence with respect to height limitations for airspace protection, accident potential, and noise. FAR Part 77 is used for airspace protection criteria. For safety compatibility, three accident potential zones (APZs) are defined: a clear zone (equivalent to the RPZ at civilian airports), and APZs I and II. These zones extend a total of 15,000 feet beyond the ends of runways. Noise contours using the DNL metric, or CNEL in California, indicate the extent of noise impacts. Land use compatibility guidelines are provided with respect to each of these factors. Residential development is considered incompatible within all three APZs except for low-density development in APZ II, as well as within all noise contours above 65 dB.

- > **Department of Defense Joint Land Use Study (JLUS) Program**—In 1985, congress authorized the DOD to make available community planning assistance grants (Title 10 U.S.C. Section 2391) to state and local government to help better understand and incorporate the AICUZ technical data into local planning programs. The Office of Economic Adjustment (OEA) manages the JLUS program. A JLUS is a cooperative land use planning effort between the affected local government and the military installation. The JLUS presents a rationale, justification, and a policy framework to support the adoption and implementation of recommended compatible development criteria. These measures are designed to prevent urban encroachment; safeguard the military mission; and protect the public health, safety, and welfare.

STATE OF CALIFORNIA POLICIES

Unlike with federal government policies that are merely advisory as airport land use compatibility planning guidelines, some elements of state policy are regulatory in nature.

State Aeronautics Act

The California State Aeronautics Act—Division 9, Part 1 of the California Public Utilities Code—provides the policy guidance most directly relevant to compatibility planning. Three portions of the act are of particular interest. One, beginning with Section 21670, establishes requirements for airport land use compatibility planning around each public-use and military airport in the state and the creation of an airport land use commission in most counties. Another—Section 21669—requires the State Department of Transportation to adopt, to an extent not prohibited by federal law, noise standards applicable to all airports operating under a state permit. A third effectively makes FAR Part 77 a state law.

- > **Airport Land Use Commission Statutes**—Although numerous changes have been made to the ALUC statutes over the years, the basic requirements for the establishment of ALUCs and the preparation of airport land use compatibility plans have been in place since the law's enactment in 1967.

The fundamental purpose of ALUCs to promote land use compatibility around airports has remained unchanged. As expressed in the present statutes, this purpose is:

“...to protect public health, safety, and welfare by ensuring the orderly expansion of airports and the adoption of land use measures that minimize the public’s exposure to excessive noise and safety hazards within areas around public airports to the extent that these areas are not already devoted to incompatible uses.”

As noted in the introduction to this chapter, the focus of the ALUC statutes is on the process of compatibility planning. Compatibility criteria are not defined. Rather, reference is made to other sources of compatibility criteria, specifically:

- =The preamble to the law indicates that one of the purposes is “to promote the overall goals and objectives of the California airport noise standards adopted pursuant to Section 21669” i.e., the California Airport Noise Regulations.
- =Section 21674.7 requires that, when adopting or amending a compatibility plan, ALUCs “be guided by” information contained in the *Airport Land Use Planning Handbook*. This section further states that “prior to granting permits for the renovation or remodeling of an existing building, structure, or facility, and before the construction of a new building, it is the intent of the Legislature that local agencies shall be guided by the height, use, noise, safety, and density criteria that are compatible with airport operations” as outlined in the *Handbook*. Highlights of the compatibility criteria set forth in the *Handbook* are included later in this chapter.
- =With regard to military airports, Section 21675(b) states that ALUCs must prepare a compatibility plan for them and that such plans “shall be consistent with the safety and noise standards in the Air Installation Compatible Use Zone [plan] prepared for that military airport.”

With respect to the compatibility planning process, two sections of the law are particularly significant to local land use agencies:

- =ALUC authority is limited to “areas not already devoted to incompatible uses.” This phrase is generally taken to mean that ALUCs have no authority over existing land uses. However, changing an incompatible land use in a manner that would make it more incompatible is considered to be within the jurisdiction of ALUCs.
 - =Section 21676 describes the types of land use actions that must be submitted to an ALUC for review. These actions include adoption or amendment of a general plan or zoning ordinance. Section 21676.5 indicates that until such time as a local agency’s general plan has been made consistent with the ALUC’s plan, the ALUC may require the local agency to submit all “actions, regulations, and permits” for review. After the agency’s general plan has been deemed consistent, then these additional actions are not subject to ALUC review unless agreed upon between the agency and the ALUC.
- > **California Airport Noise Regulations**—The airport noise standards promulgated in accordance with the State Aeronautics Act are set forth in Section 5000 et seq. of the California Code of Regulations (Title 21, Division 2.5, and Chapter 6). The regulations establish criteria under which a county board of supervisors can declare an airport as having a “noise problem.” The specifics of the regulations are applicable only to a few, primarily major airline, airports that have been declared as having a noise problem. Nevertheless, some of the provisions are of interest in a nonregulatory manner to other airports.

Most relevant are the criteria that define what are considered incompatible land uses with respect to noise. Section 5006 states that:

“The level of noise acceptable to a reasonable person residing in the vicinity of an airport is established as a community noise equivalent level (CNEL) value of 65 dB for purposes of these regulations. This criterion level has been chosen for reasonable persons residing in urban residential areas where houses are of typical California construction and may have windows partially open. It has been selected with reference to speech, sleep and community reaction.”

Of particular note in the above is that the CNEL 65 dB criterion has been set specifically with respect to *urban* residential areas. The regulations provide no guidance with respect to other community settings.

Four types of land uses are defined as incompatible within the CNEL 65 dB contour:

- = Residences of all types;
- = Public and private schools;
- = Hospitals and convalescent homes; and
- = Churches, synagogues, temples, and other places of worship.

However, these uses are not deemed incompatible if any of several mitigative actions has been taken as spelled out in Section 5014. Among these measures are airport acquisition of an avigation easement for aircraft noise and, except for some residential uses, acoustical insulation adequate to ensure that the interior CNEL due to aircraft noise is 45 dB or less in all habitable rooms.

- > **Regulation of Obstructions**—Section 21659 gives the state authority to enforce the standards set by FAR Part 77. No structure or tree is permitted to reach a height that exceeds FAR Part 77 obstruction standards unless the FAA has determined that the object would not constitute a hazard to air navigation or create an unsafe condition for flight.

Other State Regulations

Additional state regulations having a bearing on airport land use compatibility planning include the following:

- > **Government Code**—Section 65302.3 requires that local agencies must either modify their general plans and any applicable specific plans to be consistent with the compatibility plan adopted by an ALUC or take the steps indicated in Public Utilities Code Section 21676 to overrule the ALUC. The local plans are to be amended within 180 days of when the ALUC plan is adopted or amended.
- > **California Building Code**—California Code of Regulations Title 24, known as the California Building Code, contains standards for allowable interior noise levels associated with exterior noise sources. The standards apply to new hotels, motels, dormitories, apartment houses, and dwellings other than detached single-family residences.

The standards state that:

“Interior noise levels attributable to exterior sources shall not exceed 45 dB in any habitable room. The noise metric shall be either the Day- Night Average Sound Level (L_{dn}) or the Community Noise Equivalent Level (CNEL), consistent with the noise element of the local general plan. Worst-case noise levels, either existing or future, shall be used as the basis for determining

compliance with [these standards]. Future noise levels shall be predicted for a period of at least 10 years from the time of building permit application.”

With regard to airport noise sources, the code goes on to indicate that:

“Residential structures to be located where the annual L_{dn} or CNEL exceeds 60 dB shall require an acoustical analysis showing that the proposed design will achieve the prescribed allowable interior level. For public use airports or heliports, the L_{dn} or CNEL shall be determined from the airport land use plan prepared by the county wherein the airport is located. For military bases, the L_{dn} shall be determined from the facility Air Installation Compatible Use Zone (AICUZ) plan. For all other airports or heliports, or public use airports or heliports for which a land use plan has not been developed, the L_{dn} or CNEL shall be determined from the noise element of the general plan of the local jurisdiction. When aircraft noise is not the only significant source, noise levels from all sources shall be added to determine the composite site noise level.”

- > **Real Estate Disclosure Laws**—State legislation that took effect in January 2004 (Building and Professions Code Section 11010 and Government Code Sections 1103 and 1353) requires that the presence of an airport nearby be disclosed as part of residential real estate transactions. For all new subdivisions plus those existing residences located where other hazards (flood, fire, and earthquake) are present. This requirement applies within the airport influence area as defined by the airport land use commission in the county. The law provides the following specific language to be used in the disclosure:

“This property is presently located in the vicinity of an airport, within what is known as an airport influence area. For that reason, the property may be subject to some of the annoyances or inconveniences associated with proximity to airport operations (for example: noise, vibration, or odors). Individual sensitivities to those annoyances can vary from person to person. You may wish to consider what airport annoyances, if any, are associated with the property before you complete your purchase and determine whether they are acceptable to you.”

- > **State Education Code**—Provisions of the Education Code applying to elementary and secondary schools (Section 17215) and community colleges (Section 81033) require the California Division of Aeronautics to review proposals for acquisition of a school site situated within two miles of an existing or planned airport runway. The Division must then investigate the proposed site and report back to the Department of Education its recommendations as to whether the site should be acquired for school purposes. The Division is also required to establish criteria to be used in this review process.
- > **General Plan Guidelines**—Section 65302(f) of the California Government Code, requires that a noise element be included as part of local general plans. Airports and heliports are among the noise sources specifically to be analyzed. To the extent practical, both current and future noise contours (expressed in terms of either CNEL or DNL) are to be included. The noise contours are to be “used as a guide for establishing a pattern of land uses ... that minimizes the exposure of community residents to excessive noise.”

Guidance on the preparation and content of general plan noise elements is provided by the Office of Planning and Research in its *General Plan Guidelines* publication (last revised in 2003). This guidance represents an updated version of guidelines originally published by the State Department of Health Services in 1976. Included in the document is a table indicating noise compatibility criteria for a variety of land use categories. Another table outlines a set of adjustment or “normalization” factors that “may be used in order to arrive at noise acceptability standards which reflect the noise

control goals of the community, the particular community's sensitivity to noise..., and their assessment of the relative importance of noise pollution.”

Airport Land Use Planning Handbook

Drawing from original research and a variety of other sources such as those described in this appendix, the 2002 edition of the *California Airport Land Use Planning Handbook* provides an extensive amount of information upon which local airport land use compatibility criteria can be based. Indeed, as noted earlier herein, local compatibility planning must “be guided by” the information in the *Handbook*. On most topics, the *Handbook* provides a significant degree of latitude in setting compatibility criteria to best suit the characteristics of a particular airport and its environs. Moreover, agencies can deviate from this guidance where there is strong rationale for doing so and compliance with the basic objectives of the statutes can still be demonstrated.

The *Handbook* discussion of compatibility issues is divided into chapters on noise and safety. The noise discussion includes overflight issues and safety includes airspace protection. A few highlights are worth noting.

- > **Noise**—The *Handbook* notes that CNEL 65 dB is the maximum noise level normally compatible with urban residential land uses, but that this level is too high for many airports. The “normalization” process is cited as a means for adjusting this criterion to reflect community characteristics. Additional factors to be considered are listed in Table 7C.
- > **Overflight**—Overflight concerns are addressed in terms of the need for buyer awareness measures and avoidance of particularly noise-sensitive land uses.
- > **Safety**—Safety compatibility guidelines in the *Handbook* utilize accident location data to identify the areas of greatest risk near runways. Several sample sets of safety zones are depicted along with suggested maximum residential density and nonresidential intensity criteria. Distinctions between rural, suburban, and urban settings are taken into account in these criteria.
- > **Airspace Protection**—The criteria for this topic stem directly from FAR Part 77 standards for avoidance of airspace obstructions and other FAA regulations with respect to bird strike concerns and other hazards to flight.

An update to the 2002 edition of the *Handbook* is scheduled to begin in mid 2009 and is scheduled to be completed in 2010.

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AERONAUTICS LAW
PUBLIC UTILITIES CODE
Division 9—Aviation
Part 1—State Aeronautics Act
Chapter 4—Airports and Air Navigation Facilities
Article 3.5—Airport Land Use Commission

21670. Creation; Membership; Selection

- (a) The Legislature hereby finds and declares that:
- (1) It is in the public interest to provide for the orderly development of each public use airport in this state and the area surrounding these airports so as to promote the overall goals and objectives of the California airport noise standards adopted pursuant to Section 21669 and to prevent the creation of new noise and safety problems.
 - (2) It is the purpose of this article to protect public health, safety, and welfare by ensuring the orderly expansion of airports and the adoption of land use measures that minimize the public's exposure to excessive noise and safety hazards within areas around public airports to the extent that these areas are not already devoted to incompatible uses.
- (b) In order to achieve the purposes of this article, every county in which there is located an airport which is served by a scheduled airline shall establish an airport land use commission. Every county, in which there is located an airport which is not served by a scheduled airline, but is operated for the benefit of the general public, shall establish an airport land use commission, except that the board of supervisors of the county may, after consultation with the appropriate airport operators and affected local entities and after a public hearing, adopt a resolution finding that there are no noise, public safety, or land use issues affecting any airport in the county which require the creation of a commission and declaring the county exempt from that requirement. The board shall, in this event, transmit a copy of the resolution to the Director of Transportation. For purposes of this section, "commission" means an airport land use commission. Each commission shall consist of seven members to be selected as follows:
- (1) Two representing the cities in the county, appointed by a city selection committee comprised of the mayors of all the cities within that county, except that if there are any cities contiguous or adjacent to the qualifying airport, at least one representative shall be appointed therefrom. If there are no cities within a county, the number of representatives provided for by paragraphs (2) and (3) shall each be increased by one.
 - (2) Two representing the county, appointed by the board of supervisors.
 - (3) Two having expertise in aviation, appointed by a selection committee comprised of the managers of all of the public airports within that county.
 - (4) One representing the general public, appointed by the other six members of the commission.
- (c) Public officers, whether elected or appointed, may be appointed and serve as members of the commission during their terms of public office.

- (d) Each member shall promptly appoint a single proxy to represent him or her in commission affairs and to vote on all matters when the member is not in attendance. The proxy shall be designated in a signed written instrument which shall be kept on file at the commission offices, and the proxy shall serve at the pleasure of the appointing member. A vacancy in the office of proxy shall be filled promptly by appointment of a new proxy.
- (e) A person having an “expertise in aviation” means a person who, by way of education, training, business, experience, vocation, or avocation has acquired and possesses particular knowledge of, and familiarity with, the function, operation, and role of airports, or is an elected official of a local agency which owns or operates an airport.
- (f) It is the intent of the Legislature to clarify that, for the purposes of this article that special districts, school districts and community college districts are included among the local agencies that are subject to airport land use laws and other requirements of this article.

21670.1. Action by Designated Body Instead of Commission

- (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of this article, if the board of supervisors and the city selection committee of mayors in the county each makes a determination by a majority vote that proper land use planning can be accomplished through the actions of an appropriately designated body, then the body so designated shall assume the planning responsibilities of an airport land use commission as provided for in this article, and a commission need not be formed in that county.
- (b) A body designated pursuant to subdivision (a) that does not include among its membership at least two members having expertise in aviation, as defined in subdivision (e) of Section 21670, shall, when acting in the capacity of an airport land use commission, be augmented so that body, as augmented, will have at least two members having that expertise. The commission shall be constituted pursuant to this section on and after March 1, 1988.
- (c)
 - (1) Notwithstanding subdivisions (a) and (b), and subdivision (b) of Section 21670, if the board of supervisors of a county and each affected city in that county each makes a determination that proper land use planning pursuant to this article can be accomplished pursuant to this subdivision, then a commission need not be formed in that county.
 - (2) If the board of supervisors of a county and each affected city makes a determination that proper land use planning may be accomplished and a commission is not formed pursuant to paragraph (1), that county and the appropriate affected cities having jurisdiction over an airport, subject to the review and approval by the Division of Aeronautics of the department, shall do all of the following:
 - (A) Adopt processes for the preparation, adoption, and amendment of the airport land use compatibility plan for each airport that is served by a scheduled airline or operated for the benefit of the general public.
 - (B) Adopt processes for the notification of the general public, landowners, interested groups, and other public agencies regarding the preparation, adoption, and amendment of the airport land use compatibility plans.
 - (C) Adopt processes for the mediation of disputes arising from the preparation, adoption, and amendment of the airport land use compatibility plans.
 - (D) Adopt processes for the amendment of general and specific plans to be consistent with the airport land use compatibility plans.

- (E) Designate the agency that shall be responsible for the preparation, adoption, and amendment of each airport land use compatibility plan.
- (3) The Division of Aeronautics of the department shall review the processes adopted pursuant to paragraph (2), and shall approve the processes if the division determines that the processes are consistent with the procedure required by this article and will do all of the following:
 - (A) Result in the preparation, adoption, and implementation of plans within a reasonable amount of time.
 - (B) Rely on the height, use, noise, safety, and density criteria that are compatible with airport operations, as established by this article, and referred to as the Airport Land Use Planning Handbook, published by the division, and any applicable federal aviation regulations, including, but not limited to, Part 77 (commencing with Section 77.1) of Title 14 of the Code of Federal Regulations.
 - (C) Provide adequate opportunities for notice to, review of, and comment by the general public, landowners, interested groups, and other public agencies.
- (4) If the county does not comply with the requirements of paragraph (2) within 120 days, then the airport land use compatibility plan and amendments shall not be considered adopted pursuant to this article and a commission shall be established within 90 days of the determination of noncompliance by the division and an airport land use compatibility plan shall be adopted pursuant to this article within 90 days of the establishment of the commission.
- (d) A commission need not be formed in a county that has contracted for the preparation of airport land use compatibility plans with the Division of Aeronautics under the California Aid to Airports Program (Chapter 4 (commencing with Section 4050) of Title 21 of the California Code of Regulations), Project Ker-VAR 90-1, and that submits all of the following information to the Division of Aeronautics for review and comment that the county and the cities affected by the airports within the county, as defined by the airport land use compatibility plans:
 - (1) Agree to adopt and implement the airport land use compatibility plans that have been developed under contract.
 - (2) Incorporated the height, use, noise, safety, and density criteria that are compatible with airport operations as established by this article, and referred to as the Airport Land Use Planning Handbook, published by the division, and any applicable federal aviation regulations, including, but not limited to, Part 77 (commencing with Section 77.1) of Title 14 of the Code of Federal Regulations as part of the general and specific plans for the county and for each affected city.
 - (3) If the county does not comply with this subdivision on or before May 1, 1995, then a commission shall be established in accordance with this article.
- (e) (1) A commission need not be formed in a county if all of the following conditions are met:
 - (A) The county has only one public use airport that is owned by a city.
 - (B) (i) The county and the affected city adopt the elements in paragraph (2) of subdivision (d), as part of their general and specific plans for the county and the affected city.
 - (ii) The general and specific plans shall be submitted, upon adoption, to the Division of Aeronautics. If the county and the affected city do not submit the elements specified in paragraph (2) of subdivision (d), on or before May 1, 1996, then a commission shall be established in accordance with this article.

21670.2. Application to Counties Having over 4 Million in Population

- (a) Sections 21670 and 21670.1 do not apply to the County of Los Angeles. In that county, the county regional planning commission has the responsibility for coordinating the airport planning of public agencies within the county. In instances where impasses result relative to this planning, an appeal may be made to the county regional planning commission by any public agency involved. The action taken by the county regional planning commission on an appeal may be overruled by a four-fifths vote of the governing body of a public agency whose planning led to the appeal.
- (b) By January 1, 1992, the county regional planning commission shall adopt the airport land use compatibility plans required pursuant to Section 21675.
- (c) Sections 21675.1, 21675.2, and 21679.5 do not apply to the County of Los Angeles until January 1, 1992. If the airport land use compatibility plans required pursuant to Section 21675 are not adopted by the county regional planning commission by January 1, 1992, Sections 21675.1 and 21675.2 shall apply to the County of Los Angeles until the airport land use compatibility plans are adopted.

21670.3 San Diego County

- (a) Sections 21670 and 21670.1 do not apply to the County of San Diego. In that county, the San Diego County Regional Airport Authority, as established pursuant to Section 170002, shall be responsible for the preparation, adoption, and amendment of an airport land use compatibility plan for each airport in San Diego County.
- (b) The San Diego County Regional Airport Authority shall engage in a public collaborative planning process when preparing and updating an airport land use compatibility plan.

21670.4. Intercounty Airports

- (a) As used in this section, “intercounty airport” means any airport bisected by a county line through its runways, runway protection zones, inner safety zones, inner turning zones, outer safety zones, or sideline safety zones, as defined by the department’s Airport Land Use Planning Handbook and referenced in the airport land use compatibility plan formulated under Section 21675.
- (b) It is the purpose of this section to provide the opportunity to establish a separate airport land use commission so that an intercounty airport may be served by a single airport land use planning agency, rather than having to look separately to the airport land use commissions of the affected counties.
- (c) In addition to the airport land use commissions created under Section 21670 or the alternatives established under Section 21670.1, for their respective counties, the boards of supervisors and city selection committees for the affected counties, by independent majority vote of each county’s two delegations, for any intercounty airport, may do either of the following:
 - (1) Establish a single separate airport land use commission for that airport. That commission shall consist of seven members to be selected as follows:
 - (A) One representing the cities in each of the counties, appointed by that county’s city selection committee.
 - (B) One representing each of the counties, appointed by the board of supervisors of each county.

- (C) One from each county having expertise in aviation, appointed by a selection committee comprised of the managers of all the public airports within that county.
 - (D) One representing the general public, appointed by the other six members of the commission.
- (2) In accordance with subdivision (a) or (b) of Section 21670.1, designate an existing appropriate entity as that airport's land use commission.

21670.5. [Deleted]

21670.6. Court and Mediation Proceedings

Any action brought in the superior court relating to this article may be subject to mediation proceeding conducted pursuant to Chapter 9.3 (commencing with Section 66030) of Division I of Title 7 of the Government Code.

21671. Airports Owned by a City, District, or County

In any county where there is an airport operated for the general public which is owned by a city or district in another county or by another county, one of the representatives provided by paragraph (1) of subdivision (b) of Section 21670 shall be appointed by the city selection committee of mayors of the cities of the county in which the owner of that airport is located, and one of the representatives provided by paragraph (2) subdivision (b) of Section 21670 shall be appointed by the board of supervisors of the county in which the owner of that airport is located.

21671.5. Term of Office

- (a) Except for the terms of office of the members of the first commission, the term of office of each member shall be four years and until the appointment and qualification of his or her successor. The members of the first commission shall classify themselves by lot so that the term of office of one member is one year, of two members is two years, of two members is three years, and of two members is four years. The body that originally appointed a member whose term has expired shall appoint his or her successor for a full term of four years. Any member may be removed at any time and without cause by the body appointing that member. The expiration date of the term of office of each member shall be the first Monday in May in the year in which that member's term is to expire. Any vacancy in the membership of the commission shall be filled for the unexpired term by appointment by the body which originally appointed the member whose office has become vacant. The chairperson of the commission shall be selected by the members thereof.
- (b) Compensation, if any, shall be determined by the board of supervisors.
- (c) Staff assistance, including the mailing of notices and the keeping of minutes and necessary quarters, equipment, and supplies, shall be provided by the county. The usual and necessary operating expenses of the commission shall be a county charge.
- (d) Notwithstanding any other provisions of this article, the commission shall not employ any personnel either as employees or independent contractors without the prior approval of the board of supervisors.
- (e) The commission shall meet at the call of the commission chairperson or at the request of the majority of the commission members. A majority of the commission members shall constitute a

quorum for the transaction of business. No action shall be taken by the commission except by the recorded vote of a majority of the full membership.

- (f) The commission may establish a schedule of fees necessary to comply with this article. Those fees shall be charged to the proponents of actions, regulations, or permits, shall not exceed the estimated reasonable cost of providing the service, and shall be imposed pursuant to Section 66016 of the Government Code. Except as provided in subdivision (g), after June 30, 1991, a commission that has not adopted the airport land use compatibility plan required by Section 21675 shall not charge fees pursuant to this subdivision until the commission adopts the plan.
- (g) In any county that has undertaken by contract or otherwise completed airport land use compatibility plans for at least one-half of all public use airports in the county, the commission may continue to charge fees necessary to comply with this article until June 30, 1992, and, if the airport land use compatibility plans are complete by that date, may continue charging fees after June 30, 1992. If the airport land use compatibility plans are not complete by June 30, 1992, the commission shall not charge fees pursuant to subdivision (f) until the commission adopts the land use plans.

21672. Rules and Regulations

Each commission shall adopt rules and regulations with respect to the temporary disqualification of its members from participating in the review or adoption of a proposal because of conflict of interest and with respect to appointment of substitute members in such cases.

21673. Initiation of Proceedings for Creation by Owner of Airport

In any county not having a commission or a body designated to carry out the responsibilities of a commission, any owner of a public airport may initiate proceedings for the creation of a commission by presenting a request to the board of supervisors that a commission be created and showing the need therefor to the satisfaction of the board of supervisors.

21674. Powers and Duties

The commission has the following powers and duties, subject to the limitations upon its jurisdiction set forth in Section 21676:

- (a) To assist local agencies in ensuring compatible land uses in the vicinity of all new airports and in the vicinity of existing airports to the extent that the land in the vicinity of those airports is not already devoted to incompatible uses.
- (b) To coordinate planning at the state, regional, and local levels so as to provide for the orderly development of air transportation, while at the same time protecting the public health, safety, and welfare.
- (c) To prepare and adopt an airport land use compatibility plan pursuant to Section 21675.
- (d) To review the plans, regulations, and other actions of local agencies and airport operators pursuant to Section 21676.
- (e) The powers of the commission shall in no way be construed to give the commission jurisdiction over the operation of any airport.

- (f) In order to carry out its responsibilities, the commission may adopt rules and regulations consistent with this article.

21674.5. Training of Airport Land Use Commission's Staff

- (a) The Department of Transportation shall develop and implement a program or programs to assist in the training and development of the staff of airport land use commissions, after consulting with airport land use commissions, cities, counties, and other appropriate public entities.
- (b) The training and development program or programs are intended to assist the staff of airport land use commissions in addressing high priority needs, and may include, but need not be limited to, the following:
 - (1) The establishment of a process for the development and adoption of airport land use compatibility plans.
 - (2) The development of criteria for determining the airport influence area.
 - (3) The identification of essential elements that should be included in the airport land use compatibility plans.
 - (4) Appropriate criteria and procedures for reviewing proposed developments and determining whether proposed developments are compatible with the airport use.
 - (5) Any other organizational, operational, procedural, or technical responsibilities and functions that the department determines to be appropriate to provide to commission staff and for which it determines there is a need for staff training or development.
- (c) The department may provide training and development programs for airport land use commission staff pursuant to this section by any means it deems appropriate. Those programs may be presented in any of the following ways:
 - (1) By offering formal courses or training programs.
 - (2) By sponsoring or assisting in the organization and sponsorship of conferences, seminars, or other similar events.
 - (3) By producing and making available written information.
 - (4) Any other feasible method of providing information and assisting in the training and development of airport land use commission staff.

21674.7. Airport Land Use Planning Handbook

- (a) An airport land use commission that formulates, adopts or amends an airport land use compatibility plan shall be guided by information prepared and updated pursuant to Section 21674.5 and referred to as the Airport Land Use Planning Handbook published by the Division of Aeronautics of the Department of Transportation.
- (b) It is the intent of the Legislature to discourage incompatible land uses near existing airports. Therefore, prior to granting permits for the renovation or remodeling of an existing building, structure, or facility, and before the construction of a new building, it is the intent of the Legislature that local agencies shall be guided by the height, use, noise, safety, and density criteria that are compatible with airport operations, as established by this article, and referred to as the Airport Land Use Planning Handbook, published by the division, and any applicable federal

aviation regulations, including, but not limited to, Part 77 (commencing with Section 77.1) of Title 14 of the Code of Federal Regulations, to the extent that the criteria has been incorporated into the plan prepared by a commission pursuant to Section 21675. This subdivision does not limit the jurisdiction of a commission as established by this article. This subdivision does not limit the authority of local agencies to overrule commission actions or recommendations pursuant to Sections 21676, 21676.5, or 21677.

21675. Land Use Plan

- (a) Each commission shall formulate an airport land use compatibility plan that will provide for the orderly growth of each public airport and the area surrounding the airport within the jurisdiction of the commission, and will safeguard the general welfare of the inhabitants within the vicinity of the airport and the public in general. The commission 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. In formulating an airport land use compatibility plan, the commission may develop height restrictions on buildings, specify use of land, and determine building standards, including soundproofing adjacent to airports, within the airport influence area. The airport land use compatibility plan shall be reviewed as often as necessary in order to accomplish its purposes, but shall not be amended more than once in any calendar year.
- (b) The commission shall include, within its airport land use compatibility plan formulated pursuant to subdivision (a), the area within the jurisdiction of the commission surrounding any military airport for all of the purposes specified in subdivision (a). The airport land use compatibility plan shall be consistent with the safety and noise standards in the Air Installation Compatible Use Zone prepared for that military airport. This subdivision does not give the commission any jurisdiction or authority over the territory or operations of any military airport.
- (c) The airport influence area shall be established by the commission after hearing and consultation with the involved agencies.
- (d) The commission shall submit to the Division of Aeronautics of the department one copy of the airport land use compatibility plan and each amendment to the plan.
- (e) If an airport land use compatibility plan does not include the matters required to be included pursuant to this article, the Division of Aeronautics of the department shall notify the commission responsible for the plan.

21675.1. Adoption of Land Use Plan

- (a) By June 30, 1991, each commission shall adopt the airport land use compatibility plan required pursuant to Section 21675, except that any county that has undertaken by contract or otherwise completed airport land use compatibility plans for at least one-half of all public use airports in the county, shall adopt that airport land use compatibility plan on or before June 30, 1992.
- (b) Until a commission adopts an airport land use compatibility plan, a city or county shall first submit all actions, regulations, and permits within the vicinity of a public airport to the commission for review and approval. Before the commission approves or disapproves any actions, regulations, or permits, the commission shall give public notice in the same manner as the city or county is required to give for those actions, regulations, or permits. As used in this section, “vicinity” means land that will be included or reasonably could be included within the airport land use compatibility

plan. If the commission has not designated an airport influence area for the airport land use compatibility plan, then “vicinity” means land within two miles of the boundary of a public airport.

- (c) The commission may approve an action, regulation, or permit if it finds, based on substantial evidence in the record, all of the following:
 - (1) The commission is making substantial progress toward the completion of the airport land use compatibility plan.
 - (2) There is a reasonable probability that the action, regulation, or permit will be consistent with the airport land use compatibility plan being prepared by the commission.
 - (3) There is little or no probability of substantial detriment to or interference with the future adopted airport land use compatibility plan if the action, regulation, or permit is ultimately inconsistent with the airport land use compatibility plan.
- (d) If the commission disapproves an action, regulation, or permit, the commission shall notify the city or county. The city or county may overrule the commission, by a two-thirds vote of its governing body, if it makes specific findings that the proposed action, regulation, or permit is consistent with the purposes of this article, as stated in Section 21670.
- (e) If a city or county overrules the commission pursuant to subdivision (d), that action shall not relieve the city or county from further compliance with this article after the commission adopts the airport land use compatibility plan.
- (f) If a city or county overrules the commission pursuant to subdivision (d) with respect to a publicly owned airport that the city or county does not operate, the operator of the airport is not liable for damages to property or personal injury resulting from the city’s or county’s decision to proceed with the action, regulation, or permit.
- (g) A commission may adopt rules and regulations that exempt any ministerial permit for single-family dwellings from the requirements of subdivision (b) if it makes the findings required pursuant to subdivision (c) for the proposed rules and regulations, except that the rules and regulations may not exempt either of the following:
 - (1) More than two single-family dwellings by the same applicant within a subdivision prior to June 30, 1991.
 - (2) Single-family dwellings in a subdivision where 25 percent or more of the parcels are undeveloped.

21675.2. Approval or Disapproval of Actions, Regulations, or Permits

- (a) If a commission fails to act to approve or disapprove any actions, regulations, or permits within 60 days of receiving the request pursuant to Section 21675.1, the applicant or his or her representative may file an action pursuant to Section 1094.5 of the Code of Civil Procedure to compel the commission to act, and the court shall give the proceedings preference over all other actions or proceedings, except previously filed pending matters of the same character.
- (b) The action, regulation, or permit shall be deemed approved only if the public notice required by this subdivision has occurred. If the applicant has provided seven days advance notice to the commission of the intent to provide public notice pursuant to this subdivision, then, not earlier than the date of the expiration of the time limit established by Section 21675.1, an applicant may provide the required public notice. If the applicant chooses to provide public notice, that notice shall include a description of the proposed action, regulation, or permit substantially similar to the descriptions which are com-

monly used in public notices by the commission, the location of any proposed development, the application number, the name and address of the commission, and a statement that the action, regulation, or permit shall be deemed approved if the commission has not acted within 60 days. If the applicant has provided the public notice specified in this subdivision, the time limit for action by the commission shall be extended to 60 days after the public notice is provided. If the applicant provides notice pursuant to this section, the commission shall refund to the applicant any fees which were collected for providing notice and which were not used for that purpose.

- (c) Failure of an applicant to submit complete or adequate information pursuant to Sections 65943 to 65946, inclusive, of the Government Code, may constitute grounds for disapproval of actions, regulations, or permits.
- (d) Nothing in this section diminishes the commission's legal responsibility to provide, where applicable, public notice and hearing before acting on an action, regulation, or permit.

21676. Review of Local General Plans

- (a) Each local agency whose general plan includes areas covered by an airport land use compatibility plan shall, by July 1, 1983, submit a copy of its plan or specific plans to the airport land use commission. The commission shall determine by August 31, 1983, whether the plan or plans are consistent or inconsistent with the airport land use compatibility plan. If the plan or plans are inconsistent with the airport land use compatibility plan, the local agency shall be notified and that local agency shall have another hearing to reconsider its airport land use compatibility plans. The local agency may propose to overrule the commission after the hearing by a two-thirds vote of its governing body if it makes specific findings that the proposed action is consistent with the purposes of this article stated in Section 21670. At least 45 days prior to the decision to overrule the commission, the local agency governing body shall provide the commission and the division a copy of the proposed decision and findings. The commission and the division may provide comments to the local agency governing body within 30 days of receiving the proposed decision and findings. If the commission or the division's comments are not available within this time limit, the local agency governing body may act without them. The comments by the division or the commission are advisory to the local agency governing body. The local agency governing body shall include comments from the commission and the division in the final record of any final decision to overrule the commission, which may only be adopted by a two-thirds vote of the governing body.
- (b) Prior to the amendment of a general plan or specific plan, or the adoption or approval of a zoning ordinance or building regulation 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. The local agency may, after a public hearing, propose to overrule the commission by a two-thirds vote of its governing body if it makes specific findings that the proposed action is consistent with the purposes of this article stated in Section 21670. At least 45 days prior to the decision to overrule the commission, the local agency governing body shall provide the commission and the division a copy of the proposed decision and findings. The commission and the division may provide comments to the local agency governing body within 30 days of receiving the proposed decision and findings. If the commission or the division's comments are not available within this time limit, the local agency governing body may act without them. The comments by the division or the commission are advisory to the local agency governing body. The local agency governing body shall include comments from the

commission and the division in the public record of any final decision to overrule the commission, which may only be adopted by a two-thirds vote of the governing body.

- (c) Each public agency owning any airport within the boundaries of an airport land use compatibility plan shall, prior to modification of its airport master plan, refer any proposed change to the airport land use commission. If the commission determines that the proposed action is inconsistent with the commission's plan, the referring agency shall be notified. The public agency may, after a public hearing, propose to overrule the commission by a two-thirds vote of its governing body if it makes specific findings that the proposed action is consistent with the purposes of this article stated in Section 21670. At least 45 days prior to the decision to overrule the commission, the public agency governing body shall provide the commission and the division a copy of the proposed decision and findings. The commission and the division may provide comments to the public agency governing body within 30 days of receiving the proposed decision and findings. If the commission or the division's comments are not available within this time limit, the public agency governing body may act without them. The comments by the division or the commission are advisory to the public agency governing body. The public agency governing body shall include comments from the commission and the division in the final decision to overrule the commission, which may only be adopted by a two-thirds vote of the governing body.
- (d) Each commission determination pursuant to subdivision (b) or (c) shall be made within 60 days from the date of referral of the proposed action. If a commission fails to make the determination within that period, the proposed action shall be deemed consistent with the airport land use compatibility plan.

21676.5. Review of Local Plans

- (a) If the commission finds that a local agency has not revised its general plan or specific plan or overruled the commission by a two-thirds vote of its governing body after making specific findings that the proposed action is consistent with the purposes of this article as stated in Section 21670, the commission may require that the local agency submit all subsequent actions, regulations, and permits to the commission for review until its general plan or specific plan is revised or the specific findings are made. If, in the determination of the commission, an action, regulation, or permit of the local agency is inconsistent with the airport land use compatibility plan, the local agency shall be notified and that local agency shall hold a hearing to reconsider its plan. The local agency may propose to overrule the commission after the hearing by a two-thirds vote of its governing body if it makes specific findings that the proposed action is consistent with the purposes of this article as stated in Section 21670. At least 45 days prior to the decision to overrule the commission, the local agency governing body shall provide the commission and the division a copy of the proposed decision and findings. The commission and the division may provide comments to the local agency governing body within 30 days of receiving the proposed decision and findings. If the commission or the division's comments are not available within this time limit, the local agency governing body may act without them. The comments by the division or the commission are advisory to the local agency governing body. The local agency governing body shall include comments from the commission and the division in the final decision to overrule the commission, which may only be adopted by a two-thirds vote of the governing body.
- (b) Whenever the local agency has revised its general plan or specific plan or has overruled the commission pursuant to subdivision (a), the proposed action of the local agency shall not be subject to further commission review, unless the commission and the local agency agree that individual projects shall be reviewed by the commission.

21677. Marin County Override Provisions

Notwithstanding the two-thirds vote required by Section 21676, any public agency in the County of Marin may overrule the Marin County Airport Land Use Commission by a majority vote of its governing body. At least 45 days prior to the decision to overrule the commission, the public agency governing body shall provide the commission and the division a copy of the proposed decision and findings. The commission and the division may provide comments to the public agency governing body within 30 days of receiving the proposed decision and findings. If the commission or the division's comments are not available within this time limit, the public agency governing body may act without them. The comments by the division or the commission are advisory to the public agency governing body. The public agency governing body shall include comments from the commission and the division in the public record of the final decision to overrule the commission, which may be adopted by a majority vote of the governing body.

21678. Airport Owner's Immunity

With respect to a publicly owned airport that a public agency does not operate, if the public agency pursuant to Section 21676, 21676.5, or 21677 overrules a commission's action or recommendation, the operator of the airport shall be immune from liability for damages to property or personal injury caused by or resulting directly or indirectly from the public agency's decision to overrule the commission's action or recommendation.

21679. Court Review

- (a) In any county in which there is no airport land use commission or other body designated to assume the responsibilities of an airport land use commission, or in which the commission or other designated body has not adopted an airport land use compatibility plan, an interested party may initiate proceedings in a court of competent jurisdiction to postpone the effective date of a zoning change, a zoning variance, the issuance of a permit, or the adoption of a regulation by a local agency, that directly affects the use of land within one mile of the boundary of a public airport within the county.
- (b) The court may issue an injunction that postpones the effective date of the zoning change, zoning variance, permit, or regulation until the governing body of the local agency that took the action does one of the following:
 - (1) In the case of an action that is a legislative act, adopts a resolution declaring that the proposed action is consistent with the purposes of this article stated in Section 21670.
 - (2) In the case of an action that is not a legislative act, adopts a resolution making findings based on substantial evidence in the record that the proposed action is consistent with the purposes of this article stated in Section 21670.
 - (3) Rescinds the action.
 - (4) Amends its action to make it consistent with the purposes of this article stated in Section 21670, and complies with either paragraph (1) or (2), whichever is applicable.
- (c) The court shall not issue an injunction pursuant to subdivision (b) if the local agency that took the action demonstrates that the general plan and any applicable specific plan of the agency accomplishes the purposes of an airport land use compatibility plan as provided in Section 21675.

- (d) An action brought pursuant to subdivision (a) shall be commenced within 30 days of the decision or within the appropriate time periods set by Section 21167 of the Public Resources Code, whichever is longer.
- (e) If the governing body of the local agency adopts a resolution pursuant to subdivision (b) with respect to a publicly owned airport that the local agency does not operate, the operator of the airport shall be immune from liability for damages to property or personal injury from the local agency's decision to proceed with the zoning change, zoning variance, permit, or regulation.
- (f) As used in this section, "interested party" means any owner of land within two miles of the boundary of the airport or any organization with a demonstrated interest in airport safety and efficiency.

21679.5. Deferral of Court Review

- (a) Until June 30, 1991, no action pursuant to Section 21679 to postpone the effective date of a zoning change, a zoning variance, the issuance of a permit, or the adoption of a regulation by a local agency, directly affecting the use of land within one mile of the boundary of a public airport, shall be commenced in any county in which the commission or other designated body has not adopted an airport land use compatibility plan, but is making substantial progress toward the completion of the airport land use compatibility plan.
- (b) If a commission has been prevented from adopting the airport land use compatibility plan by June 30, 1991, or if the adopted airport land use compatibility plan could not become effective, because of a lawsuit involving the adoption of the airport land use compatibility plan, the June 30, 1991 date in subdivision (a) shall be extended by the period of time during which the lawsuit was pending in a court of competent jurisdiction.
- (c) Any action pursuant to Section 21679 commenced prior to January 1, 1990, in a county in which the commission or other designated body has not adopted an airport land use compatibility plan, but is making substantial progress toward the completion of the airport land use compatibility plan, which has not proceeded to final judgment, shall be held in abeyance until June 30, 1991. If the commission or other designated body adopts an airport land use compatibility plan on or before June 30, 1991, the action shall be dismissed. If the commission or other designated body does not adopt an airport land use compatibility plan on or before June 30, 1991, the plaintiff or plaintiffs may proceed with the action.
- (d) An action to postpone the effective date of a zoning change, a zoning variance, the issuance of a permit, or the adoption of a regulation by a local agency, directly affecting the use of land within one mile of the boundary of a public airport for which an airport land use compatibility plan has not been adopted by June 30, 1991, shall be commenced within 30 days of June 30, 1991, or within 30 days of the decision by the local agency, or within the appropriate time periods set by Section 21167 of the Public Resources Code, whichever date is later.

AERONAUTICS LAW
PUBLIC UTILITIES CODE
Division 9, Part 1
Chapter 3—Regulation of Aeronautics
(excerpts)

21402. Ownership; Prohibited Use of Airspace

The ownership of the space above the land and waters of this State is vested in the several owners of the surface beneath, subject to the right of flight described in Section 21403. No use shall be made of such airspace which would interfere with such right of flight; provided that any use of property in conformity with an original zone of approach of an airport shall not be rendered unlawful by reason of a change in such zone of approach.

21403. Lawful Flight; Flight Within Airport Approach Zone

- (a) Flight in aircraft over the land and waters of this state is lawful, unless at altitudes below those prescribed by federal authority, or unless conducted so as to be imminently dangerous to persons or property lawfully on the land or water beneath. The landing of an aircraft on the land or waters of another, without his or her consent, is unlawful except in the case of a forced landing or pursuant to Section 21662.1. The owner, lessee, or operator of the aircraft is liable, as provided by law, for damages caused by a forced landing.
- (b) The landing, takeoff, or taxiing of an aircraft on a public freeway, highway, road, or street is unlawful except in the following cases:
 - (1) A forced landing.
 - (2) A landing during a natural disaster or other public emergency if the landing has received prior approval from the public agency having primary jurisdiction over traffic upon the freeway, highway, road, or street.
 - (3) When the landing, takeoff, or taxiing has received prior approval from the public agency having primary jurisdiction over traffic upon the freeway, highway, road or street.

The prosecution bears the burden of proving that none of the exceptions apply to the act which is alleged to be unlawful.

- (c) The right of flight in aircraft includes the right of safe access to public airports, which includes the right of flight within the zone of approach of any public airport without restriction or hazard. The zone of approach of an airport shall conform to the specifications of Part 77 of the Federal Aviation Regulations of the Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation.

AERONAUTICS LAW
PUBLIC UTILITIES CODE
Division 9, Part 1
Chapter 4—Airports and Air Navigation Facilities
Article 2.7—Regulation of Obstructions
(excerpts)

21655. Proposed Site for Construction of State Building Within Two Miles of Airport Boundary

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, if the proposed site of any state building or other enclosure is within two miles, measured by air line, of that point on an airport runway, or runway proposed by an airport master plan, which is nearest the site, the state agency or office which proposes to construct the building or other enclosure shall, before acquiring title to property for the new state building or other enclosure site or for an addition to a present site, notify the Department of Transportation, in writing, of the proposed acquisition. The department shall investigate the proposed site and, within 30 working days after receipt of the notice, shall submit to the state agency or office which proposes to construct the building or other enclosure a written report of the investigation and its recommendations concerning acquisition of the site.

If the report of the department does not favor acquisition of the site, no state funds shall be expended for the acquisition of the new state building or other enclosure site, or the expansion of the present site, or for the construction of the state building or other enclosure, provided that the provisions of this section shall not affect title to real property once it is acquired.

21658. Construction of Utility Pole or Line in Vicinity of Aircraft Landing Area

No public utility shall construct any pole, pole line, distribution or transmission tower, or tower line, or substation structure in the vicinity of the exterior boundary of an aircraft landing area of any airport open to public use, in a location with respect to the airport and at a height so as to constitute an obstruction to air navigation, as an obstruction is defined in accordance with Part 77 of the Federal Aviation Regulations, Federal Aviation Administration, or any corresponding rules or regulations of the Federal Aviation Administration, unless the Federal Aviation Administration has determined that the pole, line, tower, or structure does not constitute a hazard to air navigation. This section shall not apply to existing poles, lines, towers, or structures or to the repair, replacement, or reconstruction thereof if the original height is not materially exceeded and this section shall not apply unless just compensation shall have first been paid to the public utility by the owner of any airport for any property or property rights which would be taken or damaged hereby.

21659. Hazards Near Airports Prohibited

- (a) No person shall construct or alter any structure or permit any natural growth to grow at a height which exceeds the obstruction standards set forth in the regulations of the Federal Aviation Administration relating to objects affecting navigable airspace contained in Title 14 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Part 77, Subpart C, unless a permit allowing the construction, alteration, or growth is issued by the department.

- (b) The permit is not required if the Federal Aviation Administration has determined that the construction, alteration, or growth does not constitute a hazard to air navigation or would not create an unsafe condition for air navigation. Subdivision (a) does not apply to a pole, pole line, distribution or transmission tower, or tower line or substation of a public utility.
- (c) Section 21658 is applicable to subdivision (b).

AERONAUTICS LAW
PUBLIC UTILITIES CODE
Division 9, Part 1, Chapter 4
Article 3—Regulation of Airports
(excerpts)

21661.5. City Council or Board of Supervisors and ALUC Approvals

- (a) No political subdivision, any of its officers or employees, or any person may submit any application for the construction of a new airport to any local, regional, state, or federal agency unless the plan for such construction is first approved by the board of supervisors of the county, or the city council of the city, in which the airport is to be located and unless the plan is submitted to the appropriate commission exercising powers pursuant to Article 3.5 (commencing with Section 21670) of Chapter 4 of Part 1 of Division 9, and acted upon by such commission in accordance with the provisions of such article.
- (b) A county board of supervisors or a city council may, pursuant to Section 65100 of the Government Code, delegate its responsibility under this section for the approval of a plan for construction of new helicopter landing and takeoff areas, to the county or city planning agency.

21664.5. Amended Airport Permits; Airport Expansion Defined

- (a) An amended airport permit shall be required for every expansion of an existing airport. An applicant for an amended airport permit shall comply with each requirement of this article pertaining to permits for new airports. The department may by regulation provide for exemptions from the operation of this section pursuant to Section 21661, except that no exemption shall be made limiting the applicability of subdivision (e) of Section 21666, pertaining to environmental considerations, including the requirement for public hearings in connection therewith.
- (b) As used in this section, “airport expansion” includes any of the following:
 - (1) The acquisition of runway protection zones, as defined in Federal Aviation Administration Advisory Circular 150/1500-13 [*sic.* – should be 150/5300-13], or of any interest in land for the purpose of any other expansion as set forth in this section.
 - (2) The construction of a new runway.
 - (3) The extension or realignment of an existing runway.
 - (4) Any other expansion of the airport’s physical facilities for the purpose of accomplishing or which are related to the purpose of paragraph (1), (2), or (3).
- (c) This section does not apply to any expansion of an existing airport if the expansion commenced on or prior to the effective date of this section and the expansion met the approval, on or prior to that effective date, of each governmental agency that required the approval by law.

PLANNING AND ZONING LAW
GOVERNMENT CODE
Title 7—Planning and Land Use
Division 1—Planning and Zoning
Chapter 3—Local Planning
Article 5—Authority for and Scope of General Plans
(excerpts)

65302.3. General and Applicable Specific Plans; Consistency with Airport Land Use Plans; Amendment; Nonconcurrence Findings

- (a) The general plan, and any applicable specific plan prepared pursuant to Article 8 (commencing with Section 65450), shall be consistent with the plan adopted or amended pursuant to Section 21675 of the Public Utilities Code.
- (b) The general plan, and any applicable specific plan, shall be amended, as necessary, within 180 days of any amendment to the plan required under Section 21675 of the Public Utilities Code.
- (c) If the legislative body does not concur with any of the provisions of the plan required under Section 21675 of the Public Utilities Code, it may satisfy the provisions of this section by adopting findings pursuant to Section 21676 of the Public Utilities Code.
- (d) In each county where an airport land use commission does not exist, but where there is a military airport, the general plan, and any applicable specific plan prepared pursuant to Article 8 (commencing with Section 65450), shall be consistent with the safety and noise standards in the Air Installation Compatible Use Zone prepared for that military airport.

PLANNING AND ZONING LAW

GOVERNMENT CODE

Title 7, Division 1

Chapter 4.5—Review and Approval of Development Projects

Article 3—Application for Development Projects

(excerpts)

Note: The following government code sections are referenced in Section 21675.2(c) of the ALUC statutes.

65943. Completeness of Application; Determination; Time; Specification of Parts not Complete and Manner of Completion

- (a) Not later than 30 calendar days after any public agency has received an application for a development project, the agency shall determine in writing whether the application is complete and shall immediately transmit the determination to the applicant for the development project. If the written determination is not made within 30 days after receipt of the application, and the application includes a statement that it is an application for a development permit, the application shall be deemed complete for purposes of this chapter. Upon receipt of any resubmittal of the application, a new 30-day period shall begin, during which the public agency shall determine the completeness of the application. If the application is determined not to be complete, the agency's determination shall specify those parts of the application which are incomplete and shall indicate the manner in which they can be made complete, including a list and thorough description of the specific information needed to complete the application. The applicant shall submit materials to the public agency in response to the list and description.
- (b) Not later than 30 calendar days after receipt of the submitted materials, the public agency shall determine in writing whether they are complete and shall immediately transmit that determination to the applicant. If the written determination is not made within that 30-day period, the application together with the submitted materials shall be deemed complete for the purposes of this chapter.
- (c) If the application together with the submitted materials are determined not to be complete pursuant to subdivision (b), the public agency shall provide a process for the applicant to appeal that decision in writing to the governing body of the agency or, if there is no governing body, to the director of the agency, as provided by that agency. A city or county shall provide that the right of appeal is to the governing body or, at their option, the planning commission, or both.

There shall be a final written determination by the agency of the appeal not later than 60 calendar days after receipt of the applicant's written appeal. The fact that an appeal is permitted to both the planning commission and to the governing body does not extend the 60-day period. Notwithstanding a decision pursuant to subdivision (b) that the application and submitted materials are not complete, if the final written determination on the appeal is not made within that 60-day period, the application with the submitted materials shall be deemed complete for the purposes of this chapter.

- (d) Nothing in this section precludes an applicant and a public agency from mutually agreeing to an extension of any time limit provided by this section.

- (e) A public agency may charge applicants a fee not to exceed the amount reasonably necessary to provide the service required by this section. If a fee is charged pursuant to this section, the fee shall be collected as part of the application fee charged for the development permit.

65943.5.

- (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, any appeal pursuant to subdivision (c) of Section 65943 involving a permit application to a board, office, or department within the California Environmental Protection Agency shall be made to the Secretary for Environmental Protection.
- (b) Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, any appeal pursuant to subdivision (c) of Section 65943 involving an application for the issuance of an environmental permit from an environmental agency shall be made to the Secretary for Environmental Protection under either of the following circumstances:
 - (1) The environmental agency has not adopted an appeals process pursuant to subdivision (c) of Section 65943.
 - (2) The environmental agency declines to accept an appeal for a decision pursuant to subdivision (c) of Section 65943.
- (c) For purposes of subdivision (b), “environmental permit” has the same meaning as defined in Section 72012 of the Public Resources Code, and “environmental agency” has the same meaning as defined in Section 71011 of the Public Resources Code, except that “environmental agency” does not include the agencies described in subdivisions (c) and (h) of Section 71011 of the Public Resources Code.

65944. Acceptance of Application as Complete; Requests for Additional Information; Restrictions; Clarification, Amplification, Correction, etc; Prior to Notice of Necessary Information

- (a) After a public agency accepts an application as complete, the agency shall not subsequently request of an applicant any new or additional information which was not specified in the list prepared pursuant to Section 65940. The agency may, in the course of processing the application, request the applicant to clarify, amplify, correct, or otherwise supplement the information required for the application.
- (b) The provisions of subdivision (a) shall not be construed as requiring an applicant to submit with his or her initial application the entirety of the information which a public agency may require in order to take final action on the application. Prior to accepting an application, each public agency shall inform the applicant of any information included in the list prepared pursuant to Section 65940 which will subsequently be required from the applicant in order to complete final action on the application.
- (c) This section shall not be construed as limiting the ability of a public agency to request and obtain information which may be needed in order to comply with the provisions of Division 13 (commencing with Section 21000) of the Public Resources Code.
- (d) (1) After a public agency accepts an application as complete, and if the project applicant has identified that the proposed project is located within 1,000 feet of a military installation or within special use airspace or beneath a low-level flight path in accordance with Section 65940, the public agency shall provide a copy of the complete application to any branch of the

United States Armed Forces that has provided the Office of Planning and Research with a single California mailing address within the state for the delivery of a copy of these applications. This subdivision shall apply only to development applications submitted to a public agency 30 days after the Office of Planning and Research has notified cities, counties, and cities and counties of the availability of Department of Defense information on the Internet pursuant to subdivision (d) of Section 65940.

- (2) Except for a project within 1,000 feet of a military installation, the public agency is not required to provide a copy of the application if the project is located entirely in an “urbanized area.” An urbanized area is any urban location that meets the definition used by the United States Department of Commerce’s Bureau of Census for “urban” and includes locations with core census block groups containing at least 1,000 people per square mile and surrounding census block groups containing at least 500 people per square mile.
- (e) Upon receipt of a copy of the application as required in subdivision (d), any branch of the United States Armed Forces may request consultation with the public agency and the project applicant to discuss the effects of the proposed project on military installations, low-level flight paths, or special use airspace, and potential alternatives and mitigation measures.
- (f) (1) Subdivisions (d), (e), and (f) as these relate to low-level flight paths, special use airspace, and urbanized areas shall not be operative until the United States Department of Defense provides electronic maps of low-level flight paths, special use airspace, and military installations, at a scale and in an electronic format that is acceptable to the Office of Planning and Research.
- (2) Within 30 days of a determination by the Office of Planning and Research that the information provided by the Department of Defense is sufficient and in an acceptable scale and format, the office shall notify cities, counties, and cities and counties of the availability of the information on the Internet. Cities, counties, and cities and counties shall comply with subdivision (d) within 30 days of receiving this notice from the office.

65945. Notice of Proposal to Adopt or Amend Certain Plans or Ordinances by City or County, Fee; Subscription to Periodically Updated Notice as Alternative, Fee

- (a) At the time of filing an application for a development permit with a city or county, the city or county shall inform the applicant that he or she may make a written request to retrieve notice from the city or county of a proposal to adopt or amend any of the following plans or ordinances:
 - (1) A general plan.
 - (2) A specific plan.
 - (3) A zoning ordinance.
 - (4) An ordinance affecting building permits or grading permits.

The applicant shall specify, in the written request, the types of proposed action for which notice is requested. Prior to taking any of those actions, the city or county shall give notice to any applicant who has requested notice of the type of action proposed and whose development project is pending before the city or county if the city or county determines that the proposal is reasonably related to the applicant’s request for the development permit. Notice shall be given only for those types of actions which the applicant specifies in the request for notification.

The city or county may charge the applicant for a development permit, to whom notice is provided pursuant to this subdivision, a reasonable fee not to exceed the actual cost of providing that notice. If a fee is charged pursuant to this subdivision, the fee shall be collected as part of the application fee charged for the development permit.

- (b) As an alternative to the notification procedure prescribed by subdivision (a), a city or county may inform the applicant at the time of filing an application for a development permit that he or she may subscribe to a periodically updated notice or set of notices from the city or county which lists pending proposals to adopt or amend any of the plans or ordinances specified in subdivision (a), together with the status of the proposal and the date of any hearings thereon which have been set.

Only those proposals which are general, as opposed to parcel-specific in nature, and which the city or county determines are reasonably related to requests for development permits, need be listed in the notice. No proposals shall be required to be listed until such time as the first public hearing thereon has been set. The notice shall be updated and mailed at least once every six weeks; except that a notice need not be updated and mailed until a change in its contents is required.

The city or county may charge the applicant for a development permit, to whom notice is provided pursuant to this subdivision, a reasonable fee not to exceed the actual cost of providing that notice, including the costs of updating the notice, for the length of time the applicant requests to be sent the notice or notices.

65945.3. Notice of Proposal to Adopt or Amend Rules or Regulations Affecting Issuance of Permits by Local Agency other than City or County; Fee

At the time of filing an application for a development permit with a local agency, other than a city or county, the local agency shall inform the applicant that he or she may make a written request to receive notice of any proposal to adopt or amend a rule or regulation affecting the issuance of development permits.

Prior to adopting or amending any such rule or regulation, the local agency shall give notice to any applicant who has requested such notice and whose development project is pending before the agency if the local agency determines that the proposal is reasonably related to the applicant's request for the development permit.

The local agency may charge the applicant for a development permit, to whom notice is provided pursuant to this section, a reasonable fee not to exceed the actual cost of providing that notice. If a fee is charged pursuant to this section, the fee shall be collected as part of the application fee charged for the development permit.

65945.5. Notice of Proposal to Adopt or Amend Regulation Affecting Issuance of Permits and Which Implements Statutory Provision by State Agency

At the time of filing an application for a development permit with a state agency, the state agency shall inform the applicant that he or she may make a written request to receive notice of any proposal to adopt or amend a regulation affecting the issuance of development permits and which implements a statutory provision.

Prior to adopting or amending any such regulation, the state agency shall give notice to any applicant who has requested such notice and whose development project is pending before the state agency if the state agency determines that the proposal is reasonably related to the applicant's request for the development permit.

65945.7. Actions, Inactions, or Recommendations Regarding Ordinances, Rules or Regulations; Invalidity or Setting Aside Ground of Error Only if Prejudicial

No action, inaction, or recommendation regarding any ordinance, rule, or regulation subject to this Section 65945, 65945.3, or 65945.5 by any legislative body, administrative body, or the officials of any state or local agency shall be held void or invalid or be set aside by any court on the ground of any error, irregularity, informality, neglect or omission (hereinafter called "error") as to any matter pertaining to notices, records, determinations, publications, or any matters of procedure whatever, unless after an examination of the entire case, including evidence, the court shall be of the opinion that the error complained of was prejudicial, and that by reason of such error the party complaining or appealing sustained and suffered substantial injury, and that a different result would have been probable if such error had not occurred or existed. There shall be no presumption that error is prejudicial or that injury was done if error is shown.

65946. [Replaced by AB2351 Statutes of 1993]

PLANNING AND ZONING LAW**GOVERNMENT CODE****Title 7, Division 1****Chapter 9.3—Mediation and Resolution of Land Use Disputes****(excerpts)**

66030.

- (a) The Legislature finds and declares all of the following:
- (1) Current law provides that aggrieved agencies, project proponents, and affected residents may bring suit against the land use decisions of state and local governmental agencies. In practical terms, nearly anyone can sue once a project has been approved.
 - (2) Contention often arises over projects involving local general plans and zoning, redevelopment plans, the California Environmental Quality Act (Division 13 (commencing with Section 21000) of the Public Resources Code), development impact fees, annexations and incorporations, and the Permit Streamlining Act (Chapter 4.5 (commencing with Section 65920)).
 - (3) When a public agency approves a development project that is not in accordance with the law, or when the prerogative to bring suit is abused, lawsuits can delay development, add uncertainty and cost to the development process, make housing more expensive, and damage California's competitiveness. This litigation begins in the superior court, and often progresses on appeal to the Court of Appeal and the Supreme Court, adding to the workload of the state's already overburdened judicial system.
- (b) It is, therefore, the intent of the Legislature to help litigants resolve their differences by establishing formal mediation processes for land use disputes. In establishing these mediation processes, it is not the intent of the Legislature to interfere with the ability of litigants to pursue remedies through the courts.

66031.

- (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, any action brought in the superior court relating to any of the following subjects may be subject to a mediation proceeding conducted pursuant to this chapter:
- (1) The approval or denial by a public agency of any development project.
 - (2) Any act or decision of a public agency made pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (Division 13 (commencing with Section 21000) of the Public Resources Code).
 - (3) The failure of a public agency to meet the time limits specified in Chapter 4.5 (commencing with Section 65920), commonly known as the Permit Streamlining Act, or in the Subdivision Map Act (Division 2 (commencing with Section 66410)).
 - (4) Fees determined pursuant to Sections 53080 to 53082, inclusive, or Chapter 4.9 (commencing with Section 65995).

- (5) Fees determined pursuant to Chapter 5 (commencing with Section 66000).
 - (6) The adequacy of a general plan or specific plan adopted pursuant to Chapter 3 (commencing with Section 65100).
 - (7) The validity of any sphere of influence, urban service area, change of organization or reorganization, or any other decision made pursuant to the Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act of 2000 (Division 3 (commencing with Section 56000) of Title 5).
 - (8) The adoption or amendment of a redevelopment plan pursuant to the Community Redevelopment Law (Part 1 (commencing with Section 33000) of Division 24 of the Health and Safety Code).
 - (9) The validity of any zoning decision made pursuant to Chapter 4 (commencing with Section 65800).
 - (10) The validity of any decision made pursuant to Article 3.5 (commencing with Section 21670) of Chapter 4 of Part 1 of Division 9 of the Public Utilities Code.
- (b) Within five days after the deadline for the respondent or defendant to file its reply to an action, the court may invite the parties to consider resolving their dispute by selecting a mutually acceptable person to serve as a mediator, or an organization or agency to provide a mediator.
 - (c) In selecting a person to serve as a mediator, or an organization or agency to provide a mediator, the parties shall consider the following:
 - (1) The council of governments having jurisdiction in the county where the dispute arose.
 - (2) Any subregional or countywide council of governments in the county where the dispute arose.
 - (3) Any other person with experience or training in mediation including those with experience in land use issues, or any other organization or agency which can provide a person with experience or training in mediation, including those with experience in land use issues.
 - (d) If the court invites the parties to consider mediation, the parties shall notify the court within 30 days if they have selected a mutually acceptable person to serve as a mediator. If the parties have not selected a mediator within 30 days, the action shall proceed. The court shall not draw any implication, favorable or otherwise, from the refusal by a party to accept the invitation by the court to consider mediation. Nothing in this section shall preclude the parties from using mediation at any other time while the action is pending.

PLANNING AND ZONING LAW

GOVERNMENT CODE

Title 7—Planning and Land Use

Division 2—Subdivisions

Chapter 3—Procedure

**Article 3—Review of Tentative Map by Other Agencies
(*excerpts*)**

66455.9.

Whenever there is consideration of an area within a development for a public school site, the advisory agency shall give the affected districts and the State Department of Education written notice of the proposed site. The written notice shall include the identification of any existing or proposed runways within the distance specified in Section 17215 of the Education Code. If the site is within the distance of an existing or proposed airport runway as described in Section 17215 of the Education Code, the department shall notify the State Department of Transportation as required by the section and the site shall be investigated by the State Department of Transportation required by Section 17215.

EDUCATION CODE
Title 1—General Education Code Provisions
Division 1—General Education Code Provisions
Part 10.5—School Facilities
Chapter 1—School Sites
Article 1—General Provisions
(excerpts)

17215.

- (a) In order to promote the safety of pupils, comprehensive community planning, and greater educational usefulness of school sites, before acquiring title to or leasing property for a new school site, the governing board of each school district, including any district governed by a city board of education or a charter school, shall give the State Department of Education written notice of the proposed acquisition or lease and shall submit any information required by the State Department of Education if the site is within two miles, measured by air line, of that point on an airport runway or a potential runway included in an airport master plan that is nearest to the site.
- (b) Upon receipt of the notice required pursuant to subdivision (a), the State Department of Education shall notify the Department of Transportation in writing of the proposed acquisition or lease. If the Department of Transportation is no longer in operation, the State Department of Education shall, in lieu of notifying the Department of Transportation, notify the United States Department of Transportation or any other appropriate agency, in writing, of the proposed acquisition for the purpose of obtaining from the department or other agency any information or assistance that it may desire to give.
- (c) The Department of Transportation shall investigate the proposed site and, within 30 working days after receipt of the notice, shall submit to the State Department of Education a written report of its findings including recommendations concerning acquisition or lease of the site. As part of the investigation, the Department of Transportation shall give notice thereof to the owner and operator of the airport who shall be granted the opportunity to comment upon the site. The Department of Transportation shall adopt regulations setting forth the criteria by which a site will be evaluated pursuant to this section.
- (d) The State Department of Education shall, within 10 days of receiving the Department of Transportation's report, forward the report to the governing board of the school district or charter school. The governing board or charter school may not acquire title to or lease the property until the report of the Department of Transportation has been received. If the report does not favor the acquisition or lease of the property for a school site or an addition to a present school site, the governing board or charter school may not acquire title to or lease the property. If the report does favor the acquisition or lease of the property for a school site or an addition to a present school site, the governing board or charter school shall hold a public hearing on the matter prior to acquiring or leasing the site.
- (e) If the Department of Transportation's recommendation does not favor acquisition or lease of the proposed site, state funds or local funds may not be apportioned or expended for the acquisition of that site, construction of any school building on that site, or for the expansion of any existing site to include that site.
- (f) This section does not apply to sites acquired prior to January 1, 1966, nor to any additions or extensions to those sites.

EDUCATION CODE
Title 3—Postsecondary Education
Division 7—Community Colleges
Part 49—Community Colleges, Education Facilities
Chapter 1—School Sites
Article 2—School Sites
(*excerpts*)

81033. Investigation: Geologic and Soil Engineering Studies; Airport in Proximity

- (c) To promote the safety of students, comprehensive community planning, and greater educational usefulness of community college sites, the governing board of each community college district, if the proposed site is within two miles, measured by air line, of that point on an airport runway, or a runway proposed by an airport master plan, which is nearest the site and excluding them if the property is not so located, before acquiring title to property for a new community college site or for an addition to a present site, shall give the board of governors notice in writing of the proposed acquisition and shall submit any information required by the board of governors.

Immediately after receiving notice of the proposed acquisition of property which is within two miles, measured by air line, of that point on an airport runway, or a runway proposed by an airport master plan, which is nearest the site, the board of governors shall notify the Division of Aeronautics of the Department of Transportation, in writing, of the proposed acquisition. The Division of Aeronautics shall make an investigation and report to the board of governors within 30 working days after receipt of the notice. If the Division of Aeronautics is no longer in operation, the board of governors shall, in lieu of notifying the Division of Aeronautics, notify the Federal Aviation Administration or any other appropriate agency, in writing, of the proposed acquisition for the purpose of obtaining from the authority or other agency such information or assistance as it may desire to give.

The board of governors shall investigate the proposed site and within 35 working days after receipt of the notice shall submit to the governing board a written report and its recommendations concerning acquisition of the site. The governing board shall not acquire title to the property until the report of the board of governors has been received. If the report does not favor the acquisition of the property for a community college site or an addition to a present community college site, the governing board shall not acquire title to the property until 30 days after the department's report is received and until the board of governors' report has been read at a public hearing duly called after 10 days' notice published once in a newspaper of general circulation within the community college district, or if there is no such newspaper, then in a newspaper of general circulation within the county in which the property is located.

- (d) If, with respect to a proposed site located within two miles of an operative airport runway, the report of the board of governors submitted to a community college district governing board under subdivision (c) does not favor the acquisition of the site on the sole or partial basis of the unfavorable recommendation of the Division of Aeronautics of the Department of Transportation, no state agency or officer shall grant, apportion, or allow to such community college district for expenditure in connection with that site, any state funds otherwise made available under any state law whatever for a community college site acquisition or college building

construction, or for expansion of existing sites and buildings, and no funds of the community college district or of the county in which the district lies shall be expended for such purposes; provided that provisions of this section shall not be applicable to sites acquired prior to January 1, 1966, nor any additions or extensions to such sites.

If the recommendations of the Division of Aeronautics are unfavorable, such recommendations shall not be overruled without the express approval of the board of governors and the State Allocation Board.

CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT STATUTES

PUBLIC RESOURCES CODE

Division 13—Environmental Quality

Chapter 2.6—General

(excerpts)

21096. Airport Planning

- (a) If a lead agency prepares an environmental impact report for a project situated within airport land use compatibility plan boundaries, or, if an airport land use compatibility plan has not been adopted, for a project within two nautical miles of a public airport or public use airport, the Airport Land Use Planning Handbook published by the Division of Aeronautics of the Department of Transportation, in compliance with Section 21674.5 of the Public Utilities Code and other documents, shall be utilized as technical resources to assist in the preparation of the environmental impact report as the report relates to airport-related safety hazards and noise problems.
- (b) A lead agency shall not adopt a negative declaration for a project described in subdivision (a) unless the lead agency considers whether the project will result in a safety hazard or noise problem for persons using the airport or for persons residing or working in the project area.

BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONS CODE
Division 4—Real Estate
Part 2—Regulation of Transactions
Chapter 1—Subdivided Lands
Article 2—Investigation, Regulation and Report
(excerpts)

11010.

- (a) Except as otherwise provided pursuant to subdivision (c) or elsewhere in this chapter, any person who intends to offer subdivided lands within this state for sale or lease shall file with the Department of Real Estate an application for a public report consisting of a notice of intention and a completed questionnaire on a form prepared by the department.
- (b) The notice of intention shall contain the following information about the subdivided lands and the proposed offering:
 [Sub-Sections (1) through (12) omitted]
- (13) (A) The location of all existing airports, and of all proposed airports shown on the general plan of any city or county, located within two statute miles of the subdivision. If the property is located within an airport influence area, the following statement shall be included in the notice of intention:

NOTICE OF AIRPORT IN VICINITY

This property is presently located in the vicinity of an airport, within what is known as an airport influence area. For that reason, the property may be subject to some of the annoyances or inconveniences associated with proximity to airport operations (for example: noise, vibration, or odors). Individual sensitivities to those annoyances can vary from person to person. You may wish to consider what airport annoyances, if any, are associated with the property before you complete your purchase and determine whether they are acceptable to you.

- (B) For purposes of this section, an “airport influence area,” also known as an “airport referral area,” is the area in which current or future airport-related noise, overflight, safety, or airspace protection factors may significantly affect land uses or necessitate restrictions on those uses as determined by an airport land use commission.

CIVIL CODE
Division 2—Property
Part 4—Acquisition of Property
Title 4—Transfer
Chapter 2—Transfer of Real Property
Article 1.7—Disclosure of Natural Hazards Upon Transfer of Residential Property
(excerpts)

1103.

- (a) Except as provided in Section 1103.1, this article applies to any transfer by sale, exchange, installment land sale contract, as defined in Section 2985, lease with an option to purchase, any other option to purchase, or ground lease coupled with improvements, of any real property described in subdivision (c), or residential stock cooperative, improved with or consisting of not less than one nor more than four dwelling units.
- (b) Except as provided in Section 1103.1, this article shall apply to a resale transaction entered into on or after January 1, 2000, for a manufactured home, as defined in Section 18007 of the Health and Safety Code, that is classified as personal property intended for use as a residence, or a mobilehome, as defined in Section 18008 of the Health and Safety Code, that is classified as personal property intended for use as a residence, if the real property on which the manufactured home or mobilehome is located is real property described in subdivision (c).
- (c) This article shall apply to the transactions described in subdivisions (a) and (b) only if the transferor or his or her agent are required by one or more of the following to disclose the property's location within a hazard zone:
 - (1) A person who is acting as an agent for a transferor of real property that is located within a special flood hazard area (any type Zone "A" or "V") designated by the Federal Emergency Management Agency, or the transferor if he or she is acting without an agent, shall disclose to any prospective transferee the fact that the property is located within a special flood hazard area if either:
 - (A) The transferor, or the transferor's agent, has actual knowledge that the property is within a special flood hazard area.
 - (B) The local jurisdiction has compiled a list, by parcel, of properties that are within the special flood hazard area and a notice has been posted at the offices of the county recorder, county assessor, and county planning agency that identifies the location of the parcel list.
 - (2) ... is located within an area of potential flooding ... shall disclose to any prospective transferee the fact that the property is located within an area of potential flooding ...
 - (3) ... is located within a very high fire hazard severity zone, designated pursuant to Section 51178 of the Public Resources Code ... shall disclose to any prospective transferee the fact that the property is located within a very high fire hazard severity zone and is subject to the requirements of Section 51182 ...

- (4) ... is located within an earthquake fault zone, designated pursuant to Section 2622 of the Public Resources Code ... shall disclose to any prospective transferee the fact that the property is located within a delineated earthquake fault zone ...
 - (5) ... is located within a seismic hazard zone, designated pursuant to Section 2696 of the Public Resources Code ... shall disclose to any prospective transferee the fact that the property is located within a seismic hazard zone ...
 - (6) ... is located within a state responsibility area determined by the board, pursuant to Section 4125 of the Public Resources Code, shall disclose to any prospective transferee the fact that the property is located within a wildland area that may contain substantial forest fire risks and hazards and is subject to the requirements of Section 4291 ...
- (d) Any waiver of the requirements of this article is void as against public policy.

1103.1.

- (a) This article does not apply to the following transfers:
- (1) Transfers pursuant to court order, including, but not limited to, transfers ordered by a probate court in administration of an estate, transfers pursuant to a writ of execution, transfers by any foreclosure sale, transfers by a trustee in bankruptcy, transfers by eminent domain, and transfers resulting from a decree for specific performance.
 - (2) Transfers to a mortgagee by a mortgagor or successor in interest who is in default, transfers to a beneficiary of a deed of trust by a trustor or successor in interest who is in default, transfers by any foreclosure sale after default, transfers by any foreclosure sale after default in an obligation secured by a mortgage, transfers by a sale under a power of sale or any foreclosure sale under a decree of foreclosure after default in an obligation secured by a deed of trust or secured by any other instrument containing a power of sale, or transfers by a mortgagee or a beneficiary under a deed of trust who has acquired the real property at a sale conducted pursuant to a power of sale under a mortgage or deed of trust or a sale pursuant to a decree of foreclosure or has acquired the real property by a deed in lieu of foreclosure.
 - (3) Transfers by a fiduciary in the course of the administration of a decedent's estate, guardianship, conservatorship, or trust.
 - (4) Transfers from one coowner to one or more other coowners.
 - (5) Transfers made to a spouse, or to a person or persons in the lineal line of consanguinity of one or more of the transferors.
 - (6) Transfers between spouses resulting from a judgment of dissolution of marriage or of legal separation of the parties or from a property settlement agreement incidental to that judgment.
 - (7) Transfers by the Controller in the course of administering Chapter 7 (commencing with Section 1500) of Title 10 of Part 3 of the Code of Civil Procedure.
 - (8) Transfers under Chapter 7 (commencing with Section 3691) or Chapter 8 (commencing with Section 3771) of Part 6 of Division 1 of the Revenue and Taxation Code.
 - (9) Transfers or exchanges to or from any governmental entity.
- (b) Transfers not subject to this article may be subject to other disclosure requirements, including those under Sections 8589.3, 8589.4, and 51183.5 of the Government Code and Sections 2621.9,

2694, and 4136 of the Public Resources Code. In transfers not subject to this article, agents may make required disclosures in a separate writing.

1103.2.

- (a) The disclosures required by this article are set forth in, and shall be made on a copy of, the following Natural Hazard Disclosure Statement: [content omitted].
- (b) If an earthquake fault zone, seismic hazard zone, very high fire hazard severity zone, or wildland fire area map or accompanying information is not of sufficient accuracy or scale that a reasonable person can determine if the subject real property is included in a natural hazard area, the transferor or transferor's agent shall mark "Yes" on the Natural Hazard Disclosure Statement. The transferor or transferor's agent may mark "No" on the Natural Hazard Disclosure Statement if he or she attaches a report prepared pursuant to subdivision (c) of Section 1103.4 that verifies the property is not in the hazard zone. Nothing in this subdivision is intended to limit or abridge any existing duty of the transferor or the transferor's agents to exercise reasonable care in making a determination under this subdivision.

[Sub-Sections (c) through (h) omitted]

[Section 1103.3 omitted]

1103.4.

- (a) Neither the transferor nor any listing or selling agent shall be liable for any error, inaccuracy, or omission of any information delivered pursuant to this article if the error, inaccuracy, or omission was not within the personal knowledge of the transferor or the listing or selling agent, and was based on information timely provided by public agencies or by other persons providing information as specified in subdivision (c) that is required to be disclosed pursuant to this article, and ordinary care was exercised in obtaining and transmitting the information.
- (b) The delivery of any information required to be disclosed by this article to a prospective transferee by a public agency or other person providing information required to be disclosed pursuant to this article shall be deemed to comply with the requirements of this article and shall relieve the transferor or any listing or selling agent of any further duty under this article with respect to that item of information.
- (c) The delivery of a report or opinion prepared by a licensed engineer, land surveyor, geologist, or expert in natural hazard discovery dealing with matters within the scope of the professional's license or expertise, shall be sufficient compliance for application of the exemption provided by subdivision (a) if the information is provided to the prospective transferee pursuant to a request therefor, whether written or oral. In responding to that request, an expert may indicate, in writing, an understanding that the information provided will be used in fulfilling the requirements of Section 1103.2 and, if so, shall indicate the required disclosures, or parts thereof, to which the information being furnished is applicable. Where that statement is furnished, the expert shall not be responsible for any items of information, or parts thereof, other than those expressly set forth in the statement.
- (1) In responding to the request, the expert shall determine whether the property is within an airport influence area as defined in subdivision (b) of Section 11010 of the Business and Professions Code. If the property is within an airport influence area, the report shall contain the following statement:

NOTICE OF AIRPORT IN VICINITY

This property is presently located in the vicinity of an airport, within what is known as an airport influence area. For that reason, the property may be subject to some of the annoyances or inconveniences associated with proximity to airport operations (for example: noise, vibration, or odors). Individual sensitivities to those annoyances can vary from person to person. You may wish to consider what airport annoyances, if any, are associated with the property before you complete your purchase and determine whether they are acceptable to you.

[Remainder of Article 1.7 omitted]

CIVIL CODE
Division 2, Part 4
Title 6—Common Interest Developments
Chapter 2—County Documents
Article 1—Creation
(excerpts)

1353.

- (a) (1) A declaration, recorded on or after January 1, 1986, shall contain a legal description of the common interest development, and a statement that the common interest development is a community apartment project, condominium project, planned development, stock cooperative, or combination thereof. The declaration shall additionally set forth the name of the association and the restrictions on the use or enjoyment of any portion of the common interest development that are intended to be enforceable equitable servitudes. If the property is located within an airport influence area, a declaration, recorded after January 1, 2004, shall contain the following statement:

NOTICE OF AIRPORT IN VICINITY

This property is presently located in the vicinity of an airport, within what is known as an airport influence area. For that reason, the property may be subject to some of the annoyances or inconveniences associated with proximity to airport operations (for example: noise, vibration, or odors). Individual sensitivities to those annoyances can vary from person to person. You may wish to consider what airport annoyances, if any, are associated with the property before you complete your purchase and determine whether they are acceptable to you.

- (2) For purposes of this section, an “airport influence area,” also known as an “airport referral area,” is the area in which current or future airport-related noise, overflight, safety, or airspace protection factors may significantly affect land uses or necessitate restrictions on those uses as determined by an airport land use commission.
- (3) [Omitted]
- (4) The statement in a declaration acknowledging that a property is located in an airport influence area does not constitute a title defect, lien, or encumbrance.
- (b) The declaration may contain any other matters the original signator of the declaration or the owners consider appropriate.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY SUMMARY

PUBLIC UTILITIES CODE

Sections 21670 et seq.

Airport Land Use Commission Statutes And Related Statutes

- 1967 Original ALUC statute enacted.
- = Establishment of ALUCs required in each county containing a public airport served by a certificated air carrier.
 - = The purpose of ALUCs is indicated as being to make recommendations regarding height restrictions on buildings and the use of land surrounding airports.
- 1970 Assembly Bill 1856 (Badham) Chapter 1182, Statutes of 1970—Adds provisions which:
- = Require ALUCs to prepare comprehensive land use plans.
 - = Require such plans to include a long-range plan and to reflect the airport's forecast growth during the next 20 years.
 - = Require ALUC review of airport construction plans (Section 21661.5).
 - = Exempt Los Angeles County from the requirement of establishing an ALUC.
- 1971 The function of ALUCs is restated as being to require new construction to conform to Department of Aeronautics standards.
- 1973 ALUCs are permitted to establish compatibility plans for military airports.
- 1982 Assembly Bill 2920 (Rogers) Chapter 1041, Statutes of 1982—Adds major changes which:
- = More clearly articulate the purpose of ALUCs.
 - = Eliminate reference to “achieve by zoning.”
 - = Require consistency between local general and specific plans and airport land use commission plans; the requirements define the process for attaining consistency, they do not establish standards for consistency.
 - = Eliminate the requirement for proposed individual development projects to be referred to an ALUC for review once local general/specific plans are consistent with the ALUC's plan.
 - = Require that local agencies make findings of fact before overriding an ALUC decision.
 - = Change the vote required for an override from 4/5 to 2/3.
- 1984 Assembly Bill 3551 (Mountjoy) Chapter 1117, Statutes of 1984—Amends the law to:
- = Require ALUCs in all counties having an airport which serves the general public unless a county and its cities determine an ALUC is not needed.
 - = Limit amendments to compatibility plans to once per year.
 - = Allow individual projects to continue to be referred to the ALUC by agreement.
 - = Extend immunity to airports if an ALUC action is overridden by a local agency not owning the airport.

- = Provide state funding eligibility for preparation of compatibility plans through the Regional Transportation Improvement Program process.
- 1987 Senate Bill 633 (Rogers) Chapter 1018, Statutes of 1987—Makes revisions which:
 - = Require that a designated body serving as an ALUC include two members having “expertise in aviation.”
 - = Allows an interested party to initiate court proceedings to postpone the effective date of a local land use action if a compatibility plan has not been adopted.
 - = Delete *sunset* provisions contained in certain clauses of the law. Allows reimbursement for ALUC costs in accordance with the Commission on State Mandates.
- 1989 Senate Bill 255 (Bergeson) Chapter 54, Statutes of 1989—
 - = Sets a requirement that comprehensive land use plans be completed by June 1991.
 - = Establishes a method for compelling ALUCs to act on matters submitted for review.
 - = Allows ALUCs to charge fees for review of projects.
 - = Suspends any lawsuits that would stop development until the ALUC adopts its plan or until June 1, 1991.
- 1989 Senate Bill 235 (Alquist) Chapter 788, Statutes of 1989—Appropriates \$3,672,000 for the payment of claims to counties seeking reimbursement of costs incurred during fiscal years 1985-86 through 1989-90 pursuant to state-mandated requirement (Chapter 1117, Statutes of 1984) for creation of ALUCs in most counties. This statute was repealed in 1993.
- 1990 Assembly Bill 4164 (Mountjoy) Chapter 1008, Statutes of 1990—Adds section 21674.5 requiring the Division of Aeronautics to develop and implement a training program for ALUC staffs.
- 1990 Assembly Bill 4265 (Clute) Chapter 563, Statutes of 1990—With the concurrence of the Division of Aeronautics, allows ALUCs to use an airport layout plan, rather than a long-range airport master plan, as the basis for preparation of a compatibility plan.
- 1990 Senate Bill 1288 (Beverly) Chapter 54, Statutes of 1990—Amends Section 21670.2 to give Los Angeles County additional time to prepare compatibility plans and meet other provisions of the ALUC statutes.
- 1991 Senate Bill 532 (Bergeson) Chapter 140, Statutes of 1991—
 - = Allows counties having half of their compatibility plans completed or under preparation by June 30, 1991, an additional year to complete the remainder.
 - = Allows ALUCs to continue to charge fees under these circumstances.
 - = Fees may be charged only until June 30, 1992, if plans are not completed by then.
- 1993 Senate Bill 443 (Committee on Budget and Fiscal Review) Chapter 59, Statutes of 1993—Amends Section 21670(b) to make the formation of ALUCs permissive rather than mandatory as of June 30, 1993. (Note: Section 21670.2 which assigns responsibility for coordinating the airport planning of public agencies in Los Angeles County is not affected by this amendment.)
- 1994 Assembly Bill 2831 (Mountjoy) Chapter 644, Statutes of 1994 —Reinstates the language in Section 21670(b) mandating establishment of ALUCs, but also provides for an alternative airport land use planning process. Lists specific actions which a county and affected cities must take in order for such alternative process to receive Caltrans approval. Requires that

ALUCs be guided by information in the Caltrans *Airport Land Use Planning Handbook* when formulating airport land use plans.

- 1994 Senate Bill 1453 (Rogers) Chapter 438, Statutes of 1994—Amends California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) statutes as applied to preparation of environmental documents affecting projects in the vicinity of airports. Requires lead agencies to use the *Airport Land Use Planning Handbook* as a technical resource when assessing the airport-related noise and safety impacts of such projects.
- 1997 Assembly Bill 1130 (Oller) Chapter 81, Statutes of 1997—Added Section 21670.4 concerning airports whose planning boundary straddles a county line.
- 2000 Senate Bill 1350 (Rainey) Chapter 506, Statutes of 2000—Added Section 21670(f) clarifying that special districts are among the local agencies to which airport land use planning laws are intended to apply.
- 2001 Assembly Bill 93 (Wayne) Chapter 946, Statutes of 2001—Added Section 21670.3 regarding San Diego County Regional Airport Authority’s responsibility for airport planning within San Diego County.
- 2002 Assembly Bill 3026 (Committee on Transportation) Chapter 438, Statutes of 2002—Changes the term “comprehensive land use plan” to “airport land use compatibility plan.”
- 2002 Assembly Bill 2776 (Simitian) Chapter 496, Statutes of 2002—Requires information regarding the location of a property within an airport influence area be disclosed as part of certain real estate transactions effective January 1, 2004.
- 2002 Senate Bill 1468 (Knight) Chapter 971, Statutes of 2002—Changes ALUC preparation of airport land use compatibility plans for military airports from optional to required. Requires that the plans be consistent with the safety and noise standards in the Air Installation Compatible Use Zone for that airport. Requires that the general plan and any specific plans be consistent with these standards where there is military airport, but an airport land use commission does not exist.
- 2003 Assembly Bill 332 (Mullin) Chapter 351, Statutes of 2003—Clarifies that school districts and community college districts are subject to compatibility plans. Requires local public agencies to notify ALUC and Division of Aeronautics at least 45 days prior to deciding to overrule the ALUC.

Adds that prior to granting building construction permits, local agencies shall be guided by the criteria established in the Airport Land Use Planning Handbook and any related federal aviation regulations to the extent that the criteria has been incorporated into their airport land use compatibility plan.
- 2004 Senate Bill 1223 (Committee on Transportation) Chapter 615, Statutes of 2004—Technical revisions eliminating most remaining references to the term “comprehensive land use plan” and replacing it with “airport land use compatibility plan.” Also replaces the terms “planning area” and “study area” with “airport influence area.”
- 2005 Assembly Bill 1358 (Mullin) Chapter 29, Statutes of 2005—Requires a school district to notify the Department of Transportation before leasing property for a new school site. Also makes these provisions applicable to charter schools.
- 2007 Senate Bill 10 (Kehoe) Chapter 287, Statutes of 2007—The San Diego County Regional Airport Authority Reform Act of 2007. Restructures the airport authority established in 2001

by AB 93 (Wayne), with a set of goals related to governance, accountability, planning and operations at San Diego International Airport.

Federal Aviation Regulations Part 77

Safe, Efficient Use, And Preservation of the Navigable Airspace

Amdt. 77-13, Effective January 18, 2011

Subpart A GENERAL

77.1 Purpose.

This part establishes:

- (a) The requirements to provide notice to the FAA of certain proposed construction, or the alteration of existing structures;
- (b) The standards used to determine obstructions to air navigation, and navigational and communication facilities;
- (c) The process for aeronautical studies of obstructions to air navigation or navigational facilities to determine the effect on the safe and efficient use of navigable airspace, air navigation facilities or equipment; and
- (d) The process to petition the FAA for discretionary review of determinations, revisions, and extensions of determinations.

77.3 Definitions.

For the purpose of this part:

“Non-precision instrument runway” means a runway having an existing instrument approach procedure utilizing air navigation facilities with only horizontal guidance, or area type navigation equipment, for which a straight-in non-precision instrument approach procedure has been approved, or planned, and for which no precision approach facilities are planned, or indicated on an FAA planning document or military service military airport planning document.

Planned or proposed airport is an airport that is the subject of at least one of the following documents received by the FAA:

- (1) Airport proposals submitted under 14 CFR Part 157.
- (2) Airport Improvement Program requests for aid.
- (3) Notices of existing airports where prior notice of the airport construction or alteration was not provided as required by 14 CFR Part 157.
- (4) Airport layout plans.
- (5) DOD proposals for airports used only by the U.S. Armed Forces.

- (6) DOD proposals on joint-use (civil-military) airports.
- (7) Completed airport site selection feasibility study.

“Precision instrument runway” means a runway having an existing instrument approach procedure utilizing an Instrument Landing System (ILS), or a Precision Approach Radar (PAR). It also means a runway for which a precision approach system is planned and is so indicated by an FAA-approved airport layout plan; a military service approved military airport layout plan; any other FAA planning document, or military service military airport planning document.

“Public use airport” is an airport available for use by the general public without a requirement for prior approval of the airport owner or operator.

“Seaplane base” is considered to be an airport only if its sea lanes are outlined by visual markers.

“Utility runway” means a runway that is constructed for and intended to be used by propeller driven aircraft of 12,500 pounds maximum gross weight and less.

“Visual runway” means a runway intended solely for the operation of aircraft using visual approach procedures, with no straight-in instrument approach procedure and no instrument designation indicated on an FAA-approved airport layout plan, a military service approved military airport layout plan, or by any planning document submitted to the FAA by competent authority.

Subpart B

NOTICE REQUIREMENTS

77.5 Applicability.

- (a) If you propose any construction or alteration described in §77.9, you must provide adequate notice to the FAA of that construction or alteration.
- (b) If requested by the FAA, you must also file supplemental notice before the start date and upon completion of certain construction or alterations that are described in §77.9.
- (c) Notice received by the FAA under this subpart is used to:
 - (1) Evaluate the effect of the proposed construction or alteration on safety in air commerce and the efficient use and preservation of the navigable airspace and of airport traffic capacity at public use airports;
 - (2) Determine whether the effect of proposed construction or alteration is a hazard to air navigation;
 - (3) Determine appropriate marking and lighting recommendations, using FAA Advisory Circular 70/7460–1, Obstruction Marking and Lighting;
 - (4) Determine other appropriate measures to be applied for continued safety of air navigation; and
 - (5) Notify the aviation community of the construction or alteration of objects that affect the navigable airspace, including the revision of charts, when necessary.

77.7 Form and time of notice.

- (a) If you are required to file notice under §77.9, you must submit to the FAA a completed FAA Form 7460–1, Notice of Proposed Construction or Alteration. FAA Form 7460–1 is available at FAA regional offices and on the Internet.
- (b) You must submit this form at least 45 days before the start date of the proposed construction or alteration or the date an application for a construction permit is filed, whichever is earliest.
- (c) If you propose construction or alteration that is also subject to the licensing requirements of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), you must submit notice to the FAA on or before the date that the application is filed with the FCC.
- (d) If you propose construction or alteration to an existing structure that exceeds 2,000 ft. in height above ground level (AGL), the FAA presumes it to be a hazard to air navigation that results in an inefficient use of airspace. You must include details explaining both why the proposal would not constitute a hazard to air navigation and why it would not cause an inefficient use of airspace.
- (e) The 45-day advance notice requirement is waived if immediate construction or alteration is required because of an emergency involving essential public services, public health, or public safety. You may provide notice to the FAA by any available, expeditious means. You must file a completed FAA Form 7460–1 within 5 days of the initial notice to the FAA. Outside normal business hours, the nearest flight service station will accept emergency notices.

77.9 Construction or alteration requiring notice.

If requested by the FAA, or if you propose any of the following types of construction or alteration, you must file notice with the FAA of:

- (a) Any construction or alteration that is more than 200 ft. AGL at its site.
- (b) Any construction or alteration that exceeds an imaginary surface extending outward and upward at any of the following slopes:
 - (1) 100 to 1 for a horizontal distance of 20,000 ft. from the nearest point of the nearest runway of each airport described in paragraph (d) of this section with its longest runway more than 3,200 ft. in actual length, excluding heliports.
 - (2) 50 to 1 for a horizontal distance of 10,000 ft. from the nearest point of the nearest runway of each airport described in paragraph (d) of this section with its longest runway no more than 3,200 ft. in actual length, excluding heliports.
 - (3) 25 to 1 for a horizontal distance of 5,000 ft. from the nearest point of the nearest landing and takeoff area of each heliport described in paragraph (d) of this section.
- (c) Any highway, railroad, or other traverse way for mobile objects, of a height which, if adjusted upward 17 feet for an Interstate Highway that is part of the National System of Military and Interstate Highways where overcrossings are designed for a minimum of 17 feet vertical distance, 15 feet for any other public roadway, 10 feet or the height of the highest mobile object that would normally traverse the road, whichever is greater, for a private road, 23 feet for a railroad, and for a waterway or any other traverse way not previously mentioned, an amount equal to the height of the highest mobile object that would normally traverse it, would exceed a standard of paragraph (a) or (b) of this section.

- (d) Any construction or alteration on any of the following airports and heliports:
 - (1) A public use airport listed in the Airport/Facility Directory, Alaska Supplement, or Pacific Chart Supplement of the U.S. Government Flight Information Publications;
 - (2) A military airport under construction, or an airport under construction that will be available for public use;
 - (3) An airport operated by a Federal agency or the DOD.
 - (4) An airport or heliport with at least one FAA-approved instrument approach procedure.
- (e) You do not need to file notice for construction or alteration of:
 - (1) Any object that will be shielded by existing structures of a permanent and substantial nature or by natural terrain or topographic features of equal or greater height, and will be located in the congested area of a city, town, or settlement where the shielded structure will not adversely affect safety in air navigation;
 - (2) Any air navigation facility, airport visual approach or landing aid, aircraft arresting device, or meteorological device meeting FAA-approved siting criteria or an appropriate military service siting criteria on military airports, the location and height of which are fixed by its functional purpose;
 - (3) Any construction or alteration for which notice is required by any other FAA regulation.
 - (4) Any antenna structure of 20 feet or less in height, except one that would increase the height of another antenna structure.

77.11 Supplemental notice requirements.

- (a) You must file supplemental notice with the FAA when:
 - (1) The construction or alteration is more than 200 feet in height AGL at its site; or
 - (2) Requested by the FAA.
- (b) You must file supplemental notice on a prescribed FAA form to be received within the time limits specified in the FAA determination. If no time limit has been specified, you must submit supplemental notice of construction to the FAA within 5 days after the structure reaches its greatest height.
- (c) If you abandon a construction or alteration proposal that requires supplemental notice, you must submit notice to the FAA within 5 days after the project is abandoned.
- (d) If the construction or alteration is dismantled or destroyed, you must submit notice to the FAA within 5 days after the construction or alteration is dismantled or destroyed.

Subpart C

STANDARDS FOR DETERMINING OBSTRUCTIONS TO AIR NAVIGATION OR NAVIGATIONAL AIDS OR FACILITIES

77.13 Applicability.

This subpart describes the standards used for determining obstructions to air navigation, navigational aids, or navigational facilities. These standards apply to the following:

- (a) Any object of natural growth, terrain, or permanent or temporary construction or alteration, including equipment or materials used and any permanent or temporary apparatus.
- (b) The alteration of any permanent or temporary existing structure by a change in its height, including appurtenances, or lateral dimensions, including equipment or material used therein.

77.15 Scope.

- (a) This subpart describes standards used to determine obstructions to air navigation that may affect the safe and efficient use of navigable airspace and the operation of planned or existing air navigation and communication facilities. Such facilities include air navigation aids, communication equipment, airports, Federal airways, instrument approach or departure procedures, and approved off-airway routes.
- (b) Objects that are considered obstructions under the standards described in this subpart are presumed hazards to air navigation unless further aeronautical study concludes that the object is not a hazard. Once further aeronautical study has been initiated, the FAA will use the standards in this subpart, along with FAA policy and guidance material, to determine if the object is a hazard to air navigation.
- (c) The FAA will apply these standards with reference to an existing airport facility, and airport proposals received by the FAA, or the appropriate military service, before it issues a final determination.
- (d) For airports having defined runways with specially prepared hard surfaces, the primary surface for each runway extends 200 feet beyond each end of the runway. For airports having defined strips or pathways used regularly for aircraft takeoffs and landings, and designated runways, without specially prepared hard surfaces, each end of the primary surface for each such runway shall coincide with the corresponding end of the runway. At airports, excluding seaplane bases, having a defined landing and takeoff area with no defined pathways for aircraft takeoffs and landings, a determination must be made as to which portions of the landing and takeoff area are regularly used as landing and takeoff pathways. Those determined pathways must be considered runways, and an appropriate primary surface as defined in §77.19 will be considered as longitudinally centered on each such runway. Each end of that primary surface must coincide with the corresponding end of that runway.
- (e) The standards in this subpart apply to construction or alteration proposals on an airport (including heliports and seaplane bases with marked lanes) if that airport is one of the following before the issuance of the final determination:

- (1) Available for public use and is listed in the Airport/Facility Directory, Supplement Alaska, or Supplement Pacific of the U.S. Government Flight Information Publications; or
- (2) A planned or proposed airport or an airport under construction of which the FAA has received actual notice, except DOD airports, where there is a clear indication the airport will be available for public use; or,
- (3) An airport operated by a Federal agency or the DOD; or,
- (4) An airport that has at least one FAA-approved instrument approach.

77.17 Obstruction standards.

- (a) An existing object, including a mobile object, is, and a future object would be an obstruction to air navigation if it is of greater height than any of the following heights or surfaces:
 - (1) A height of 499 feet AGL at the site of the object.
 - (2) A height that is 200 feet AGL, or above the established airport elevation, whichever is higher, within 3 nautical miles of the established reference point of an airport, excluding heliports, with its longest runway more than 3,200 feet in actual length, and that height increases in the proportion of 100 feet for each additional nautical mile from the airport up to a maximum of 499 feet.
 - (3) A height within a terminal obstacle clearance area, including an initial approach segment, a departure area, and a circling approach area, which would result in the vertical distance between any point on the object and an established minimum instrument flight altitude within that area or segment to be less than the required obstacle clearance.
 - (4) A height within an en route obstacle clearance area, including turn and termination areas, of a Federal Airway or approved off-airway route, that would increase the minimum obstacle clearance altitude.
 - (5) The surface of a takeoff and landing area of an airport or any imaginary surface established under §77.19, 77.21, or 77.23. However, no part of the takeoff or landing area itself will be considered an obstruction.
- (b) Except for traverse ways on or near an airport with an operative ground traffic control service furnished by an airport traffic control tower or by the airport management and coordinated with the air traffic control service, the standards of paragraph (a) of this section apply to traverse ways used or to be used for the passage of mobile objects only after the heights of these traverse ways are increased by:
 - (1) 17 feet for an Interstate Highway that is part of the National System of Military and Interstate Highways where overcrossings are designed for a minimum of 17 feet vertical distance.
 - (2) 15 feet for any other public roadway.
 - (3) 10 feet or the height of the highest mobile object that would normally traverse the road, whichever is greater, for a private road.
 - (4) 23 feet for a railroad.

- (5) For a waterway or any other traverse way not previously mentioned, an amount equal to the height of the highest mobile object that would normally traverse it.

77.19 Civil airport imaginary surfaces.

The following civil airport imaginary surfaces are established with relation to the airport and to each runway. The size of each such imaginary surface is based on the category of each runway according to the type of approach available or planned for that runway. The slope and dimensions of the approach surface applied to each end of a runway are determined by the most precise approach procedure existing or planned for that runway end.

- (a) Horizontal surface. A horizontal plane 150 feet above the established airport elevation, the perimeter of which is constructed by Swinging arcs of a specified radii from the center of each end of the primary surface of each runway of each airport and connecting the adjacent arcs by lines tangent to those arcs. The radius of each arc is:
 - (1) 5,000 feet for all runways designated as utility or visual;
 - (2) 10,000 feet for all other runways. The radius of the arc specified for each end of a runway will have the same arithmetical value. That value will be the highest determined for either end of the runway. When a 5,000-foot arc is encompassed by tangents connecting two adjacent 10,000-foot arcs, the 5,000-foot arc shall be disregarded on the construction of the perimeter of the horizontal surface.
- (b) Conical surface. A surface extending outward and upward from the periphery of the horizontal surface at a slope of 20 to 1 for a horizontal distance of 4,000 feet.
- (c) Primary surface. A surface longitudinally centered on a runway. When the runway has a specially prepared hard surface, the primary surface extends 200 feet beyond each end of that runway; but when the runway has no specially prepared hard surface, the primary surface ends at each end of that runway. The elevation of any point on the primary surface is the same as the elevation of the nearest point on the runway centerline. The width of the primary surface is:
 - (1) 250 feet for utility runways having only visual approaches.
 - (2) 500 feet for utility runways having non-precision instrument approaches.
 - (3) For other than utility runways, the width is:
 - (i) 500 feet for visual runways having only visual approaches.
 - (ii) 500 feet for non-precision instrument runways having visibility minimums greater than three-fourths statute mile.
 - (iii) 1,000 feet for a non-precision instrument runway having a non-precision instrument approach with visibility minimums as low as three-fourths of a statute mile, and for precision instrument runways.
 - (iv) The width of the primary surface of a runway will be that width prescribed in this section for the most precise approach existing or planned for either end of that runway.
- (d) Approach surface. A surface longitudinally centered on the extended runway centerline and extending outward and upward from each end of the primary surface. An approach surface is

applied to each end of each runway based upon the type of approach available or planned for that runway end.

- (1) The inner edge of the approach surface is the same width as the primary surface and it expands uniformly to a width of:
 - (i) 1,250 feet for that end of a utility runway with only visual approaches;
 - (ii) 1,500 feet for that end of a runway other than a utility runway with only visual approaches;
 - (iii) 2,000 feet for that end of a utility runway with a non-precision instrument approach;
 - (iv) 3,500 feet for that end of a non-precision instrument runway other than utility, having visibility minimums greater than three-fourths of a statute mile;
 - (v) 4,000 feet for that end of a non-precision instrument runway, other than utility, having a non-precision instrument approach with visibility minimums as low as three-fourths statute mile; and
 - (vi) 16,000 feet for precision instrument runways.
 - (2) The approach surface extends for a horizontal distance of:
 - (i) 5,000 feet at a slope of 20 to 1 for all utility and visual runways;
 - (ii) 10,000 feet at a slope of 34 to 1 for all non-precision instrument runways other than utility; and
 - (iii) 10,000 feet at a slope of 50 to 1 with an additional 40,000 feet at a slope of 40 to 1 for all precision instrument runways.
 - (3) The outer width of an approach surface to an end of a runway will be that width prescribed in this subsection for the most precise approach existing or planned for that runway end.
- (e) Transitional surface. These surfaces extend outward and upward at right angles to the runway centerline and the runway centerline extended at a slope of 7 to 1 from the sides of the primary surface and from the sides of the approach surfaces. Transitional surfaces for those portions of the precision approach surface which project through and beyond the limits of the conical surface, extend a distance of 5,000 feet measured horizontally from the edge of the approach surface and at right angles to the runway centerline.

77.21 Department of Defense (DoD) airport imaginary surfaces.

- (a) Related to airport reference points. These surfaces apply to all military airports. For the purposes of this section, a military airport is any airport operated by the DOD.
 - (1) Inner horizontal surface. A plane that is oval in shape at a height of 150 feet above the established airfield elevation. The plane is constructed by scribing an arc with a radius of 7,500 feet about the centerline at the end of each runway and interconnecting these arcs with tangents.

- (2) Conical surface. A surface extending from the periphery of the inner horizontal surface outward and upward at a slope of 20 to 1 for a horizontal distance of 7,000 feet to a height of 500 feet above the established airfield elevation.
 - (3) Outer horizontal surface. A plane, located 500 feet above the established airfield elevation, extending outward from the outer periphery of the conical surface for a horizontal distance of 30,000 feet.
- (b) Related to runways. These surfaces apply to all military airports.
- (1) Primary surface. A surface located on the ground or water longitudinally centered on each runway with the same length as the runway. The width of the primary surface for runways is 2,000 feet. However, at established bases where substantial construction has taken place in accordance with a previous lateral clearance criteria, the 2,000-foot width may be reduced to the former criteria.
 - (2) Clear zone surface. A surface located on the ground or water at each end of the primary surface, with a length of 1,000 feet and the same width as the primary surface.
 - (3) Approach clearance surface. An inclined plane, symmetrical about the runway centerline extended, beginning 200 feet beyond each end of the primary surface at the centerline elevation of the runway end and extending for 50,000 feet. The slope of the approach clearance surface is 50 to 1 along the runway centerline extended until it reaches an elevation of 500 feet above the established airport elevation. It then continues horizontally at this elevation to a point 50,000 feet from the point of beginning. The width of this surface at the runway end is the same as the primary surface, it flares uniformly, and the width at 50,000 is 16,000 feet.
 - (4) Transitional surfaces. These surfaces connect the primary surfaces, the first 200 feet of the clear zone surfaces, and the approach clearance surfaces to the inner horizontal surface, conical surface, outer horizontal surface or other transitional surfaces. The slope of the transitional surface is 7 to 1 outward and upward at right angles to the runway centerline.

77.23 Heliport imaginary surfaces.

- (a) Primary surface. The area of the primary surface coincides in size and shape with the designated take-off and landing area. This surface is a horizontal plane at the elevation of the established heliport elevation.
- (b) Approach surface. The approach surface begins at each end of the heliport primary surface with the same width as the primary surface, and extends outward and upward for a horizontal distance of 4,000 feet where its width is 500 feet. The slope of the approach surface is 8 to 1 for civil heliports and 10 to 1 for military heliports.
- (c) Transitional surfaces. These surfaces extend outward and upward from the lateral boundaries of the primary surface and from the approach surfaces at a slope of 2 to 1 for a distance of 250 feet measured horizontally from the centerline of the primary and approach surfaces.

Subpart D

AERONAUTICAL STUDIES AND DETERMINATIONS

77.25 Applicability.

- (a) This subpart applies to any aeronautical study of a proposed construction or alteration for which notice to the FAA is required under 77.9.
- (b) The purpose of an aeronautical study is to determine whether the aeronautical effects of the specific proposal and, where appropriate, the cumulative impact resulting from the proposed construction or alteration when combined with the effects of other existing or proposed structures, would constitute a hazard to air navigation.
- (c) The obstruction standards in subpart C of this part are supplemented by other manuals and directives used in determining the effect on the navigable airspace of a proposed construction or alteration. When the FAA needs additional information, it may circulate a study to interested parties for comment.

77.27 Initiation of studies.

The FAA will conduct an aeronautical study when:

- (a) Requested by the sponsor of any proposed construction or alteration for which a notice is submitted; or
- (b) The FAA determines a study is necessary.

77.29 Evaluating aeronautical effect.

- (a) The FAA conducts an aeronautical study to determine the impact of a proposed structure, an existing structure that has not yet been studied by the FAA, or an alteration of an existing structure on aeronautical operations, procedures, and the safety of flight. These studies include evaluating:
 - (1) The impact on arrival, departure, and en route procedures for aircraft operating under visual flight rules;
 - (2) The impact on arrival, departure, and en route procedures for aircraft operating under instrument flight rules;
 - (3) The impact on existing and planned public use airports;
 - (4) Airport traffic capacity of existing public use airports and public use airport development plans received before the issuance of the final determination;
 - (5) Minimum obstacle clearance altitudes, minimum instrument flight rules altitudes, approved or planned instrument approach procedures, and departure procedures;
 - (6) The potential effect on ATC radar, direction finders, ATC tower line-of-sight visibility, and physical or electromagnetic effects on air navigation, communication facilities, and other surveillance systems;

- (7) The aeronautical effects resulting from the cumulative impact of a proposed construction or alteration of a structure when combined with the effects of other existing or proposed structures.
- (b) If you withdraw the proposed construction or alteration or revise it so that it is no longer identified as an obstruction, or if no further aeronautical study is necessary, the FAA may terminate the study.

77.31 Determinations.

- (a) The FAA will issue a determination stating whether the proposed construction or alteration would be a hazard to air navigation, and will advise all known interested persons.
- (b) The FAA will make determinations based on the aeronautical study findings and will identify the following:
 - (1) The effects on VFR/IFR aeronautical departure/arrival operations, air traffic procedures, minimum flight altitudes, and existing, planned, or proposed airports listed in §77.15(e) of which the FAA has received actual notice prior to issuance of a final determination.
 - (2) The extent of the physical and/or electromagnetic effect on the operation of existing or proposed air navigation facilities, communication aids, or surveillance systems.
- (c) The FAA will issue a Determination of Hazard to Air Navigation when the aeronautical study concludes that the proposed construction or alteration will exceed an obstruction standard and would have a substantial aeronautical impact.
- (d) A Determination of No Hazard to Air Navigation will be issued when the aeronautical study concludes that the proposed construction or alteration will exceed an obstruction standard but would not have a substantial aeronautical impact to air navigation. A Determination of No Hazard to Air Navigation may include the following:
 - (1) Conditional provisions of a determination.
 - (2) Limitations necessary to minimize potential problems, such as the use of temporary construction equipment.
 - (3) Supplemental notice requirements, when required.
 - (4) Marking and lighting recommendations, as appropriate.
- (e) The FAA will issue a Determination of No Hazard to Air Navigation when a proposed structure does not exceed any of the obstruction standards and would not be a hazard to air navigation.

77.33 Effective period of determinations.

- (a) A determination issued under this subpart is effective 40 days after the date of issuance, unless a petition for discretionary review is received by the FAA within 30 days after issuance. The determination will not become final pending disposition of a petition for discretionary review.

- (b) Unless extended, revised, or terminated, each Determination of No Hazard to Air Navigation issued under this subpart expires 18 months after the effective date of the determination, or on the date the proposed construction or alteration is abandoned, whichever is earlier.
- (c) A Determination of Hazard to Air Navigation has no expiration date.

77.35 Extensions, terminations, revisions and corrections.

- (a) You may petition the FAA official that issued the Determination of No Hazard to Air Navigation to revise or reconsider the determination based on new facts or to extend the effective period of the determination, provided that:
 - (1) Actual structural work of the proposed construction or alteration, such as the laying of a foundation, but not including excavation, has not been started; and
 - (2) The petition is submitted at least 15 days before the expiration date of the Determination of No Hazard to Air Navigation.
- (b) A Determination of No Hazard to Air Navigation issued for those construction or alteration proposals not requiring an FCC construction permit may be extended by the FAA one time for a period not to exceed 18 months.
- (c) A Determination of No Hazard to Air Navigation issued for a proposal requiring an FCC construction permit may be granted extensions for up to 18 months, provided that:
 - (1) You submit evidence that an application for a construction permit/license was filed with the FCC for the associated site within 6 months of issuance of the determination; and
 - (2) You submit evidence that additional time is warranted because of FCC requirements; and
 - (3) Where the FCC issues a construction permit, a final Determination of No Hazard to Air Navigation is effective until the date prescribed by the FCC for completion of the construction. If an extension of the original FCC completion date is needed, an extension of the FAA determination must be requested from the Obstruction Evaluation Service (OES).
 - (4) If the Commission refuses to issue a construction permit, the final determination expires on the date of its refusal.

Subpart E

PETITIONS FOR DISCRETIONARY REVIEW

77.37 General.

- (a) If you are the sponsor, provided a substantive aeronautical comment on a proposal in an aeronautical study, or have a substantive aeronautical comment on the proposal but were not given an opportunity to state it, you may petition the FAA for a discretionary review of a determination, revision, or extension of a determination issued by the FAA.
- (b) You may not file a petition for discretionary review for a Determination of No Hazard that is issued for a temporary structure, marking and lighting recommendation, or when a proposed structure or alteration does not exceed obstruction standards contained in subpart C of this part.

77.39 Contents of a petition.

- (a) You must file a petition for discretionary review in writing and it must be received by the FAA within 30 days after the issuance of a determination under 77.31, or a revision or extension of the determination under 77.35.
- (b) The petition must contain a full statement of the aeronautical basis on which the petition is made, and must include new information or facts not previously considered or presented during the aeronautical study, including valid aeronautical reasons why the determination, revisions, or extension made by the FAA should be reviewed.
- (c) In the event that the last day of the 30-day filing period falls on a weekend or a day the Federal government is closed, the last day of the filing period is the next day that the government is open.
- (d) The FAA will inform the petitioner or sponsor (if other than the petitioner) and the FCC (whenever an FCC-related proposal is involved) of the filing of the petition and that the determination is not final pending disposition of the petition.

77.41 Discretionary review results.

- (a) If discretionary review is granted, the FAA will inform the petitioner and the sponsor (if other than the petitioner) of the issues to be studied and reviewed. The review may include a request for comments and a review of all records from the initial aeronautical study.
- (b) If discretionary review is denied, the FAA will notify the petitioner and the sponsor (if other than the petitioner), and the FCC, whenever a FCC-related proposal is involved, of the basis for the denial along with a statement that the determination is final.
- (c) After concluding the discretionary review process, the FAA will revise, affirm, or reverse the determination.

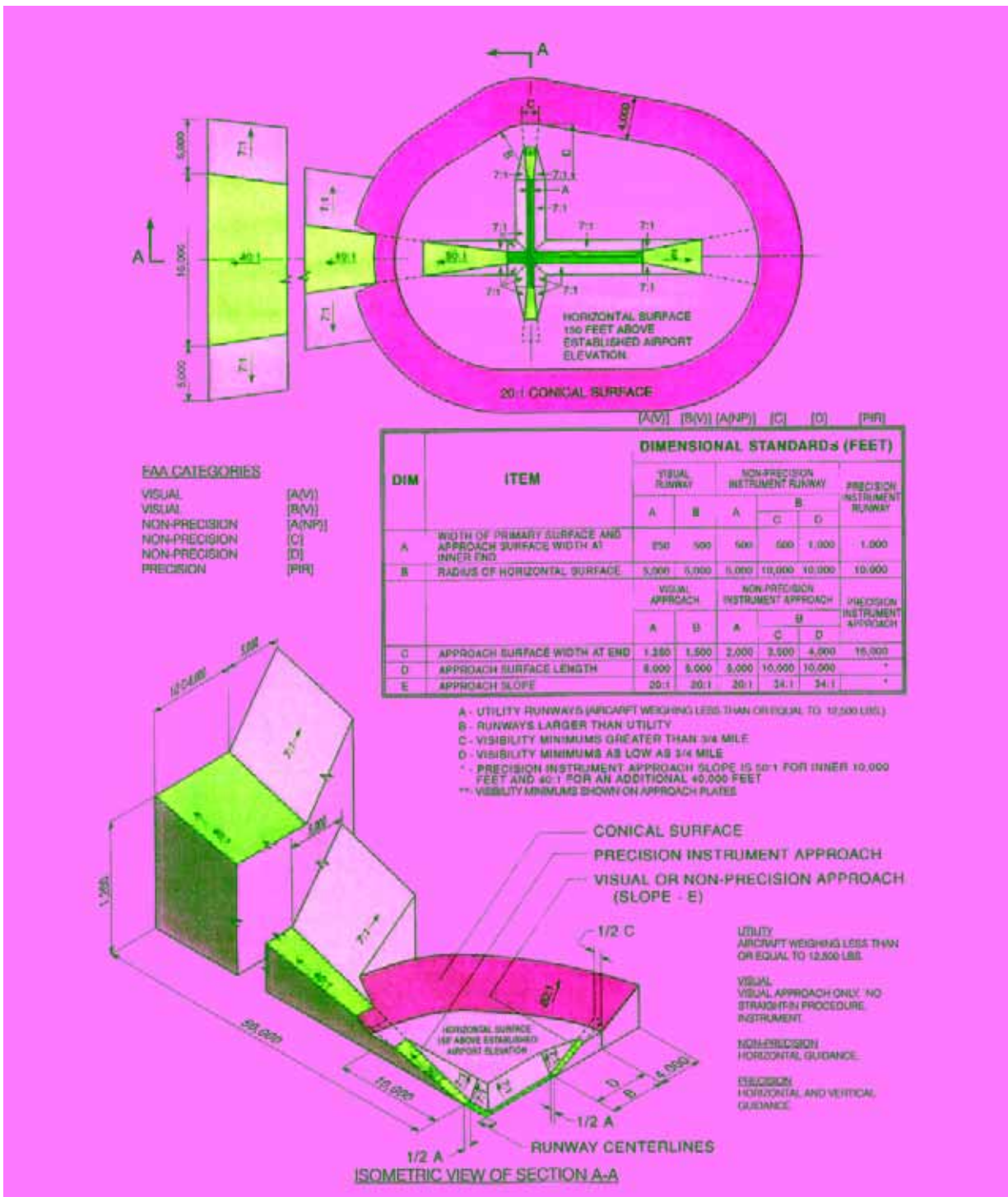


Exhibit C1

FAR Part 77 Imaginary Surfaces

Exhibit C3

Online Submittal of Form 7460-1: Notice of Proposed Construction or Alteration

Historically a paper form called a “7460-1” was required to be submitted to the FAA for any project proposed on airport property and certain projects near airports. Recently, the FAA has moved from paper forms to an on-line system of evaluating the effects of a proposed project on the national airspace system.

- The on-line system can be accessed at <https://oeaaa.faa.gov>.

This new system allows project proponents to submit and track their proposal as it progresses through the FAA evaluation process.

The purpose of this guidance is to supplement and clarify the FAA user guide for the 7460 website.

- available at: https://oeaaa.faa.gov/oeaaa/external/content/OEexternal_Guide_v3.1.pdf

We recommend that the user first read the entire guide provided by the FAA, and then use this document to clarify some of the more complicated aspects of the online 7460 system.

When a project must be submitted to the FAA

CFR Title 14 Part 77.13 states that any person/organization who intends to sponsor any of the following construction or alterations must notify the Administrator of the FAA:

- Any construction or alteration exceeding 200 ft. above ground level
- Any construction or alteration:
 - = within 20,000 ft. of a public use or military airport which exceeds a 100:1 surface from any point on the runway of each airport with at least one runway more than 3,200 ft.
 - = within 10,000 ft. of a public use or military airport which exceeds a 50:1 surface from any point on the runway of each airport with its longest runway no more than 3,200 ft.
 - = within 5,000 ft. of a public use heliport which exceeds a 25:1 surface
- Any highway, railroad or other traverse way whose prescribed adjusted height would exceed the above noted standards
- When requested by the FAA
- Any construction or alteration located on a public use airport or heliport regardless of height or location.

The FAA has been continuously improving the oe/aaa website to be more user friendly and increase the on-line functionality. The look and feel of the website may change in the future, but the majority of the content should remain as is.

Create an account

Before accessing the features of the website, the user will be required to create a username and

Obstruction Evaluation / Airport Airspace Analysis (OE/AAA)

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Obstruction Evaluation / Airport Airspace Analysis (OE/AAA)

In administering Title 14 of the Code of Federal Regulations CFR [Part 77](#), the prime objectives of the FAA are to promote air safety and the efficient use of the navigable airspace. To accomplish this mission, aeronautical studies are conducted based on information provided by proponents on an FAA Form 7460-1, Notice of Proposed Construction or Alteration.

[Advisory Circular 70/7460-1K](#), Obstruction Marking and Lighting, describes the standards for marking and lighting structures such as buildings, chimneys, antenna towers, cooling towers, storage tanks, supporting structures of overhead wires, etc.

OE/AAA Filing Process

If your organization is planning to sponsor any construction or alterations which may affect navigable airspace, you must file a **Notice of Proposed Construction or Alteration** ([Form 7460-1](#)) with the FAA.

CLICK HERE for Instructions on how to E-file your proposal with the FAA

If construction or alteration IS NOT LOCATED on an airport:

You may file forms 7460-1 and 7460-2 electronically via this website - [New User Registration](#).

or

You may file forms 7460-1 and 7460-2 via US Postal Mail to:

Mail Processing Center
Federal Aviation Administration
Southwest Regional Office
Obstruction Evaluation Service, AJR-322
2601 Meacham Boulevard
Fort Worth, TX 76193

Questions? Please contact the [appropriate representative](#).

If construction or alteration IS LOCATED on an airport:

You may file forms 7460-1 electronically via this website - [New User Registration](#).

or

Find the [FAA Airports Region / District Office](#) having jurisdiction over the airport on which the construction is located, and file to that address.

OE/AAA Account

[Login](#)

[New User Registration](#)

Information Resources

[FAA Acronyms](#)

[Forms](#)

[Regulatory Policy](#)

password to access the website.

Once a user has created an account, they will be able to log in and will be directed to the OE/AAA Portal Page. This page displays a summary of any projects which have been entered into the website, categorized by off-airport and on-airport projects.

Adding a Sponsor

Before a user can enter project specific information, a project sponsor must be created. A sponsor is the person who is ultimately responsible for the construction or alteration. All FAA correspondence will be addressed to the sponsor. The sponsor could be the airport manager for projects proposed by the airport, or the developer proposing off airport construction. To create a sponsor contact, click “Add New Sponsor” on the “portal” page. From there the user can add sponsors for various projects.

OE/AAA Portal Page

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My Account	Off Airport Construction (includes on Military Airport)	On Airport Construction (excludes on Military Airport)																																		
Name: User Name: Login Time: IP Address: Actions: What's New Update Account Information Change Password Logout	My Cases (Off Airport) Add New Case (Off Airport) My Sponsors Add New Sponsor Air Traffic Areas of Responsibility My Cases by Status: <table border="1"> <tr><td>Draft</td><td>0</td></tr> <tr><td>Accepted</td><td>0</td></tr> <tr><td>Add Letter</td><td>0</td></tr> <tr><td>Work in Progress</td><td>0</td></tr> <tr><td>Determined</td><td>0</td></tr> <tr><td>Circularized</td><td>0</td></tr> <tr><td>Terminated</td><td>0</td></tr> <tr><td>All</td><td>0</td></tr> </table> Draft: Cases that have been saved by the user but have not been submitted to the FAA. Accepted: Cases that have been submitted to the FAA. Add Letter: Cases that have been reviewed by the FAA and require additional information from the user. Work in Progress: Cases that are being evaluated by the FAA. Determined: Cases that have a completed aeronautical study and an FAA determination. Terminated: Cases that are no longer valid. Please allow the FAA a minimum of 30 days to complete a study. Click here to contact the appropriate representative.	Draft	0	Accepted	0	Add Letter	0	Work in Progress	0	Determined	0	Circularized	0	Terminated	0	All	0	My Cases (On Airport) Add New Case (On Airport) My Sponsors Add New Sponsor  Airports Regional Contacts My Cases by Status: <table border="1"> <tr><td>Draft</td><td>0</td></tr> <tr><td>Waiting</td><td>0</td></tr> <tr><td>Accepted</td><td>179</td></tr> <tr><td>Add Letter</td><td>0</td></tr> <tr><td>Work in Progress</td><td>64</td></tr> <tr><td>Determined</td><td>4</td></tr> <tr><td>Terminated</td><td>0</td></tr> <tr><td>Deleted</td><td>0</td></tr> <tr><td>All</td><td>247</td></tr> </table> Draft: Cases that have been saved by the user but have not been submitted to the FAA. Waiting: Cases that have not been submitted to the FAA and are waiting for an action from the user, either to verify the map or attach a sketch. Accepted: Cases that have been submitted to the FAA. Add Letter: Cases that have been reviewed by the FAA and require additional information from the user. Work in Progress: Cases that are being evaluated by the FAA. Determined: Cases that have completed a aeronautical study and an FAA determination. Terminated: Cases that are no longer valid. NOTE: Please use this section for filing on-airport constructions electronically.	Draft	0	Waiting	0	Accepted	179	Add Letter	0	Work in Progress	64	Determined	4	Terminated	0	Deleted	0	All	247
Draft	0																																			
Accepted	0																																			
Add Letter	0																																			
Work in Progress	0																																			
Determined	0																																			
Circularized	0																																			
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Work in Progress	64																																			
Determined	4																																			
Terminated	0																																			
Deleted	0																																			
All	247																																			
Email Notifications Circularized Case Notification	Help OE/AAA Support Desk Phone: 202-560-7500 Email: oeaaa_helpdesk@cgitech.com	Documents - OE/AAA System User Guide - FAA Acronyms																																		

When the user selects “Add New Sponsor”, they will be presented with the following screen:

Add New Sponsor

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- The Sponsor can be you, your company, or your client. The sponsor is the person or business ultimately responsible for the construction or alteration. The sponsor appears as the addressee on all correspondence from the FAA.
- Please populate the following form to add or update a Sponsor.
- Required fields indicated with *

* Sponsor Name:	
* Attention Of:	
* Address:	
Address2:	
* City:	
* State:	
-OR-	
* Non-US State:	
* Country:	United States
* Zip / Post Code:	
* Phone:	- - ext
* Fax:	- -
* Email:	

NOTE: The party submitting information through the FAA website DOES NOT have to be the same as the sponsor. Often, a consultant or other party under direction from the sponsor makes the submittal through the website

Creating a New Submittal

There are two options for creating a new 7460 submittal. Again on the left side, either click “Add New Case (off airport)” or “Add New Case (on airport)”

The screenshot displays the OE/AAA Portal Page. On the left is a sidebar menu with the following items:

- Obstruction Evaluation**
Version 2010.1.0
- Home
- FAA OE/AAA Offices
- View Determined Cases
- View Proposed Cases
- View Supplemental Notices (Form 7460-2)
- View Circularized Cases
- Search Archives
- Download Archives
- Circle Search for Cases
- Circle Search for Airports
- Discretionary Review FAQs
- Notice Criteria Tool
- DoD Preliminary Screening Tool
- Distance Calculation Tool
- OE/AAA Account**
- Portal Page
- My Cases (Off Airport)
- My Cases (On Airport)
- My Sponsors
- Add New Case (Off Airport)
- Add New Case (On Airport)
- Update User Account
- What's New
- Change Password
- Logout

The main content area is titled "OE/AAA Portal Page" and contains the following sections:

- My Account** (blue header)
 - Name:
 - User Name:
 - Login Time:
 - IP Address:
 - Actions:**
 - [What's New](#)
 - [Update Account Information](#)
 - [Change Password](#)
 - [Logout](#)
- Email Notifications** (blue header)
 - [Circularized Case Notification](#)

Two red arrows point to the "Add New Case (Off Airport)" and "Add New Case (On Airport)" links in the sidebar menu.

There are some differences in the required fields for “on airport” vs. “off airport” but the differences are minor and self-explanatory. One tip: for off airport submittals there is a field for “requested marking/lighting”. If the user does not have a preference, select other from the pull down menu and in the “other field” state “no preference”.

Notice of Proposed Construction or Alteration - Off Airport

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Sponsor (person, company, etc. proposing this action)
 * Sponsor:

Construction / Alteration Information
 * Notice Of:
 * Duration:
 If Temporary: Months: Days:
 Work Schedule - Start: (mm/dd/yyyy)
 Work Schedule - End: (mm/dd/yyyy)
 State Filing:

Structure Summary
 * Structure Type:
 * Structure Name:
 FCC Number:
 Prior ASN: - - - OE

Structure Details
 * Latitude: ° ' " N
 * Longitude: ° ' " W
 * Horizontal Datum:
 * Site Elevation (SE): (nearest foot)
 * Structure Height (AGL): (nearest foot)
 * Requested Marking/Lighting:
 Other:
 Audio Visual Warning System (AVWS): Yes
 * Current Marking/Lighting: Select One
 Other:
 * Nearest City:
 * Nearest State:
 * Description of Location:
 * Description of Proposal:

Common Frequency Bands

	Low Freq	High Freq	Freq Unit	ERP	ERP Unit
☐	806	824	MHz	500	W
☐	824	849	MHz	500	W
☐	851	866	MHz	500	W
☐	869	894	MHz	500	W
☐	896	901	MHz	500	W
☐	901	902	MHz	7	W
☐	930	931	MHz	3500	W
☐	931	932	MHz	3500	W
☐	932	932.5	MHz	17	dBW
☐	935	940	MHz	1000	W
☐	940	941	MHz	3500	W
☐	1850	1910	MHz	1640	W
☐	1930	1990	MHz	1640	W
☐	2305	2310	MHz	2000	W
☐	2345	2360	MHz	2000	W

Specific Frequencies
[Add Specific Frequency](#)

Additional Location(s)
[Add New Location\(s\)](#)

Accurate lat/long and site elevation is critical for an accurate airspace determination.

It is recommended that survey quality data be obtained from a recent survey, a GPS unit, or worst case, scaled from a topo quad.

- The most common “notice of” is construction. Select from pull down menu.
- Latitude and longitude must be entered for the structure/construction activity.
- Most 7460 submittals will require multiple points with lat/long unless the 7460 is for a pole/tower/ or other single point object. Buildings and construction areas all require points indicating the extents of the building or area. More information is provided below on how to add additional points to a submittal.
- There is a field to describe the activity taking place. In some complex activities the field does not provide enough room for the required text. An additional explanatory letter can be attached. Additional information is provided in this section on how to add a letter or document to the submittal.
- Red asterisks indicate the required fields.
- Unless there has been a previous aeronautical study for this submittal leave the “prior study” fields blank.
- Only select “common frequency bands” if the proposed structure will transmit a signal.

If the submittal is a building or construction area that is more than a single lat/long point the user must save the data first. Click save at the bottom of the page. This will bring up a summary screen of the case. To add more points click “clone” under the heading “actions”.

Notice of Proposed Construction or Alteration - Off Airport

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Project Name: TEST1-000119804-09

Sponsor: test10

Project Summary : TEST1-000119804-09

[Add Another Case to this Project](#)

Structure	City, State	Lat/Long	Map	Actions
sadfv Draft	edfv, TX	30° 30' 30.00" N 95° 30' 30.00" W	✗ Verify Map	Delete Clone Upload a PDF
sadfv Draft	edfv, TX	30° 30' 3.00" N 95° 41' 1.00" W	✗ Verify Map	Delete Clone Upload a PDF
sadfv Draft	edfv, TX	30° 30' 30.00" N 95° 1' 1.00" W	✗ Verify Map	Delete Clone Upload a PDF
sadfv Draft	edfv, TX	30° 30' 9.00" N 94° 4' 7.00" W	✗ Verify Map	Delete Clone Upload a PDF
sadfv Draft	edfv, TX	30° 30' 15.00" N 95° 41' 4.00" W	✗ Verify Map	Delete Clone Upload a PDF

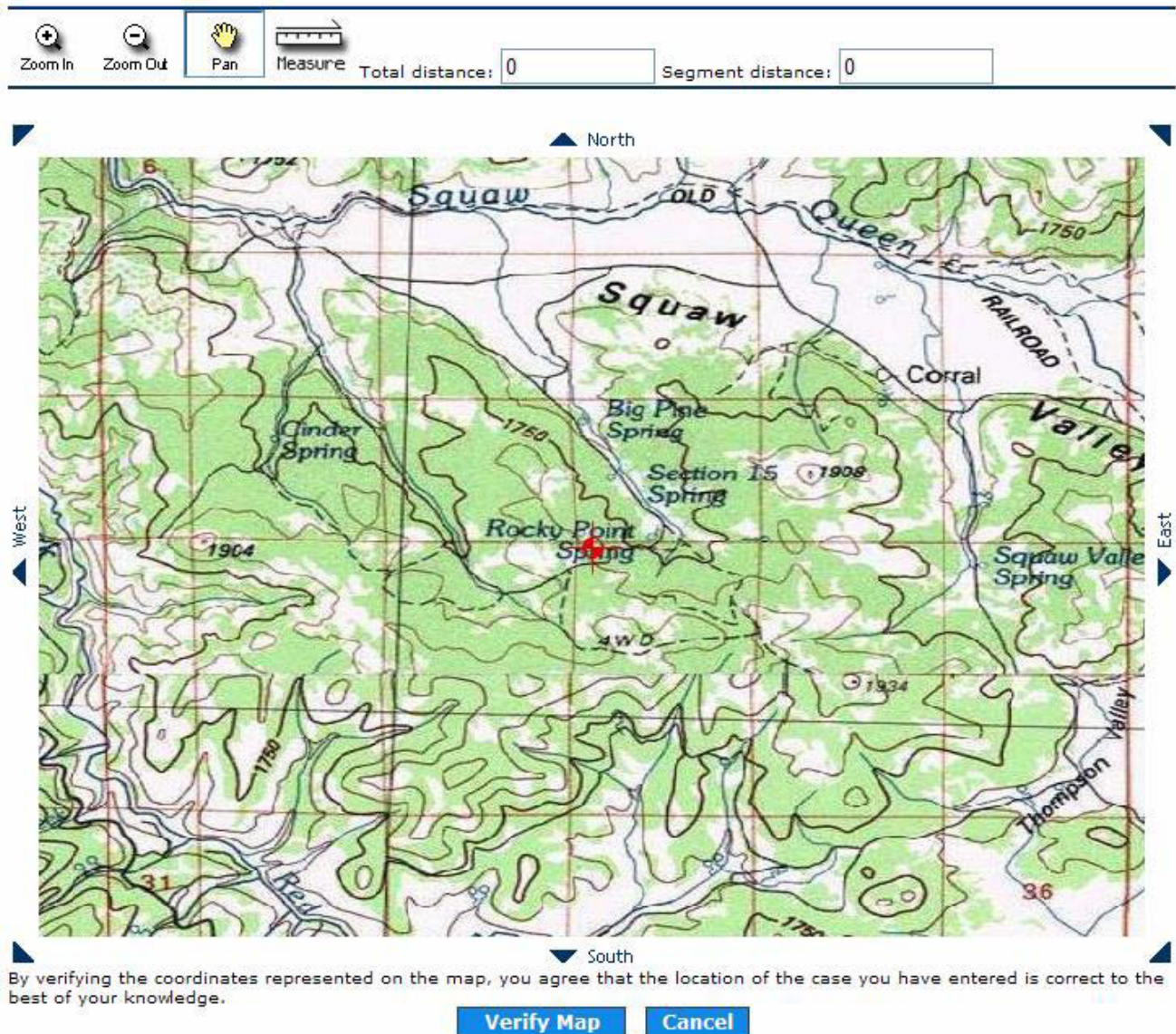
To submit this project, you must verify the coordinates of each case listed above.

The clone tool copies all the relevant information to a new page where an additional lat/long and elevation can be entered. However, the clone process does not number the various points of a proposed project. When entering the details for a point (see Image 5) it is helpful if the user assigns a number to the point and references the total number of points for the project (e.g. point 2 of 20). The numbering can be included in the project “description/remarks” field for each point.

It should be noted that each individual point associated with a project (e.g. each corner of a building) is evaluated individually, thus the importance of including a numbering system (2 of 20) in the text/description box.

Once done, click “save” again. Now the user will see two records under the “project summary” heading. Continue this process of cloning for all the remaining points.

Once all the points have been entered, each point must be verified. There is a red X with the words “verify map” indicating the user has not verified the location. Click Verify Map, a popup will display the lat/long point on a topo map and the user must verify that it is in the correct location. After clicking “verify map” on the popup, the red X will become a blue checkmark. It seems to be more efficient to enter all of the points associated with a project and then return to verify each point on the map at one time.



All on-airport project submittals must have a “project sketch” included. Under the “actions” column select “upload a PDF”. Once you have uploaded a sketch for all the points associated with the project the red X under “sketch” will turn to a green check mark. Off-airport projects do not require a “project sketch”, but the user can still upload one for informational purposes.

If the user needs to add any other information such as an explanatory letter, clicking on “upload a PDF” will allow the user to upload more documents, although only one at a time. Keep in mind that if additional PDFs or information are being provided, like the project sketch it must be uploaded to every point associated with the project.

Once the maps have been verified and sketches uploaded for all points associated with the case, the user will be able to submit the 7460 to the FAA for review.

Status of Submitted Projects

To check the status of a submittal, click on either “my cases (off airport)” or “my cases (on airport)” to see a list of what has been submitted. Each of the multiple points associated with one project will be listed as if they are separate, although still associated. The points will have a status:

ALL of My Cases (Off Airport) See how to use Print this page

All Cases		Filter by Case Status				Cases Requiring Action	
Show All Cases (31)		Draft (15) Accepted (0) Work in Progress (0) Determined (0) Circularized (0) Terminated (16)				7460-2 Required (0) Add Letter (0)	

Records 1 to 20 of 31 Page 1 of 2

Project Name	Structure Name	ASN	Status	Date Accepted	Date Determined	City	State
CITY-00003934-06	Test	2007-ASW-11935-OE	Terminated	12/27/2007	12/27/2007	Test	TX
CITY-00003942-07	adi		Draft			Udonas	AS
CITY-00003943-07			Draft			1WADC	TX
CITY-00004067-07	Clearing		Draft			Leachhaven	PA
BLVN-000102789-08	Belgrade		Draft			Memphis	TN
TEST-000017393-03			Draft			Test	TX
TEST-000017393-05			Draft			Test	VA
TEST-000026823-05	-2 Test	2005-ASW-5900-OE	Terminated	10/24/2005	01/26/2006	Test	TX
TEST-000042518-06			Draft			Test	PW
TEST-000054890-06			Draft			Miami	HI
TEST-000062379-07	Test	2007-ASW-2691-OE	Terminated	03/31/2007	03/31/2007	Test	TX
TEST-000068383-07	Test	2007-ASW-4498-OE	Terminated	06/06/2007	06/06/2007	Test	TX
TEST-000070702-07	Test	2007-AAL-169-OE	Terminated	06/28/2007	06/28/2007	test	AK
TEST-000072196-07	Test	2007-ASW-6663-OE	Terminated	07/28/2007	07/28/2007	Test	TX
TEST-000076148-07	Test Case	2007-ASW-7840-OE	Terminated	08/30/2007	09/24/2007	Test	TX
TEST-000080619-07	Test	2007-ASW-9818-OE	Terminated	10/23/2007	10/23/2007	Test	TX
TEST-000089176-08	Test	2008-ASW-1637-OE	Terminated	02/28/2008	02/28/2008	Test	TX
TEST-000100444-08	test	2008-ASW-5498-OE	Terminated	08/04/2008	08/04/2008	Test	TX
TEST-000102355-08	test	2008-ASW-5698-OE	Terminated	08/28/2008	10/03/2008	Test	TX
TEST-000104649-08	test	2008-ASW-6317-OE	Terminated	10/03/2008	10/09/2008	test	TX

Records 1 to 20 of 31 Rows per Page: 25 Page: 1 2 Next page +

Project Status Definitions:

Draft: Cases that have been saved by the user but have not been submitted to the FAA.

Waiting: Cases that have not been submitted to the FAA and are waiting for an action from the user, either to verify the map or attach a sketch.

Accepted: Cases that have been submitted to the FAA.

Add Letter: Cases that have been reviewed by the FAA and require additional information from the user.

Work in Progress: Cases that are being evaluated by the FAA.

Determined: Cases that have a completed aeronautical study and an FAA determination.

Terminated: Cases that are no longer valid.

These definitions are also shown at the bottom of the summary screen.

Airport Land Use Compatibility Concepts

INTRODUCTION

This appendix provides basic information regarding the concepts and rationale used to develop the compatibility policies and maps set forth in Chapter 2 of this *Hollister Municipal Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan*. Some of the material is excerpted directly from the *California Airport Land Use Planning Handbook* published by the California Division of Aeronautics in January 2002. Other portions are based upon concepts that evolved from technical input obtained during review and discussion of preliminary drafts of key policies.

State law requires that airport land use commissions “be guided by” the information presented in the *Handbook*. Despite the statutory reference to it, though, the *Handbook* does not constitute formal state policy or regulation. Indeed, adjustment of the guidelines to fit the circumstances of individual airports is suggested by the *Handbook*. The *Handbook* guidance does not supersede or otherwise take precedence over the policies adopted by the Council of San Benito County Governments (SBCOG), acting in its capacity as the Airport Land Use Commission (ALUC) for San Benito County, in this *Compatibility Plan*. Furthermore, this appendix itself does not constitute ALUC policy. If the material herein conflicts in any manner with the actual policy language or maps, the policies and maps prevail.

As outlined in the *Handbook*, the noise and safety compatibility concerns of ALUCs fall into four categories. This *Compatibility Plan* refers to these categories as “layers:”

- = *Noise*: As defined by cumulative noise exposure contours describing noise from aircraft operations near an airport.
- = *Overflight*: The impacts of routine aircraft flight over a community.
- = *Safety*: From the perspective of minimizing the risks of aircraft accidents beyond the runway environment.
- = *Airspace Protection*: Accomplished by limits on the height of structures and other objects in the airport vicinity and restrictions on other uses that potentially pose hazards to flight.

The documentation in the remainder of this appendix is organized under these four categories. Under each of the four compatibility category headings, the discussion is organized around four topics:

- = *Compatibility Objective*: The objective to be sought by establishment and implementation of the compatibility policies;
- = *Measurement*: The scale on which attainment of the objectives can be measured;
- = *Compatibility Strategies*: The types of strategies which, when formulated as compatibility policies, can be used to accomplish the objectives; and
- = *Basis for Setting Criteria*: The factors which should be considered in setting the respective compatibility criteria.

NOISE

Noise is perhaps the most basic airport land use compatibility concern. Certainly, it is the most noticeable form of airport impact.

Compatibility Objective

The purpose of noise compatibility policies is to avoid establishment of new noise-sensitive land uses in the portions of an airport environs that are exposed to significant levels of aircraft noise, taking into account the characteristics of the airport and the community surrounding the airport.

Measurement

For the purposes of airport land use compatibility planning, noise generated by the operation of aircraft to, from, and around an airport is primarily measured in terms of the cumulative noise levels of all aircraft operations. In California, the cumulative noise level metric established by state regulations, including for measurement of airport noise, is the Community Noise Equivalent Level (CNEL). Cumulative noise level metrics measure the noise levels of all aircraft operating at an airport on an average day (1/365) of the year. The calculations take into account not only the number of operations of each aircraft type and the noise levels they produce, but also their distribution geographically (the runways and flight tracks used) and by time of day. To reflect an assumed greater community sensitivity to nighttime and evening noise, the CNEL metric counts events during these periods as being louder than actually measured.

Cumulative noise level metrics provide a single measure of the average sound level in decibels (dB) to which any point near an airport is exposed over the course of a day. Although the maximum noise levels produced by individual aircraft are a major component of the calculations, cumulative noise level metrics do not explicitly measure these peak values. Cumulative noise levels are usually illustrated on airport area maps as contour lines connecting points of equal noise exposure. Mapped noise contours primarily show areas of significant noise exposures—ones affected by high concentrations of aircraft takeoffs and landings.

For civilian airports, noise contours are typically calculated using the Federal Aviation Administration's Integrated Noise Model (INM) computer program. For military airports, the similar Department of Defense NOISEMAP model is used. Inputs to these models are of two basic types: standardized data regarding aircraft performance and noise levels generated (this data can be adjusted for a particular airport if necessary); and airport-specific data including aircraft types and number of operations, time of day of aircraft operations, runway usage distribution, and the location and usage of flight tracks. Airport elevation and surrounding topographic data can also be entered. For airports with airport traffic control towers, some of these inputs can be obtained from recorded data. Noise monitoring and radar flight tracking data available for airports in metropolitan areas are other sources of valuable information. At most airports, though, the individual input variables must be estimated.

Compatibility Strategies

The basic strategy for achieving noise compatibility in an airport's vicinity is to limit development of land uses that are particularly sensitive to noise. The most acceptable land uses are ones that either

involve few people (especially people engaged in noise-sensitive activities) or generate significant noise levels themselves (such as other transportation facilities or some industrial uses).

California state law regards any residential land uses as normally incompatible where the noise exposure exceeds 65 dB CNEL (although the state airport noise regulations explicitly apply only to identified “noise problem airports” in the context of providing the ability of these airports to operate under a noise variance from the State, the *Handbook* and other state guidelines extend this criterion to all airports as discussed below). This standard, however, is set with respect to high-activity airports, particularly major air carrier airports, in urban locations, where ambient noise levels are generally higher than in suburban and rural areas. As also discussed below and as provided in the *Handbook*, a lower threshold of incompatibility is often appropriate at certain airports, particularly around airports in suburban or rural locations where the ambient noise levels are lower than those found in more urban areas.

In places where the noise exposure is not so severe as to warrant exclusion of new residential development, the ideal strategy is to have very low densities—that is, parcels large enough that the dwelling can be placed in a less impacted part of the property. In urban areas, however, this strategy is seldom viable. The alternative for such locations is to encourage high-density, multi-family residential development with little, if any, outdoor areas, provided that the 65 dB CNEL standard and limitations based upon safety are not exceeded. Compared to single-family subdivisions, ambient noise levels are typically higher in multi-family developments, outdoor living space is less, and sound insulation features can be more easily added to the buildings. All of these factors tend to make aircraft noise less intrusive.

Sound insulation is an important requirement for residential and other noise-sensitive indoor uses in high noise areas. The California Building Code requires that sufficient acoustic insulation be provided in any habitable rooms of new hotels, motels, dormitories, dwellings other than detached single-family residences to assure that aircraft noise is reduced to an interior noise level of 45 dB CNEL or less. To demonstrate compliance with this standard, an acoustical analysis must be done for any residential structure proposed to be located where the annual CNEL exceeds 60 dB. This *Compatibility Plan* extends the 45 dB CNEL interior noise limit standard to single-family dwellings. The *Compatibility Plan* further requires dedication of an aviation easement (see later discussion in this appendix) as a condition for development approval in locations where these standards come into play.

Basis for Setting Criteria

Compatibility criteria related to cumulative noise levels are well-established in federal and state laws and regulations. The California Airport Noise Regulations (California Code of Regulations Section 5000 *et seq.*) states that:

“The level of noise acceptable to a reasonable person residing in the vicinity of an airport is established as a community noise equivalent level (CNEL) value of 65 dB for purposes of these regulations. This criterion level has been chosen for reasonable persons residing in urban residential areas where houses are of typical California construction and may have windows partially open. It has been selected with reference to speech, sleep and community reaction.”

No airport declared by a county’s board of supervisors as having a “noise problem” is to operate in a manner that result in incompatible uses being located within the 65 dB CNEL contour. Incompatible uses are defined as being: residences of all types; public and private schools; hospitals and convalescent homes; and places of worship. However, these uses are not regarded as incompatible where acoustical insulation necessary to reduce the interior noise level to 45 dB CNEL has been installed or the airport proprietor has acquired an aviation easement for aircraft noise.

As noted in the regulations, the 65 dB CNEL standard is set with respect to urban areas. For many airports and many communities, 65 dB CNEL is too high to be considered acceptable to “reasonable persons.” Through a process called “normalization,” adjustments can be made to take into account such factors as the background noise levels of the community and previous exposure to particular noise sources. This process suggests, for example, that 60 dB CNEL may be a more suitable criterion for suburban communities not exposed to significant industrial noise and 55 dB CNEL may be appropriate for quiet suburban or rural communities remote from industrial noise and truck traffic. On the other hand, even though exceeding state standards, 70 dB CNEL may be regarded as an acceptable noise exposure in noisy urban residential communities near industrial areas and busy roads.

Industrial activity and transportation noise are undoubtedly two of the most prominent contributors to background noise levels in a community. According to a U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) study however, the variable that correlates best with ambient noise levels across a broad range of communities is population density (*Population Distribution of the United States as a Function of Outdoor Noise Level*, EPA Report No. 550/9-74-009, June 1974). This study established the following formula as a means of estimating the typical background noise level of a community:

$$DNL_{EPA} = 22 + 10 * \log(p)$$

where “p” is the population density measured in people per square statute mile.

These factors are reflected in the policies of this *Compatibility Plan*. The ALUC considers 60 dB CNEL to be the maximum normally acceptable noise exposure for new residential development near Hollister Municipal Airport. Based upon the above EPA equation, these criteria are a minimum of 5 dB above the predicted ambient noise levels in the respective communities.

Similar considerations come into play with respect to establishing maximum acceptable noise exposure for nonresidential land uses, particularly those that are noise sensitive. For schools, lodging, and other such uses, a higher noise exposure may be tolerated in noisy urban communities than in quieter suburban and rural areas. For uses that are not noise sensitive or which generate their own noise, the maximum acceptable noise exposure levels tend to be the same regardless of ambient noise conditions. The criteria listed in Chapter 2 of this *Compatibility Plan* are set with these various factors in mind.

OVERFLIGHT

Experience at many airports has shown that noise-related concerns do not stop at the boundary of the outermost mapped CNEL contours. Many people are sensitive to the frequent presence of aircraft overhead even at low levels of noise. These reactions can mostly be expressed in the form of *annoyance*.

The *Handbook* notes that at many airports, particularly air carrier airports, complaints often come from locations beyond any of the defined noise contours. Indeed, heavily used flight corridors to and from metropolitan areas are known to generate noise complaints 50 miles or more from the associated airport. The basis for such complaints may be a desire and expectation that outside noise sources not be intrusive—or, in some circumstances, even distinctly audible—above the quiet, natural background noise level. Elsewhere, especially in locations beneath the traffic patterns of general aviation airports, a fear factor also contributes to some individuals’ sensitivity to aircraft overflights.

While these impacts may be important community concerns, the question of importance here is whether any land use planning actions can be taken to avoid or mitigate the impacts or otherwise address the

concerns. Commonly, when overflight impacts are under discussion in a community, the focus is on modification of the flight routes. Indeed, some might argue that overflight impacts should be addressed solely through the aviation side of the equation—not only flight route changes, but other modifications to where, when, and how aircraft are operated. Such changes are not always possible because of terrain, aircraft performance capabilities, FAA regulations, and other factors. In any case, though, ALUCs are particularly limited in their ability to deal with overflight concerns. Most significantly, they have no authority over aircraft operations. The most they can do to bring about changes is to make requests or recommendations. Even with regard to land use, the authority of ALUCs extends only to proposed new development and the delineation of an airport's overall influence area. The authority and responsibility for implementing the *Compatibility Plan's* policies and criteria rests with the local governments.

These limitations notwithstanding, there are steps which ALUCs can and should take to help minimize overflight impacts.

Compatibility Objective

In an idealistic sense, the compatibility objective with respect to overflight is the same as for noise: avoid new land use development that can disrupt activities and lead to annoyance and complaints. However, given the extensive geographic area over which the impacts occur, this objective is unrealistic except relatively close to the airport. A more realistic objective of overflight compatibility policies therefore is to help notify people about the presence of overflights near airports so that they can make more informed decisions regarding acquisition or lease of property in the affected areas.

Measurement

Cumulative noise metrics such as CNEL are well-suited for use in establishing land use compatibility policy criteria and are the only noise metrics for which widely accepted standards have been adopted. However, these metrics are not very helpful in determining the extent of overflight impact areas. Locations where overflight concerns may be significant are typically well beyond where noise contours can be drawn with precision. Flight tracks tend to be quite divergent and noise monitoring data is seldom available. Moreover, even if the contours could be drawn precisely, the noise levels they would indicate may not be much above the ambient noise levels.

For the purposes of airport land use compatibility planning, two other forms of noise exposure information are more useful. One measure is the momentary, maximum sound level ($L_{\max}$) experienced on the ground as the aircraft flies over while landing at and taking off from a runway. These noise levels can be depicted in the form of a noise “footprint” as shown in Figure D1 for a variety of airline and general aviation aircraft. Each of these footprints is broadly representative of those produced by other aircraft similar to the ones shown. The actual sound level produced by any single aircraft takeoff or landing will vary not only among specific makes and models of aircraft, but also from one operation to another of identical aircraft.

In examining the footprints, two additional points are important to note. One is the importance of the outermost contour. This noise level (65 dBA $L_{\max}$) is the level at which interference with speech begins to be significant. Land uses anywhere within the noise footprint of a given aircraft would experience a noise level, even if only briefly, that could be disruptive to outdoor conversation. Indoors, with windows closed, the aircraft noise level would have to be at least 20 dBA louder to present similar impacts. A second point to note concerns the differences among various aircraft, particularly business jets. As

the data shows, business jets manufactured in the 1990s are much quieter than those of 10 and 20 years earlier. The impacts of the 1990s era jets are similar to those of twin-engine piston aircraft and jets being made in the 2000s are quieter yet. At many general aviation airports, the size of the CNEL contours is driven by a relatively small number of operations by the older, noisier business jets. These aircraft are gradually disappearing from the nationwide aircraft fleet and will likely be mostly gone within 20 years, but at this point in time it is uncertain when they will be completely eliminated.

Another useful form of overflight information is a mapping of the common flight tracks used by aircraft when approaching and departing an airport. Where available, recorded radar data is an ideal source for flight track mapping. Even more revealing is to refine the simple flight track mapping with data such as the frequency of use and/or aircraft altitudes. Chapter 3 includes a map showing a sampling of actual flight tracks and flight altitudes of aircraft using Hollister Municipal Airport.

Compatibility Strategies

As noted above, the ideal land use compatibility strategy with respect to overflight annoyance is to avoid development of new residential and other noise-sensitive uses in the affected locations. To the extent that this approach is not practical, other strategies need to be explored.

The strategy emphasized in this *Compatibility Plan* is to help people with above-average sensitivity to aircraft overflights—people who are highly *annoyed* by overflights—to avoid living in locations where frequent overflights occur. This strategy involves making people more aware of an airport’s proximity and its current and potential aircraft noise impacts on the community before they move to the area. This can be accomplished through buyer awareness measures such as dedication of avigation or overflight easements, recorded deed notices, and/or real estate disclosure statements. In new residential developments, posting of signs in the real estate sales office and/or at key locations in the subdivision itself can be further means of alerting the initial purchasers about the impacts (signs, however, generally do not remain in place beyond the initial sales period and therefore are of little long-term value).

A second strategy is to minimize annoyance in by promoting types of land uses that tend to mask or reduce the intrusiveness of aircraft noise. Although this strategy does not directly appear in the overflight policies of this *Compatibility Plan*, the objectives of the plan would be well-served if local jurisdictions take this concept into consideration in their own planning efforts. To the extent that residential land uses must be located in aircraft overflight areas, multi-family residences—because they tend to have comparatively little outdoor living areas, fewer external walls through which aircraft noise can intrude, and relatively high noise levels of their own—are preferable to single-family dwellings. Particularly undesirable are “ranchette” style residential areas consisting of large (about an acre on average) lots. Such developments are dense enough to expose many people to overflight noise, yet sufficiently rural in character that background noise levels are likely to be low.

Basis for Setting Criteria

In California, the most definitive guidance on where overflight impacts are significant or what actions should be taken in response comes from a state law that took effect in January 2004. California statutes (Business and Profession Code Section 11010 and Civil Code Sections 1103 and 1353) now require most residential real estate transactions, including all involving new subdivisions, to include disclosure that an airport is nearby. The area encompassed by the disclosure requirements is two miles from the airport or the airport influence area established by the county’s airport land use commission. The law defines the airport influence area as “the area in which current or future airport-related noise,

overflight, safety, or airspace protection factors may significantly affect land uses or necessitate restrictions on those uses as determined by an airport land use commission.” This *Compatibility Plan* requires that the disclosure of airport proximity be applied to all new development within both the primary and secondary airport influence areas and recommends that disclosure be provided as part of all real estate transactions involving private property, especially any sale, lease, or rental of residential property.

SAFETY

Compared to noise, safety is in many respects a more difficult concern to address in airport land use compatibility policies. A major reason for this difference is that safety policies address uncertain events that *may occur* with *occasional* aircraft operations, whereas noise policies deal with known, more or less predictable events which *do occur* with *every* aircraft operation. Because aircraft accidents happen infrequently and the time, place, and consequences of an individual accident’s occurrence cannot be predicted, the concept of *risk* is central to the assessment of safety compatibility.

Compatibility Objective

The overall objective of safety compatibility criteria is to minimize the risks associated with potential off-airport aircraft accidents and emergency landings beyond the runway environment. There are two components to this objective:

- = *Safety on the Ground*: The most fundamental safety compatibility component is to provide for the safety of people and property on the ground in the event of an aircraft accident near an airport.
- = *Safety for Aircraft Occupants*: The other important component is to enhance the chances of survival of the occupants of an aircraft involved in an accident that takes place beyond the immediate runway environment.

Measurement

Because aircraft accidents happen infrequently, measuring the risks associated with their occurrence is difficult. It is necessary to look beyond an individual airport in order to assemble enough data to be statistically valid. It is beyond the intent of this discussion to provide statistical data about aircraft accidents. Much can be found on that topic in the *Handbook*. However, certain aspects of aircraft accidents are necessary to discuss in that they have a direct bearing on land use compatibility strategies.

From the standpoint of land use planning, two variables determine the degree of risk posed by potential aircraft accidents: frequency and consequences.

The frequency variable measures *where* and *when* aircraft accidents occur in the vicinity of an airport. More specifically, these two elements can be described as follows:

- = *Spatial Element*: The spatial element describes *where* aircraft accidents can be expected to occur. Of all the accidents that take place in the vicinity of airports, what percentage occurs in any given location?

= *Time Element*: The time element adds a *when* variable to the assessment of accident frequency. In any given location around a particular airport, what is the chance that an accident will occur in a specified period of time?

Spatial Distribution of Aircraft Accidents

Of these two elements, the spatial element is the one most meaningfully applied to land use compatibility planning around an individual airport. Looking at airports nationwide, enough accidents have occurred to provide useful data regarding where they mostly occur in the environs of airports. As described below, the *Handbook* uses this data to define a set of safety zones. Additionally, the relative concentration of accidents in certain parts of the airport environs is a key consideration in the establishment of compatibility criteria applicable within those zones.

In contrast, the time element is not very useful for land use compatibility planning purposes for several reasons. First, at any given airport, the number of accidents is, with rare exceptions, too few to be statistically meaningful in determining where future accidents might occur. Secondly, a calculation of accident frequency over time depends upon the size of the area under consideration—the smaller the area examined, the less likely it is that an accident will occur in that spot. Lastly, even if the accident frequency over a period of time is calculated, there are no clear baselines with which to compare the results—is once per 100 or 1,000 years significant or not?

The *Handbook* presents a set of diagrams indicating where accidents are most likely to occur around airline and general aviation airports. Figures D2 and D3 show the spatial distribution of general aviation aircraft accidents in the vicinity of airports. (Note that these charts show data for all general aviation accidents in the *Handbook* database. Data on accidents associated with different lengths of runway is also provided, though, and is considered in delineation of the safety zones depicted in Chapter 2 of this *Compatibility Plan*.)

The charts reveal several facts:

- = About half of arrival accidents and a third of departure accidents take place within the FAA-defined runway protection zone for a runway with a low-visibility instrument approach procedure (a 2,500-foot long trapezoid, varying from 1,000 feet wide at the inner edge to 1,750 feet in width at the outer end). This fact lends validity to the importance of the runway protection zones as an area within which land use activities should be minimal.
- = Although the runway protection zones represent the locations within which risk levels are highest, a significant degree of risk exists well beyond the runway protection zone boundaries. Among all near-airport (within 5 miles) accidents, over 80% are concentrated within 1.5 to 2.0 miles of a runway end.
- = Arrival accidents tend to be concentrated relatively close to the extended runway centerline. Some 80% occur within a strip extending 10,000 feet from the runway landing threshold and 2,000 feet to each side of the runway centerline.
- = Departure accidents are comparatively more dispersed laterally from the runway centerline, but are concentrated closer to the runway end. Many departure accidents also occur lateral to the runway itself, particularly when the runway is long. Approximately 80% of the departure accident sites lie within an area 2,500 from the runway centerline and 6,000 feet beyond the runway end or adjacent to the runway.

To provide some sense of order to the scatter of individual accident points, an analysis presented in the *Handbook* involves aggregating the accident location points (the scatter diagrams of where accidents have occurred relative to the runway) in a manner that better identifies where the accident sites are most concentrated. The results are presented as risk intensity contours—Figure D2 shows arrival accident risks and Figure D3 portrays departure accident risks. The two drawings divide the near-airport accident location points into five groups of 20% each (note that only accident sites that were not on a runway, but were within 5 miles of an airport are included in the database). The 20% contour represents the highest or most concentrated risk intensity, the 40% contour represents the next highest risk intensity, and so on up to 80%. The final 20% of the accident sites are beyond the 80% contour. Each contour is drawn so as to encompass 20% of the points within the most compact area. The contours are irregular in shape. No attempt has been made to create geometric shapes. However, the risk contours can serve as the basis for creating geometric shapes that can then be used as safety zones. The *Handbook* contains several examples. The Department of Defense, through its *Air Installation Compatible Use Zones (AICUZ)* program, has followed a similar process to establish safety zone guidelines for military airports.

The *Handbook* takes the additional step of translating the risk contours into several sets of generic safety zones having regular geometric shapes. Generic safety zones are illustrated for different types and lengths of runways. The shapes of these zones reflect not just the accident distribution data, but also the ways in which different phases of aircraft operations create different accident risk characteristics near an airport. For most runways, the *Handbook* suggests creation of six zones. The locations, typical dimensions, and characteristics of the accident risks within each zone are outlined in Table D1. In more general terms, the relative degree of the risk exposure in each zone can be described as listed below.

- = *Zone 1* clearly is exposed to the greatest risk of aircraft accidents. For civilian airports, the dimensions of this zone are established by FAA standards. The FAA encourages airport ownership of this zone and provides specific land use standards to the extent that land is airport owned. Where the land is not airport owned, the FAA says these standards serve as recommendations. Zone 1 at military airports matches the clear zones defined by the Department of Defense.
- = *Zone 2* lies beyond Zone 1 and also has a significant degree of risk as reflected in both national and local accident location data. At military airports, this zone is equivalent to Accident Potential Zone I.
- = *Zone 3* has less risk than Zone 2, but more than Zones 4, 5, or 6. Zone 3 encompasses locations where aircraft often turn at low altitude while approaching or departing the runway.
- = *Zone 4* lies along the extended runway centerline beyond Zone 2 and is especially significant at airports that have straight-in instrument approach procedures or a high volume of operations that results in an extended traffic pattern. This zone is equivalent to Accident Potential Zone II at military airports.
- = *Zone 5* is a unique area lying adjacent to the runway and, for most airports, lies on airport property. The risk is comparable to Zone 4.
- = *Zone 6* contains the aircraft traffic pattern. Although a high percentage of accidents occur within Zone 6, for any given runway Zone 6 is larger than all the other zones combined. Relative to the other zones, the risks in Zone 6 are much less, but are still greater than in locations more distant from the airport.

Although accident location data, together with information on how aircraft flight parameters affect where accidents occur, are the bases for delineation of the generic safety zones, the *Handbook* indicates that adjustments to the zone sizes and shapes must be made in recognition of airport-specific characteristics. Among these characteristics are:

- =The particular mix of aircraft types operating at the airport. Larger aircraft generally are faster than smaller planes and thus fly longer and wider traffic patterns or make straight-in approaches.
- =The overall volume of aircraft operations. At busy airports, a larger traffic pattern is common because aircraft have to get in sequence for landing.
- =Nearby terrain or other airports. These physical features may, for example, limit a traffic pattern to a single side of the airport or dictate “nonstandard” approach and departure routes.
- =Instrument approach procedures. Aircraft following these procedures typically fly long, straight-in, gradual descents to the runway. In some cases, though, an approach route may be aligned at an angle to the runway rather than straight in.
- =Existence of an air traffic control tower. When a tower is present, controllers may direct or allow pilots to fly unusual routes in order to expedite traffic flow. By comparison, at relatively busy but non-towered airports, aircraft mostly follow the “standard” pattern dictated by federal aviation regulations.
- =A dominant direction of traffic flow. As reflected in the *Handbook* analysis of accident locations, landing aircraft tend to follow routes directly in line with the runway during final descent and thus accident sites also are concentrated along this alignment. Departing aircraft are more likely to turn to head to their intended destination and the accident pattern is thus more dispersed. On runways where the flow of aircraft operations is almost always in one direction, this distinction in accident patterns is considered.

Radar data is particularly helpful in showing exactly where aircraft fly when approaching or departing an airport. This data can be used to further support adjustments to the safety zones based upon the above characteristics. Radar data, though, is not available for many of outlying airports. In these instances, information on normal traffic pattern locations can be obtained through contact with local flight instructors and others highly familiar with a particular airport.

Accident Consequences

The consequences variable describes *what* happens when an aircraft accident occurs. Specific measures can be defined in terms of deaths, injuries, property damage, or other such characteristics. In many respects, the consequences component of aircraft accident risk assessment is a more important variable than accident frequency. Not only can a single accident cost many lives, it can indirectly force operational changes or even airport closure.

Relatively little data is available specifically documenting the consequences of aircraft accidents. Except with regard to numbers of deaths or injuries to people on the ground, data on various aspects of aircraft accidents must be used to infer what the consequences have been. Swath size is one useful piece of information. It indicates the area over which accident debris is spread. Swath size in turn depends upon the type of aircraft and the nature of the accident: was the aircraft in controlled flight (an engine failure for example), but then collided with something on the ground or did a catastrophic event (such as a mid-air collision or stall-spin) result in the aircraft making an uncontrolled descent? For small general aviation aircraft, the swath size data suggests that a controlled emergency landing in which the air-

craft occupants have a strong chance of surviving is possible in an area about the size of a football field: 75 feet by 300 feet or about 0.5 acre. For larger aircraft, the minimum flight speed is so much higher that the consequences for people on board and anyone on the ground are likely to be high regardless of the land use or terrain characteristics.

Compatibility Strategies

The relatively low numbers of deaths and injuries from aircraft accidents is sometimes cited as indicating that the risks are low. Clearly, though, the more people occupying the critical areas around airports, the greater the risks are. Aircraft accidents may be rare occurrences, but when they occur, the consequences can be severe.

From a land use compatibility perspective, it is therefore essential to avoid conditions that can lead to catastrophic results. Basically, the question is: what land use planning measures can be taken to reduce the severity of an aircraft accident if one occurs in a particular location near an airport? Although there is a significant overlap, specific strategies must consider both components of the safety compatibility objective: protecting people and property on the ground; and, primarily for general aviation airports, enhancing safety for aircraft occupants. In each case, the primary strategy is to limit the intensity of use (the number of people concentrated on the site) in locations most susceptible to an off-airport aircraft accident. This is accomplished by three types of criteria.

Density and Intensity Limitations

Establishment of criteria limiting the maximum number of dwellings or people in areas close to the airport is the most direct method of reducing the potential severity of an aircraft accident. In setting these criteria, consideration must be given to the two different forms of aircraft accidents: those in which the aircraft is descending, but is flying and under directional control of the pilot; and those in which the aircraft is out of control as it falls. Additionally, these data do not include the incidents in which the pilot made a successful emergency landing—the latter generally are categorized as “incidents” rather than as accidents and do not appear in the National Transportation Safety Board data from which the database in the *Handbook* is drawn.

Limits on usage intensity—the number of people per acre—must take into account both types of potential aircraft accidents. To the extent that accidents and incidents are of the controlled variety, then allowing high concentrations of people in a small area would be sensible, as long as intervening areas are little populated. However, concentrated populations present a greater risk for severe consequences in the event of an uncontrolled accident at that location. The policies in Chapter 2 address both of these circumstances. Limiting the average usage intensity over a site reduces the risks associated with either type of accident. In most types of land use development, though, people are not spread equally throughout the site. To minimize the risks from an uncontrolled accident, the policies also limit the extent to which people can be concentrated and development can be clustered in any small area.

Open Land Requirements

Creation of requirements for open land near an airport addresses the objective of enhancing safety for the occupants of an aircraft forced to make an emergency landing away from a runway. If sufficiently large and clear of obstacles, open land areas can be valuable for light aircraft anywhere near an airport. For large and high-performance aircraft, however, open land has little value for emergency landing purposes and is useful primarily where it is an extension of the clear areas immediately adjoining a runway.

Highly Risk-Sensitive Uses

Certain critical types of land uses—particularly schools, hospitals, and other uses in which the mobility of occupants is effectively limited—should be avoided near the ends of runways regardless of the number of people involved. Critical community infrastructure also should be avoided near airports. These types of facilities include power plants, electrical substations, public communications facilities and other facilities, the damage or destruction of which could cause significant adverse effects to public health and welfare well beyond the immediate vicinity of the facility. Lastly, aboveground storage of large quantities of highly flammable or hazardous materials may pose high risks if involved in an aircraft accident and therefore are generally incompatible close to runway ends.

Basis for Setting Criteria

As with noise contours, risk data by itself does not answer the question of what degree of land use restrictions should be established in response to the risks. Although most ALUCs have policies that restrict certain land use activities in locations beyond the runway protection zones, the size of the area in which restrictions are established and the specific restrictions applied vary from one county to another.

Data useful in defining the geographic extent of airport safety areas was discussed above. To set safety compatibility criteria applicable within these zones presents the fundamental question of what is safe. Expressed in another way: what is an *acceptable risk*? In one respect, it may seem ideal to reduce risks to a minimum by prohibiting most types of land use development from areas near airports. However, as addressed in the *Handbook*, there are usually costs associated with such high degrees of restrictiveness. In practice, safety criteria are set on a progressive scale with the greatest restrictions established in locations with the greatest potential for aircraft accidents.

Little established guidance is available to ALUCs regarding how restrictive to make safety criteria for various parts of an airport's environs. Unlike the case with noise, there are no formal federal or state laws or regulations which set safety criteria for airport area land uses for civilian airports except within *runway protection zones* (and with regard to airspace obstructions as described separately in the next section). Federal Aviation Administration safety criteria primarily are focused on the runway and its immediate environment. Runway protection zones—then called *clear zones*—were originally established mostly for the purpose of protecting the occupants of aircraft which overrun or land short of a runway. Now, they are defined by the FAA as intended to enhance the protection of people and property on the ground.

The most useful place from which ALUCs can begin to determine appropriate safety compatibility criteria for airport environs is the *Handbook* itself. Although not regulatory in nature, state law obligates ALUCs to “be guided by” the information presented in the *Handbook*. Suggested usage intensity limitations, measured in terms of people per acre, are set forth along with other safety criteria. Reference should be made to that document for detailed description of the suggested criteria. Three risk-related variables discussed in the *Handbook* are worth noting here, however.

= *Runway Proximity*: In general, the areas of highest risk are closest to the runway ends and secondarily along the extended runway centerline. However, many common aircraft flight tracks do not follow along the runway alignment, particularly on departures. Also, where an aircraft crashes may not be along the flight path that was intended to be followed. As indicated in Figures D2 and D3, these factors affect the risk distribution.

- = *Urban versus Rural Areas*: Irrespective of airports, people living in urban areas face different types of risks than those living in rural areas. The cost of avoiding risks differs between these two settings as well. The *Handbook* acknowledges these differences by indicating that usage intensities can be higher in heavily developed urban areas compared to partially undeveloped suburban areas or minimally developed rural locations, yet be equivalent in terms of the level of acceptable risk.
- = *Existing versus Proposed Uses*: Another distinction in compatibility policies can be drawn between existing and proposed development. It is reasonable for safety-related policies to be established which prohibit certain types of new development while considering identical existing development to be acceptable. The *Handbook* notes that cost is an important factor in this regard. The range of risks can be divided into three levels (see page 9-15 of the *Handbook*). At the bottom of this scale are negligible and acceptable risks for which no action is necessary. At the top are intolerable risks for which action is necessary regardless of the cost. In between are risks that are significant, but tolerable. Whether action should be taken to reduce these risks depends upon the costs involved. Typically, the cost of removing an incompatible development is greater than the cost of avoiding its construction in the first place.

Preparation of this *Compatibility Plan* has been greatly guided by the *Handbook* information. The *Handbook*, though, also recognizes the importance of tailoring compatibility plans to local circumstances. Such has been the case with the safety compatibility criteria included in this *Compatibility Plan*.

AIRSPACE PROTECTION

Relatively few aircraft accidents are caused by land use conditions that are hazards to flight. The potential exists, however, and protecting against it is essential to airport land use safety compatibility. In addition, and importantly, land use conditions that are hazards to flight may impact the continued viability of airport operations and limit the ability of an airport to operate in the manner identified by the airport proprietor in an adopted airport master plan and airport layout plan.

Compatibility Objective

Because airspace protection is in effect a safety factor, its objective can likewise be thought of in terms of risk. Specifically, the objective is to avoid development of land use conditions that, by posing hazards to flight, can increase the risk of an accident occurring. The particular hazards of concern are:

- = Airspace obstructions;
- = Wildlife hazards, particularly bird strikes; and
- = Land use characteristics that pose other potential hazards to flight by creating visual or electronic interference with air navigation.

The purpose of the airspace protection policies is to ensure that structures and other uses do not cause hazards to aircraft in flight in the airport vicinity. Hazards to flight include physical obstructions to the navigable airspace, wildlife hazards, particularly bird strikes and land use characteristics that create visual or electronic interference with aircraft navigation or communication. This purpose is accomplished by policies that place limits on the height of structures and other objects in the airport vicinity and restrictions on other uses that potentially pose hazards to flight.

Measurement

The measurement of requirements for airspace protection around an airport is a function of several variables including: the dimensions and layout of the runway system; the type of operating procedures established for the airport; and, indirectly, the performance capabilities of aircraft operated at the airport.

= *Airspace Obstructions*: Whether a particular object constitutes an airspace obstruction depends upon two factors: the height of the object relative to the runway elevation; and its proximity to the airport. The acceptable height of objects near an airport is most commonly determined by application of standards set forth in Federal Aviation Regulations (FAR) Part 77, *Objects Affecting Navigable Airspace*. These regulations establish a three-dimensional space in the air above an airport. Any object which penetrates this volume of airspace is considered to be an “obstruction” and may affect the aeronautical use of the airspace. Additionally, as described below, another set of airspace protection surfaces is defined by the U.S. *Standard for Terminal Instrument Procedures*, known as TERPS. Although the intended function of these standards is in design of instrument approach and departure procedures, they can be important in land use compatibility planning in situations where ground elevations near an airport exceed the FAR Part 77 criteria.

= *Wildlife and Other Hazards to Flight*: The significance of other potential hazards to flight is principally measured in terms of the hazards’ specific characteristics and their distance from the airport and/or its normal traffic patterns.

Compatibility Strategies

Compatibility strategies for the protection of airport airspace are relatively simple and are directly associated with the individual types of hazards:

= *Airspace Obstructions*: Buildings, antennas, other types of structures, and trees should be limited in height so as not to pose a potential hazard to flight.

= *Wildlife and Other Hazards to Flight*: Land uses that may create other types of hazards to flight near an airport should be avoided or modified so as not to include the offending characteristic.

Basis for Setting Criteria

The criteria for determining airspace obstructions have been long-established in FAR Part 77. Also, state of California regulation of obstructions under the State Aeronautics Act (Public Utilities Code, Section 21659) is based on FAR Part 77 criteria. A shortcoming of FAR Part 77 criteria, however, is that they often are too generic to fit the conditions specific to individual airports. The airspace protection surfaces defined in these regulations can be either more or less restrictive than appropriate for a particular airport. The surfaces can be less restrictive than essential in instances where an instrument approach procedure or their missed approach segments are not aligned with the runway. FAR Part 77 also does not take into account instrument departure procedures which, at some airports, can have critical airspace requirements. Oppositely, FAR Part 77 provides no useful guidance as to acceptable heights of objects located where the ground level already penetrates the airspace surfaces.

To define airspace protection surfaces better suited to these situations, reference must be made the TERPS standards mentioned above. These standards are used for creation of instrument approach and departure procedures. Thus they exactly match the procedures in effect at an individual airport. Unlike the FAR Part 77 surfaces, the elevations of which are set relative to the runway end elevations irrespec-

tive of surrounding terrain and obstacles, the TERPS surface elevations are directly determined by the location and elevation of critical obstacles. By design, neither the ground nor any obstacles can penetrate a TERPS surface. However, construction of a tall object that penetrates a TERPS surface can dictate immediate modifications to the location and elevation of the surfaces and directly cause minimum flight visibility and altitudes to be raised or the instrument course to be realigned. In severe instances, obstructions can force a procedure to be cancelled altogether. A significant downside to use of TERPS surfaces for compatibility planning purposes is that they are highly complex compared to the relative simplicity of FAR Part 77 surfaces. Also, the configuration and/or elevations of TERPS surfaces can change not only in response to new obstacles, but as implementation of new navigational technologies permits additional or modified instrument procedures to be established at an airport.

In the Compatibility Policy Map: Airspace Protection presented in Chapter 2 of this *Compatibility Plan*, primary reliance is placed upon FAR Part 77 criteria. Where an instrument approach procedure is established, the associated TERPS surfaces are depicted as well. In most locations, the TERPS surfaces are well above the underlying terrain and present no significant constraint on land use development. As a precaution to help ensure that tall towers or antennas located on high terrain do not penetrate a TERPS surface, places where the ground elevation comes within 100 feet of a TERPS surface are shown on the map.

Among other hazards to flight, bird strikes no doubt represent the most widespread concern. The FAA recommends that uses known to attract birds—sanitary landfills being a primary example—be kept at least 10,000 feet away from any runway used by turbine-powered aircraft. More information regarding criteria for avoidance of uses that can attract wildlife to airports can be found in FAA Advisory Circulars 150/5200-34 and 150/5300-33.

Other flight hazards include land uses that may cause visual or electronic hazards to aircraft in flight or taking off or landing at the airport. Specific characteristics to be avoided include sources of glare or bright lights, distracting lights that could be mistaken for airport lights, sources of dust, steam, or smoke that may impair pilot visibility, and sources of electrical interference with aircraft communications or navigation.

Zone	Description	Nominal Dimensions (California Airport Land Use Planning Handbook)	Relative Risk Level	Nature of Accident Risk	% of Accidents in Zone (Handbook Database)
1	Runway Protection Zone and within Runway Primary Surface primarily on airport property; airport ownership encouraged	Depending upon approach visibility minimums: 1,200 feet minimum, 2,700 feet maximum beyond runway ends; 125 to 500 feet from centerline adjacent to runway (zone dimensions established by FAA standards) Acreage (one runway end): 8 to 79 (RPZ only)	Very High	Landing undershoots and overshoots; overruns on aborted takeoffs; loss of control on takeoff	Arrivals: 28%–56% Departures: 23%–29% Total: 33%–39%
2	Inner Safety Zone	Along extended runway centerline, to a distance of 2,000 feet minimum, 6,000 feet maximum beyond runway ends Acreage (one runway end): 44 to 114	High	Aircraft at low altitude with limited directional options in emergencies: typically under 400 feet on landing; on takeoff, engine at maximum stress	Arrivals: 9%–15% Departures: 3%–28% Total: 8%–22%
3	Inner Turning Zone	Fan-shaped area adjacent to Zone 2 extending 2,000 feet minimum, 4,000 feet maximum from runway ends Acreage (one runway end): 50 to 151	Moderate	Turns at low altitude on arrival for aircraft flying tight base leg present stall-spin potential; likely touchdown area if emergency at low altitude on takeoff, especially to left of centerline	Arrivals: 2%–6% Departures: 5%–9% Total: 4%–7%
4	Outer Safety Zone	Along extended runway centerline extending 3,500 feet minimum, 10,000 feet maximum beyond runway ends Acreage (one runway end): 35 to 92	Low to Moderate	Low altitude overflight for aircraft on straight-in approaches, especially instrument approaches; on departure, aircraft normally complete transition from takeoff power and flap settings to climb mode and begin turns to en route heading	Arrivals: 3%–8% Departures: 2%–4% Total: 2%–6%
5	Sideline Zone primarily on airport property	Adjacent to runway, 500 feet minimum, 1,000 feet maximum from centerline Acreage: varies with runway length	Low to Moderate	Low risk on landing; moderate risk from loss of directional control on takeoff, especially with twin-engine aircraft	Arrivals: 1%–3% Departures: 5%–8% Total: 3%–5%
6	Traffic Pattern Zone	Oval area around other zones: 5,000 feet minimum, 10,000 feet maximum beyond runway ends; 4,500 feet minimum, 6,000 feet maximum from runway centerline Acreage: varies with runway length	Low	Significant percentage of accidents, but spread over wide area; widely varied causes	Arrivals: 10%–21% Departures: 24%–39% Total: 18%–29%

Table D1

Safety Zone Aircraft Accident Risk Characteristic

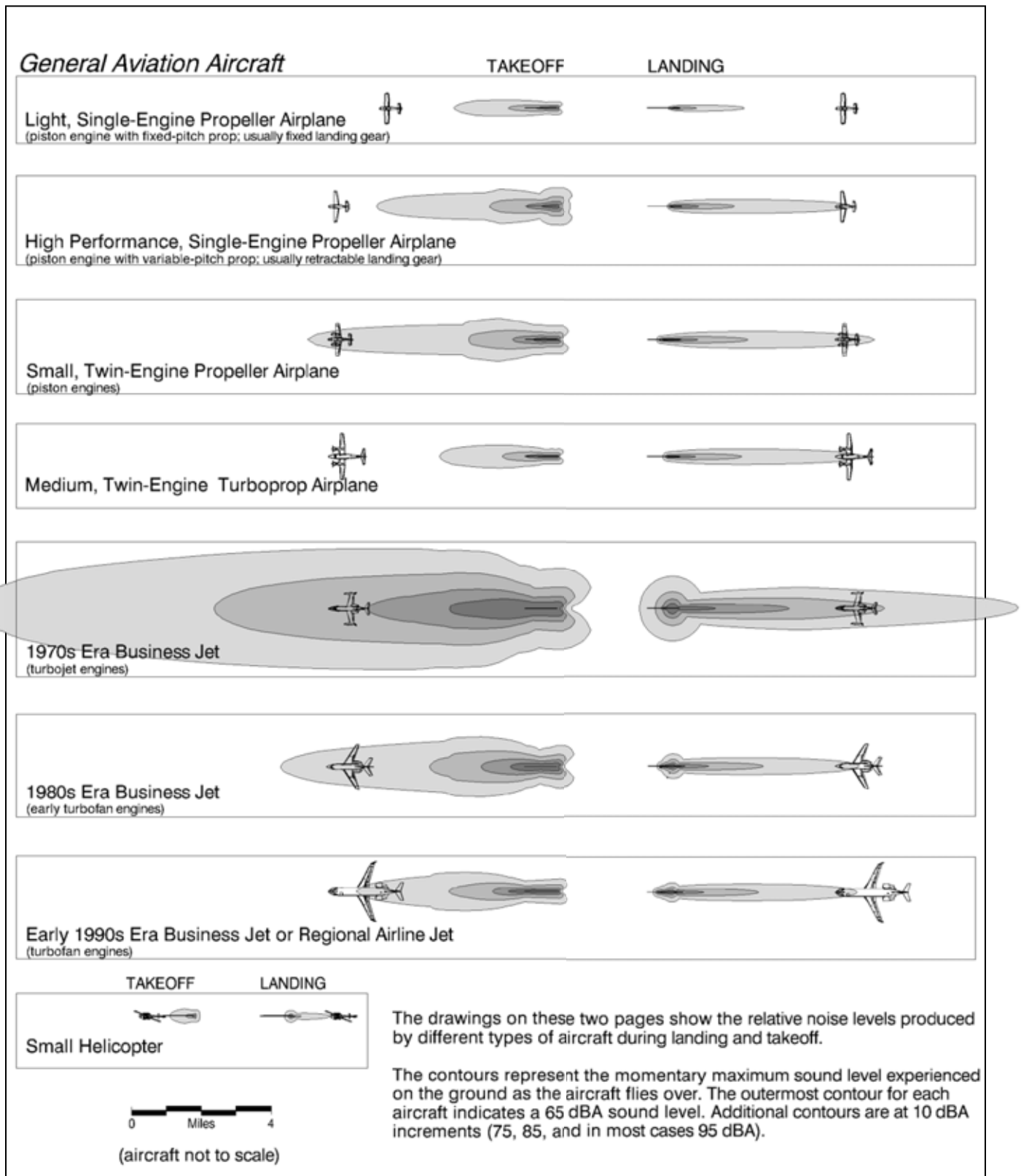


Figure D1

Noise Footprints of Selected Aircraft

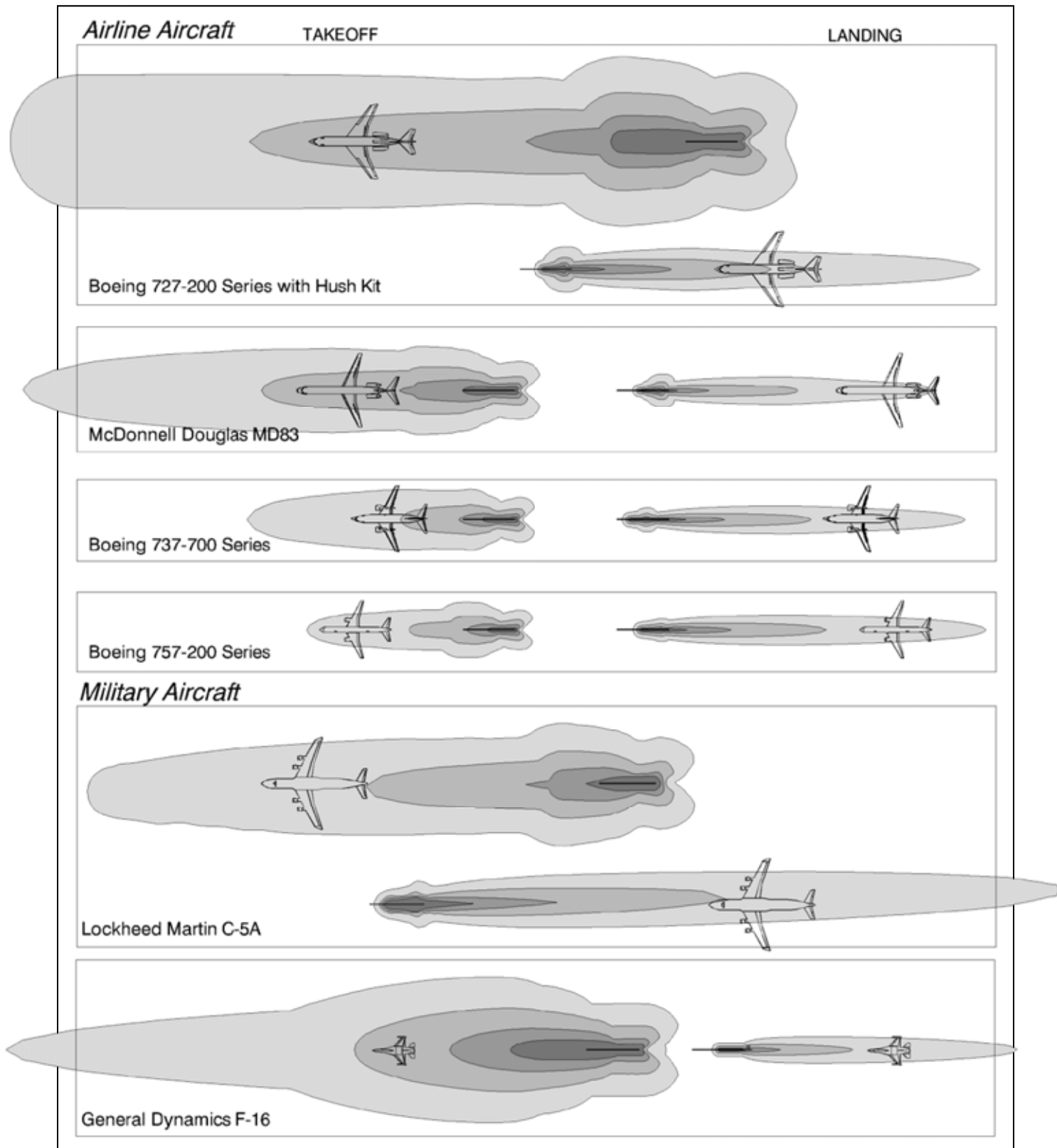


Figure D1, continued

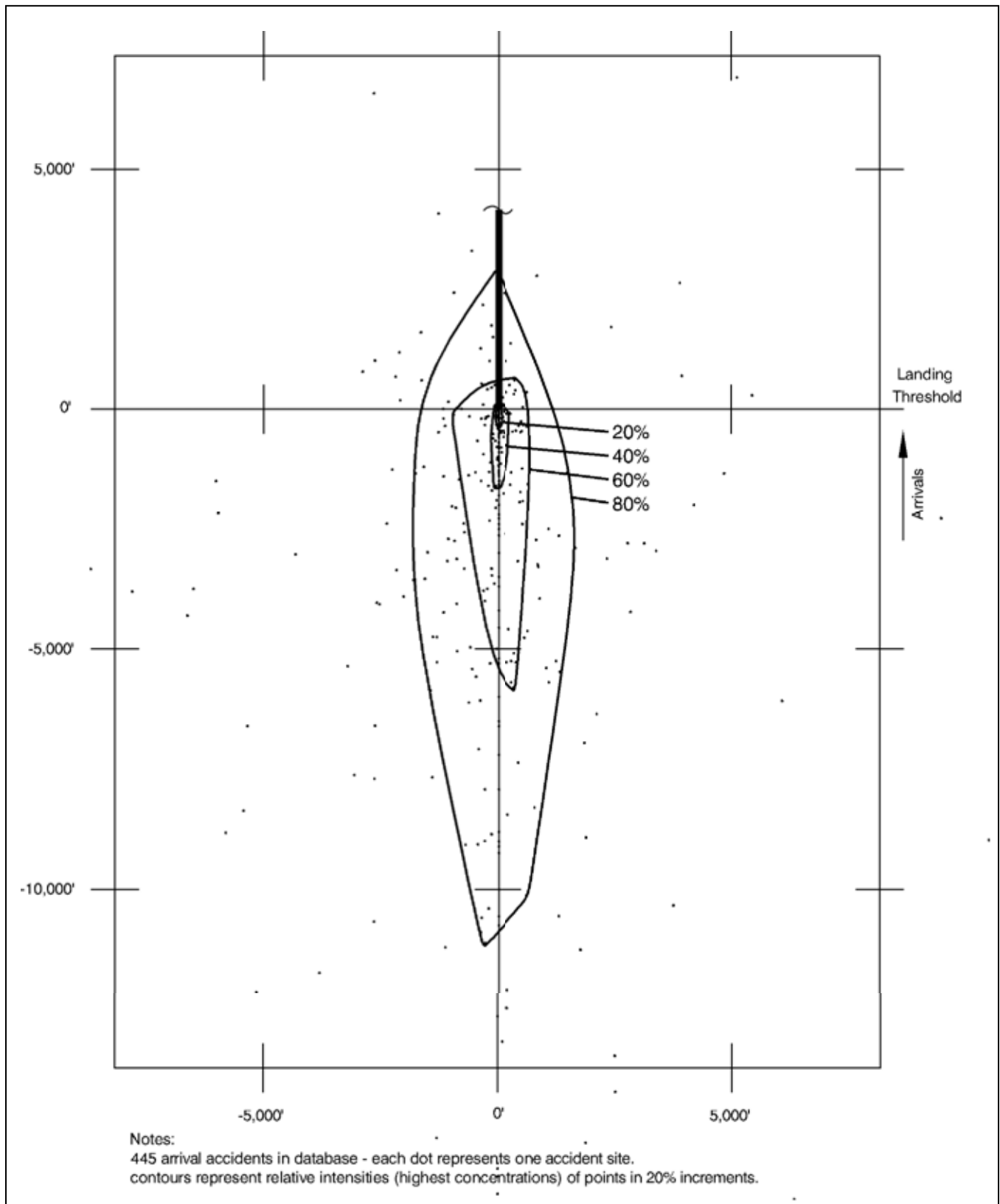


Figure D2

General Aviation Accident Distribution Contours

All Arrivals

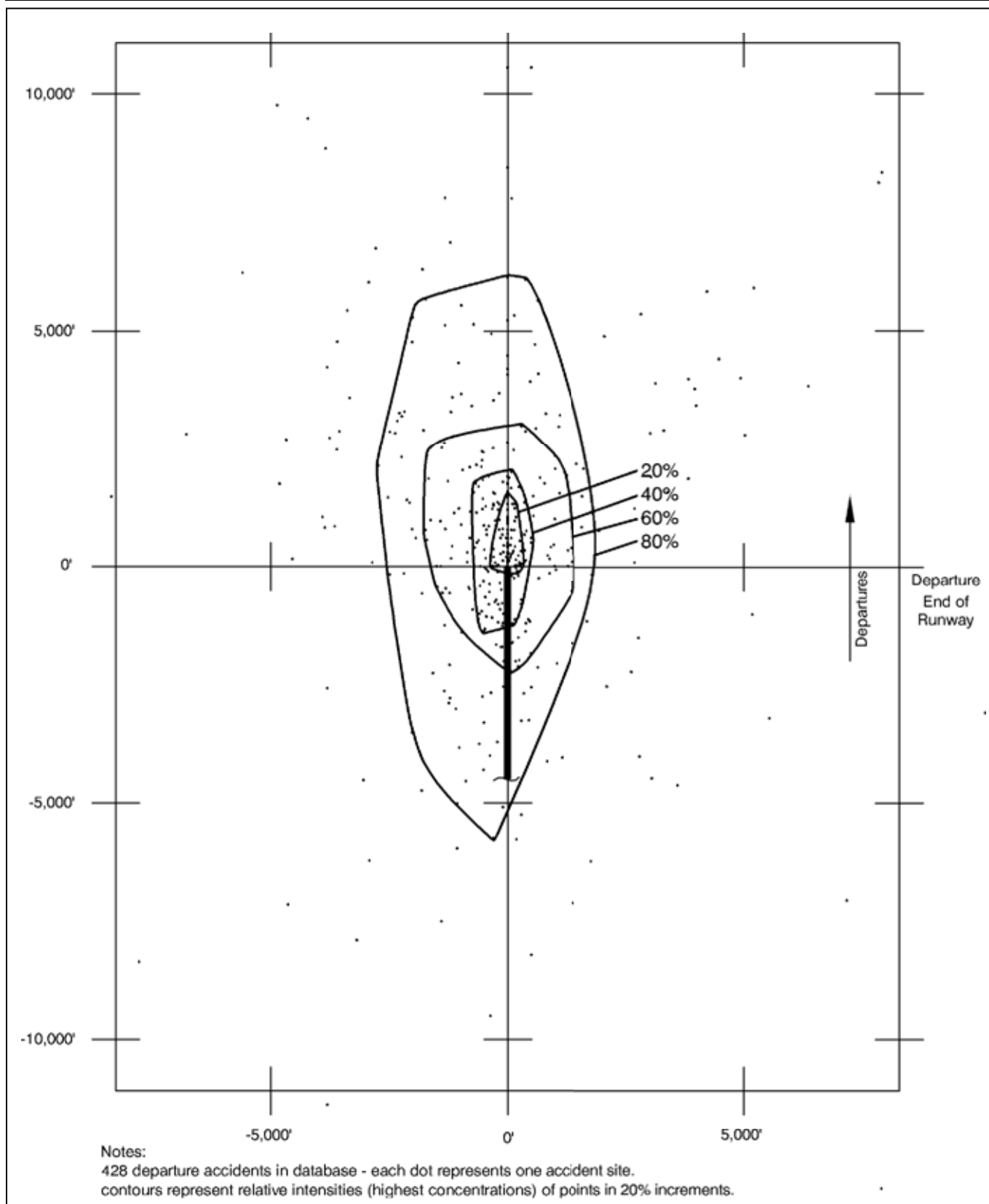


Figure D3

General Aviation Accident Distribution Contours

All Departures

Methods for Determining Concentrations of People

INTRODUCTION

The underlying safety compatibility criterion employed in this *Compatibility Plan* is “usage intensity”—the maximum number of people per acre that can be present in a given area at any one time. If a proposed use exceeds the maximum intensity, it is considered incompatible and thus inconsistent with compatibility planning policies. The usage intensity concept is identified in the *California Airport Land Use Planning Handbook* as the measure best suited for assessment of land use safety compatibility with airports. The *Handbook* is published by the California Division of Aeronautics and is required under state law to be used as a guide in preparation of airport land use compatibility plans.

It is recognized, though, that “people per acre” is not a common measure in other facets of land use planning. This *Compatibility Plan* therefore also utilizes the more common measure of floor area ratio (FAR) as a means of implementing the usage intensity criteria on the local level. This appendix both provides guidance on how the usage intensity determination can be made and defines the relationships between this measure, FAR, and other measures found in land use planning. For a discussion of the rationale for use of people per acre as a measure of risk exposure, see Appendix D.

COUNTING PEOPLE

The most difficult part about calculating a use’s intensity is estimating the number of people expected to use a particular facility under normal circumstances. All people—not just employees, but also customers and visitors—who may be on the property at a single point in time, whether indoors or outside, must be counted. The only exceptions are for rare special events, such as an air show at an airport, for which a facility is not designed and normally not used and for which extra safety precautions can be taken as appropriate.

Ideally, the actual number of people for which the facility is designed would be known. For example, the number of seats in a proposed movie theater can be determined with high accuracy once the theater size is decided. Other buildings, though, may be built as a shell and the eventual number of occupants not known until a specific tenant is found. Furthermore, even then, the number of occupants can change in the future as tenants change. Even greater uncertainty is involved with relatively open uses not having fixed seating—retail stores or sports parks, for example.

Absent clearly measurable occupancy numbers, other sources must be relied upon to estimate the number of people in a proposed development.

Survey of Similar Uses

A survey of similar uses already in existence is one option. Gathering data in this manner can be time-consuming and costly, however. Also, unless the survey sample is sufficiently large and conducted at

various times, inconsistent numbers may result. Except for uncommon uses for which occupancy levels cannot be estimated through other means, surveys are most appropriate as supplemental information.

Maximum Occupancy

A second option for estimating the number of people who will be on a site is to rely upon data indicating the maximum occupancy of a building measured in terms of occupancy load factor—the number of square feet per occupant. The number of people on the site, assuming limited outdoor or peripheral uses, can be calculated by dividing the total floor area of a proposed use by the occupancy load factor. The challenge of this methodology lies in establishing realistic figures for square feet per occupant. The number varies greatly from one use to another and, for some uses, has changed over time as well.

A commonly used source of maximum occupancy data is the standards set in the California Building Code (CBC). The chart reproduced as Table E1 indicates the occupancy load factors for various types of uses. The CBC, though, is intended primarily for purposes of structural design and fire safety and represents a legal maximum occupancy in most jurisdictions. A CBC-based methodology consequently results in occupancy numbers that are higher than normal maximum usage in most instances. The numbers also are based upon usable floor area and do not take into account corridors, stairs, building equipment rooms, and other functions that are part of a building's gross square footage. Surveys of actual occupancy load factors conducted by various agencies have indicated that many retail and office uses are generally occupied at no more than 50% of their maximum occupancy levels, even at the busiest times of day. Therefore, the *Handbook* indicates that the number of people calculated for office and retail uses can usually be divided in half to reflect the actual occupancy levels before making the final people-per-acre determination. Even with this adjustment, the CBC-based methodology typically produces intensities at the high end of the likely range.

Another source of data on square footage per occupant comes from the facility management industry. The data is used to help businesses determine how much building space they need to build or lease and thus tends to be more generous than the CBC standards. The numbers vary not only by the type of facility, as with the CBC, but also by type of industry. The following are selected examples of square footage per *employee* gathered from a variety of sources.

= Call centers	150 – 175
= Typical offices	180 – 250
= Law, finance, real estate offices	300 – 325
= Research & development, light industry	300 – 500
= Health services	500

The numbers above do not take into account the customers who may also be present for certain uses. For retail business, dining establishments, theaters, and other uses where customers outnumber employees, either direct measures of occupancy—the number of seats, for example—or other methodologies must be used to estimate the potential number of people on the site.

Parking Space Requirements

For many jurisdictions and a wide variety of uses, the number of people present on a site can be calculated based upon the number of automobile parking spaces that are required. Certain limitations and

assumptions must be considered when applying this methodology, however. An obvious limitation is that parking space requirements can be correlated with occupancy numbers only where nearly all users arrive by private vehicle rather than by public transportation, walking, or other method. Secondly, the jurisdiction needs to have a well-defined parking ordinance that lists parking space requirements for a wide range of land uses. For most uses, these requirements are typically stated in terms of the number of parking spaces that must be provided per 1,000 square feet of gross building size or a similar ratio. Lastly, assumptions must be made with regard to the average number of people who will arrive in each car.

Both of the critical ratios associated with this methodology—parking spaces to building size and occupants to vehicles—vary from one jurisdiction to another even for the same types of uses. Research of local ordinances and other sources, though, indicates that the following ratios are typical.

- > **Parking Space Ratios**—These examples of required parking space requirements are typical of those found in ordinances adopted by urban and suburban jurisdictions. The numbers are ratios of spaces required per 1,000 square feet of gross floor area. Gross floor area is normally measured to the outside surfaces of a building and includes all floor levels as well as stairways, elevators, storage, and mechanical rooms.

= Small Restaurants	10.0
= Medical Offices	4.0 – 5.7
= Shopping Centers	4.0 – 5.0
= Health Clubs	3.3 – 5.0
= Business Professional Offices	3.3 – 4.0
= Retail Stores	3.0 – 3.5
= Research & Development	2.5 – 4.0
= Manufacturing	2.0 – 2.5
= Furniture, Building Supply Stores	0.7 – 1.0

- > **Vehicle Occupancy**—Data indicating the average number of people occupying each vehicle parking at a particular business or other land use can be found in various transportation surveys. The numbers vary both from one community or region to another and over time, thus current local data is best if available. The following data represent typical vehicle occupancy for different trip purposes.

= Work	1.05 – 1.2
= Education	1.2 – 2.0
= Medical	1.5 – 1.7
= Shopping	1.5 – 1.8
= Dining, Social, Recreational	1.7 – 2.3

USAGE INTENSITY RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER DEVELOPMENT MEASURES

Calculating Usage Intensities

Once the number of people expected in a particular development—both over the entire site and within individual buildings—has been estimated, the usage intensity can be calculated. The criteria in Chapter 3 of this *Compatibility Plan* are measured in terms of the average intensity over the entire project site.

The average intensity is calculated by dividing the total number of people on the site by the site size. A 10-acre site expected to be occupied by as many as 1,000 people at a time, thus would have an average intensity of 100 people per acre. The site size equals the total size of the parcel or parcels to be developed.

Having calculated the usage intensities of a proposed development, a comparison can be made with the criteria set forth in the *Compatibility Plan* to determine whether the proposal is consistent or inconsistent with the policies.

Comparison with Floor Area Ratio

As noted earlier, usage intensity or people per acre is not a common metric in land use planning. Floor area ratio or FAR—the gross square footage of the buildings on a site divided by the site size—is a more common measure in land use planning. Some counties and cities adopt explicit FAR limits in their zoning ordinance or other policies. Those that do not set FAR limits often have other requirements such as, a maximum number of floors a building can have, minimum setback distances from the property line, and minimum number of parking spaces. These requirements effectively limit the floor area ratio as well.

To facilitate local jurisdiction implementation, the Safety Compatibility Criteria table in Chapter 3 has been structured around FAR measures to determine usage intensity limits for many types of nonresidential land use development. To utilize FAR in this manner, a critical additional piece of information is necessary to overcome the major shortcoming of FAR as a safety compatibility measure. The problem with FAR is that it does not directly correlate with risks to people because different types of buildings with the same FAR can have vastly different numbers of people inside—a low-intensity warehouse versus a high-intensity restaurant, for example. For FAR to be applied as a factor in setting development limitations, assumptions must be made as to how much space each person (employees and others) in the building will occupy. The Safety Compatibility Criteria table therefore indicates the assumed occupancy load factor for various land uses. Mathematically, the relationship between usage intensity and FAR is:

$$\text{FAR} = \frac{(\text{allowable usage intensity}) \times (\text{occupancy load factor})}{43,560}$$

where *usage intensity* is measured in terms of people per acre and *occupancy load factor* as square feet per person.

Selection of the usage intensity, occupancy level, and FAR numbers that appear in the Safety Compatibility Criteria table was done in an iterative manner that considered each of the components both separately and together. Usage intensities were initially set with respect to guidelines provided in the *California Airport Land Use Planning Handbook* (see Appendix D of this *Compatibility Plan*). Occupancy levels were derived from the CBC, but were adjusted based upon additional research from both local and na-

tional sources in the manner discussed earlier in this appendix. The FAR limits were initially calculated from these other two numbers using the formula above.

Comparison with Parking Space Requirements

As discussed above, many jurisdictions have adopted parking space requirements that vary from one land use type to another. Factoring in an estimated vehicle occupancy rate for various land uses as described earlier, the occupancy load factor can be calculated. For example, a typical parking space requirement for office uses is 4.0 spaces per 1,000 square feet or 1 space per 250 square feet. If each vehicle is assumed to be occupied by 1.1 persons, the equivalent occupancy load factor would be 1 person per 227 square feet. This number falls squarely within the range noted above that was found through separate research of norms used by the facility management industry.

As an added note, the occupancy load factor of 215 square feet per person indicated in the Safety Compatibility Criteria table for office uses is slightly more conservative than the above calculation produces. This means that, for a given usage intensity standard, the FAR limit in the table is slightly more restrictive than would result from a higher occupancy load factor.

Use		Minimum Square Feet per Occupant
1.	Aircraft Hangars (no repair)	500
2.	Auction Rooms	7
3.	Assembly Areas, Concentrated Use (without fixed seats)	7
	Auditoriums	
	Churches and Chapels	
	Dance Floors	
	Lobby Accessory to Assembly Occupancy	
	Lodge Rooms	
	Reviewing Stands	
	Stadiums	
	Waiting Areas	3
4.	Assembly Areas, Less Concentrated Use	15
	Conference Rooms	
	Dining Rooms	
	Drinking Establishments	
	Exhibit Rooms	
	Gymnasiums	
	Lounges	
	Stages	
	Gaming	11
5.	Bowling Alley (assume no occupant load for bowling lanes)	4
6.	Children's Homes and Homes for the Aged	80
7.	Classrooms	20
8.	Congregate Residences	200
9.	Courtrooms	40
10.	Dormitories	50
11.	Dwellings	300
12.	Exercising Rooms	50
13.	Garage, Parking	200
14.	Health-Care Facilities	80
	Sleeping Rooms	120
	Treatment Rooms	240
15.	Hotels and Apartments	200
16.	Kitchen – Commercial	200
17.	Library Reading Room	50
	Stack Areas	100
18.	Locker Rooms	50
19.	Malls	Varies
20.	Manufacturing Areas	200
21.	Mechanical Equipment Room	300
22.	Nurseries for Children (Daycare)	35
23.	Offices	100
24.	School Shops and Vocational Rooms	50
25.	Skating Rinks	50 on the skating area; 15 on the deck
26.	Storage and Stock Rooms	300
27.	Stores – Retail Sales Rooms	
	Basements and Ground Floors	30
	Upper Floors	60
28.	Swimming Pools	50 for the pool area; 15 on the deck
29.	Warehouses	500
30.	All Others	100

Source: California Building Code (2001), Table 10-A

Table E1

Occupant Load Factors

California Building Code

General Plan Consistency Checklist

This checklist is intended to assist counties and cities with modifications necessary to make their general plans and other local policies consistent with the ALUC's compatibility plan. It is also designed to facilitate ALUC reviews of these local plans and policies. The list will need to be modified to reflect the policies of each individual ALUC and is not intended as a state requirement.

COMPATIBILITY CRITERIA

General Plan Document

The following items typically appear directly in a general plan document. Amendment of the general plan will be required if there are any conflicts with the compatibility plan.

- > **Land Use Map**—No direct conflicts should exist between proposed new land uses indicated on a general plan land use map and the ALUC land use compatibility criteria.
 - = Residential densities (dwelling units per acre) should not exceed the set limits. Differences between gross and net densities and the potential for secondary dwellings on single parcels (see below) may need to be taken into account.
 - = Proposed nonresidential development needs to be assessed with respect to applicable intensity limits (see below).
 - = No new land uses of a type listed as specifically prohibited should be shown within affected areas.
- > **Noise Element**—General plan noise elements typically include criteria indicating the maximum noise exposure for which residential development is normally acceptable. This limit must be made consistent with the equivalent compatibility plan criteria. Note, however, that a general plan may establish a different limit with respect to aviation-related noise than for noise from other sources (this may be appropriate in that aviation-related noise is often judged to be more objectionable than other types of equally loud noises).

Zoning or Other Policy Documents

The following items need to be reflected either in the general plan or in a separate policy document such as a combining zone ordinance. If a separate policy document is adopted, modification of the general plan to achieve consistency with the compatibility plan may not be required. Modifications would normally be needed only to eliminate any conflicting language which may be present and to make reference to the separate policy document.

- > **Secondary Dwellings**—Detached secondary dwellings on the same parcel should be counted as additional swellings for the purposes of density calculations. This factor needs to be reflected in local policies either by adjusting the maximum allowable densities or by prohibiting secondary dwellings where their presence would conflict with the compatibility criteria.
- > **Intensity Limitations on Nonresidential Uses**—Local policies must be established to limit the usage intensities of commercial, industrial, and other nonresidential land uses. This can be done by duplication of the performance-oriented criteria—specifically, the number of people per acre—indicated in the compatibility plan. Alternatively, local jurisdictions may create a detailed list of land uses which are allowable and/or not allowable within each compatibility zone. For certain land uses, such a list may need to include limits on building sizes, floor area ratios, habitable floors, and/or other design parameters which are equivalent to the usage intensity criteria.
- > **Identification of Prohibited Uses**—Compatibility plans may prohibit day care centers, hospitals, and certain other uses within much of each airport's influence area. The facilities often are permitted or conditionally permitted uses within many commercial or industrial land use designations. Policies need to be established which preclude these uses in accordance with the compatibility criteria.

Zoning or Other Policy Documents, Continued

- > **Open Land Requirements**—Compatibility plan requirements, if any, for assuring that a minimum amount of open land is preserved for the airport vicinity must be reflected in local policies. Normally, the locations which are intended to be maintained as open land would be identified on a map with the total acreage within each compatibility zone indicated. If some of the area included as open land is private property, then policies must be established which assure that the open land will continue to exist as the property develops. Policies specifying the required characteristics of eligible open land also must be established.
- > **Infill Development**—If a compatibility plan contains infill policies and a jurisdiction wishes to take advantage of them, the lands which meet the qualifications must be shown on a map.
- > **Height Limitations and Other Hazards to Flight**—To protect the airport airspace, limitations must be set on the height of structures and other objects near airports. These limitations are to be based upon Part 77 of the Federal Aviation Regulations, but may include exceptions for objects on high terrain if provided for in the compatibility plan. Restrictions also must be established on other land use characteristics which can cause hazards to flight (specifically, visual or electronic interference with navigation and uses which attract birds). Note that many jurisdictions have already adopted an airport-related hazard and height limit zoning ordinance which, if up to date, will satisfy this consistency requirement.
- > **Noise Insulation Requirements**—Some compatibility plans call for certain buildings proposed for construction within high noise-impact areas to demonstrate that they will contain sufficient sound insulation to reduce aircraft-related noise to an acceptable level. These criteria apply to new residences, schools, and certain other buildings containing noise-sensitive uses. Local policies must include parallel criteria.
- > **Buyer Awareness Measures**—As a condition for approval of development within certain compatibility zones, some compatibility plans require either dedication of an avigation easement to the airport proprietor or placement on deeds of a notice regarding airport impacts. If so, local jurisdiction policies must contain similar requirements. Compatibility plans also may encourage, but should not require, local jurisdictions to adopt a policy stating that airport proximity and the potential for aircraft overflights be disclosed as part of real estate transactions regarding property in the airport influence area.
- > **Nonconforming Uses and Reconstruction**—Local jurisdiction policies regarding nonconforming uses and reconstruction must be equivalent to or more restrictive than those in the compatibility plan, if any.

Source: *California Airport Land Use Planning Handbook* (January 2002)

REVIEW PROCEDURES

In addition to incorporation of ALUC compatibility criteria, local jurisdiction implementing documents must specify the manner in which development proposals will be reviewed for consistency with the compatibility criteria.

- > **Actions Always Required to be Submitted for ALUC Review**—State law specifies which types of development actions must be submitted for airport land use commission review. Local policies should either list these actions or, at a minimum, note the jurisdiction's intent to comply with the state statute.
- > **Other Land Use Actions Potentially Subject to ALUC Review**—In addition to the above actions, compatibility plan may identify certain major land use actions for which referral to the ALUC is dependent upon agreement between the jurisdiction and the ALUC. If the jurisdiction fully complies with all of the items in this general plan consistency check list or has taken the necessary steps to overrule the ALUC, then referral of the additional actions is voluntary. On the other hand, a jurisdiction may elect not to incorporate all of the necessary compatibility criteria and review procedures into its own policies. In this case, referral of major land use actions to the ALUC is mandatory. Local policies should indicate the jurisdiction's intentions in this regard.
- > **Process for Compatibility Reviews by Local Jurisdictions**—If a jurisdiction chooses to submit only the mandatory actions for ALUC review, then it must establish a policy indicating the procedures which will be used to assure that airport compatibility criteria are addressed during review of other projects. Possibilities include: a standard review procedure checklist which includes reference to compatibility criteria; use of a geographic information system to identify all parcels within the airport influence area; etc.
- > **Variance Procedures**—Local procedures for granting of variances to the zoning ordinance must make certain that any such variances do not result in a conflict with the compatibility criteria. Any variance which involves issues of noise, safety, airspace protection, or overflight compatibility as addressed in the compatibility plan must be referred to the ALUC for review.
- > **Enforcement**—Policies must be established to assure compliance with compatibility criteria during the lifetime of the development. Enforcement procedures are especially necessary with regard to limitations on usage intensities and the heights of trees. An airport combining district zoning ordinance is one means of implementing enforcement requirements.

Sample Implementation Documents

The responsibility for implementation of the compatibility criteria set forth in the *Hollister Municipal Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan* rests largely with the San Benito County Council of Governments (SBCOG), acting in its capacity as the Airport Land Use Commission (ALUC) for the Cities of Hollister and San Juan Batista and the County of San Benito. As described in Appendix F, modification of general plans and specific plans for consistency with applicable compatibility plans is the major step in this process. However, not all of the measures necessary for achievement of airport land use compatibility are necessarily included in general plans and specific plans. Other types of documents also serve to implement the *Compatibility Plan* policies. Samples of such implementation documents are included in this appendix.

Airport Combining Zone Ordinance

As noted in Chapter 1 of this document, one option that the affected local jurisdictions can utilize to implement airport land use compatibility criteria and associated policies is adoption of an airport combining zone ordinance. An airport combining zone ordinance is a way of collecting various airport-related development conditions into one local policy document. Adoption of a combining zone is not required, but is suggested as an option. Table G1 describes some of the potential components of an airport combining zone ordinance.

Buyer Awareness Measures

Buyer awareness is an umbrella category for several types of implementation documents all of which have the objective of ensuring that prospective buyers of airport area property, particularly residential property, are informed about the airport's impact on the property. The *Hollister Municipal Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan* policies include each of these measures.

- > **Avigation Easement**—Avigation easements transfer certain property rights from the owner of the underlying property to the owner of an airport or, in the case of military airports, to a local government agency on behalf of the federal government (the U.S. Department of Defense is not authorized to accept avigation easements). This *Compatibility Plan* requires avigation easement dedication as a condition for approval of development on property subject to high noise levels or a need to restrict heights of structures and trees to less than might ordinarily occur on the property. Specific easement dedication requirements are set forth in Chapter 2. Also, airports may require avigation easements in conjunction with programs for noise insulation of existing structures in the airport vicinity. A sample of a standard avigation easement is included in Table G2.
- > **Recorded Overflight Notification**—An overflight notification informs property owners that the property is subject to aircraft overflight and generation of noise and other impacts. No restrictions on the heights of objects, requirements for marking or lighting of objects, or access to the property for these purposes are included. An overflight notification serves only as buyer acceptance of overflight conditions. Suggested wording of an overflight notification is included in Table G3. Un-

like an aviation easement, overflight easement, or other type of easement, an overflight notification is not a conveyance of property rights. However, like an easement, an overflight notification is recorded on the property deed and therefore remains in effect with sale of the property to subsequent owners. Overflight notifications are generally appropriate in areas outside the 60 dB CNEL noise contour, outside Safety Zones, and within areas where the height of structures and other objects would not pose a significant potential of being airspace obstruction hazards.

- > **Real Estate Disclosure**—A less definitive, but more all-encompassing, form of buyer awareness measure is for the ALUC and local jurisdictions to establish a policy indicating that information about an airport's influence area should be disclosed to prospective buyers of all airport-vicinity properties prior to transfer of title. The advantage of this type of program is that it applies to previously existing land uses as well as to new development. The requirement for disclosure of information about the proximity of an airport has been present in state law for some time, but legislation adopted in 2002 and effective in January 2004 explicitly ties the requirement to the airport influence areas established by airport land use commissions (see Appendix B for excerpts from sections of the Business and Professions Code and Civil Code that define these requirements). With certain exceptions, these statutes require disclosure of a property's location within an airport influence area under any of the following three circumstances: (1) sale or lease of subdivided lands; (2) sale of common interest developments; and (3) sale of residential real property. In each case, the disclosure statement to be used is defined by state law as follows:

NOTICE OF AIRPORT IN VICINITY

This property is presently located in the vicinity of an airport, within what is known as an airport influence area. For that reason, the property may be subject to some of the annoyances or inconveniences associated with proximity to airport operations (for example: noise, vibration, or odors). Individual sensitivities to those annoyances can vary from person to person. You may wish to consider what airport annoyances, if any, are associated with the property before you complete your purchase and determine whether they are acceptable to you.

An airport compatibility combining zoning ordinance might include some or all of the following components:

- > **Airspace Protection**—A combining district can establish restrictions on the height of buildings, antennas, trees, and other objects as necessary to protect the airspace needed for operation of the airport. These restrictions should be based upon the current version of the Federal Aviation Regulations (FAR) Part 77, *Objects Affecting Navigable Airspace*, Subpart C. Additions or adjustment to take into account instrument approach (TERPS) surfaces should be made as necessary. Provisions prohibiting smoke, glare, bird attractions, and other hazards to flight should also be included.
- > **Maximum Densities/Intensities**—Airport noise and safety compatibility criteria are frequently expressed in terms of dwelling units per acre for residential uses and people per acre for other land uses. These standards can either be directly included in a combining zone or used to modify the underlying land use designations. For residential land uses, the correlation between the compatibility criteria and land use designations is direct. For other land uses, the method of calculating the intensity limitations needs to be defined. Alternatively, a matrix can be established indicating whether each specific type of land use is compatible with each compatibility zone. To be useful, the land use categories need to be more detailed than typically provided by general plan or zoning ordinance land use designations.
- > **FAA Notification Requirements**—Combining districts also can be used to ensure that project developers are informed about the need for compliance with the notification requirements of FAR Part 77. Subpart B of the regulations requires that the proponent of any project which exceeds a specified set of height criteria submit a Notice of Proposed Construction or Alteration (Form 7460-1) to the Federal Aviation Administration prior to commencement of construction. The height criteria associated with this notification requirement are lower than those spelled out in Part 77, Subpart C, which defines airspace obstructions. The purpose of the notification is to determine if the proposed construction would constitute a potential hazard or obstruction to flight. Notification is not required for proposed structures that would be shielded by existing structures or by natural terrain of equal or greater height, where it is obvious that the proposal would not adversely affect air safety.
- > **Open Areas for Emergency Landing of Aircraft**—In most circumstances in which an accident involving a small aircraft occurs near an airport, the aircraft is under control as it descends. When forced to make an off-airport emergency landing, pilots will usually attempt to do so in the most open areas readily available. To enhance safety both for people on the ground and the occupants of the aircraft, airport compatibility plans often contain criteria requiring a certain amount of open land near airports. These criteria are most effectively carried out by planning at the general or specific plan level, but may also need to be included in a combining district so that they will be applied to development of large parcels. Adequate open areas can often be provided by clustering of development on adjacent land.
- > **State Regulation of Obstructions**—State law prohibits anyone from constructing or altering a structure or altering a structure or permitting an object of natural growth to exceed the heights established by FAR Part 77, Subpart C, unless the FAA has determined the object would or does not constitute a hazard to air navigation (Public Utilities Code, Section 21659). Additionally, a permit from the Department of Transportation is required for any structure taller than 500 feet above the ground unless the height is reviewed and approved by the Federal Communications Commission or the FAA (Section 21656).
- > **Areas of Special Compatibility Concern**—A significant drawback of standard general plan and zoning ordinance land use designations is that they can be changed. Uses that are currently compatible are not assured of staying that way in the future. Designation of areas of special compatibility concern would serve as a reminder that airport impacts should be carefully considered in any decision to change the existing land use designation. [A legal consideration which supports the value of this concept is that down-zoning of a property to a less intensive use is becoming more difficult. It is much better not to have inappropriately up-zoned the property in the first place.]
- > **Designation of High Noise-Impact Areas**—California state statutes require that multi-family residential structures in high-noise exposure areas be constructed so as to limit the interior noise to a Community Noise Equivalent Level of no more than 45 dB. A combining district could be used to indicate the locations where special construction techniques may be necessary in order to ensure compliance with this requirement. The combining district also could extend this criterion to single-family dwellings.
- > **Real Estate Disclosure Policies**—The geographic extent and specific language of recommended real estate disclosure statements can be described in an airport combining zone ordinance.

Source: *California Airport Land Use Planning Handbook* (January 2002)

Table G1

Sample Airport Combining Zone Components

TYPICAL AVIGATION EASEMENT

For Hollister Municipal Airport

This indenture made this ____ day of _____, 20__, between _____ hereinafter referred to as Grantor, and the County of San Benito, a political subdivision in the State of California, hereinafter referred to as Grantee.

The Grantor, for good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged, does hereby grant to the Grantee, its successors and assigns, a perpetual and assignable easement over the following described parcel of land in which the Grantor holds a fee simple estate. The property which is subject to this easement is depicted as _____ on “Exhibit A” attached and is more particularly described as follows:

[Insert legal description of real property]

The easement applies to the Airspace above an imaginary plane over the real property. The plane is described as follows:

The imaginary plane above the hereinbefore described real property, as such plane is defined by Part 77 of the Federal Aviation Regulations, and consists of a plane [describe approach, transition, or horizontal surface]; the elevation of said plane being based upon the Hollister Municipal Airport official runway end elevation of 229.6 feet Above Mean Sea Level (AMSL), as determined by Hollister Municipal Airport Layout Plan, the approximate dimensions of which said plane are described and shown on Exhibit A attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference.

The aforesaid easement and right-of-way includes, but is not limited to:

- (1) For the use and benefit of the public, the easement and continuing right to fly, or cause or permit the flight by any and all persons, or any aircraft, of any and all kinds now or hereafter known, in, through, across, or about any portion of the Airspace hereinabove described; and
- (2) The easement and right to cause or create, or permit or allow to be caused and created within all space above the existing surface of the hereinabove described real property and any and all Airspace laterally adjacent to said real property, such noise, vibration, currents and other effects of air illumination and fuel consumption as may be inherent in, or may arise or occur from or during the operation of aircraft of any and all kinds, now or hereafter known or used, for navigation of or flight in air; and
- (3) A continuing right to clear and keep clear from the Airspace any portions of buildings, structures or improvements of any kinds, and of trees or other objects, including the right to remove or demolish those portions of such buildings, structures, improvements, trees, or other things which extend into or above said Airspace, and the right to cut to the ground level and remove, any trees which extend into or above the Airspace; and
- (4) The right to mark and light, or cause or require to be marked and lighted, as obstructions to air navigation, any and all buildings, structures or other improvements, and trees or other objects, which extend into or above the Airspace; and
- (5) The right of ingress to, passage within, and egress from the hereinabove described real property, for the purposes described in subparagraphs (3) and (4) above at reasonable times and after reasonable notice.

Table G2

Typical Avigation Easement

For and on behalf of itself, its successors and assigns, the Grantor hereby covenants with the County of San Benito, for the direct benefit of the real property constituting the Hollister Municipal Airport hereinafter described, that neither the Grantor, nor its successors in interest or assigns will construct, install, erect, place or grow, in or upon the hereinabove described real property, nor will they permit or allow any building structure, improvement, tree, or other object to extend into or above the Airspace so as to constitute an obstruction to air navigation or to obstruct or interfere with the use of the easement and rights-of-way herein granted. If Grantor fails to comply with the foregoing obligations within ten (10) days after Grantee gives written notice of violation to Grantor by depositing said notice in the United States mail, Grantee may enter the above-described real property for the purposes described in subparagraphs (3) and/or (4), above, and charge Grantor for the cost thereof.

The easements and rights-of-way herein granted shall be deemed both appurtenant to and for the direct benefit of that real property which constitutes the Hollister Municipal Airport, in the County of San Benito, State of California; and shall further be deemed in gross, being conveyed to the Grantee for the benefit of the Grantee and any and all members of the general public who may use said easement or right-of-way, in landing at, taking off from or operating such aircraft in or about the Hollister Municipal Airport, or in otherwise flying through said Airspace.

Grantor, together with its successors in interest and assigns, hereby waives its right to legal action against Grantee, its successors or assigns for monetary damages or other redress due to impacts, as described in paragraph (2) of the granted rights of easement, associated with aircraft operations in the air or on the ground at the airport, including future increases in the volume or changes in location of said operations. Furthermore, Grantee, its successors, and assigns shall have no duty to avoid or mitigate such damages through physical modification of airport facilities or establishment or modification of aircraft operational procedures or restrictions. However, this waiver shall not apply if the airport role or character of its usage (as identified in an adopted airport master plan, for example) changes in a fundamental manner which could not reasonably have been anticipated at the time of the granting of this easement and which results in a substantial increase in the in the impacts associated with aircraft operations. Also, this grant of easement shall not operate to deprive the Grantor, its successors or assigns of any rights which may from time to time have against any air carrier or private operator for negligent or unlawful operation of aircraft.

These covenants and agreements run with the land and are binding upon the heirs, administrators, executors, successors and assigns of the Grantor, and, for the purpose of this instrument, the real property firstly hereinabove described is the servient tenement and said Hollister Municipal Airport is the dominant tenement.

DATED:

STATE OF }

ss

COUNTY OF }

On _____, before me, the undersigned, a Notary Public in and for said County and State personally appeared _____, and _____ known to me to be the persons whose names are subscribed to the within instrument and acknowledged that they executed the same.

WITNESS my hand and official seal.

Table G2, continued

RECORDED OVERFLIGHT NOTIFICATION

This *Overflight Notification* concerns the real property situated in the County of San Benito and *[insert if applicable]* the City of _____, State of California, described as _____ [APN No.: _____].

This *Overflight Notification* provides notification of the condition of the above described property in recognition of, and in compliance with, CALIFORNIA BUSINESS & PROFESSIONS CODE Section 11010 and CALIFORNIA CIVIL CODE Sections 1102.6, 1103.4 and 1353, effective January 1, 2004, and related state and local regulations and consistent with policies of the Airport Land Use Commission for San Benito County for overflight notification provided in the Hollister Municipal Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan.

NOTICE OF AIRPORT IN VICINITY: This property is located in the vicinity of an airport and within the airport influence area. The property may be subject to some of the annoyances or inconveniences associated with proximity to an airport and aircraft operations (for example: noise, vibration, overflights or odors). Individual sensitivities to those annoyances can vary from person to person. You should consider what airport annoyances, if any, affect the Property before you complete your purchase and whether they are acceptable to you.

The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) has regulatory authority over the operation of aircraft in flight and on the runway and taxiway surfaces at Hollister Municipal Airport. The FAA is, therefore, exclusively responsible for airspace and air traffic management, including ensuring the safe and efficient use of navigable airspace, developing air traffic rules, assigning the use of airspace and controlling air traffic. Please contact the FAA for more detailed information regarding overflight and airspace protection issues associated with the operation of military aircraft.

The airport operator, the County of San Benito, maintains information regarding hours of operation and other relevant information regarding airport operations. Please contact your local airport operator for more detailed information regarding airport specific operational issues including hours of operation.

This *Overflight Notification* shall be duly recorded with the San Benito County Assessor's Office, shall run with the Property, and shall be binding upon all parties having or acquiring any right, title or interest in the Property.

Effective Date: _____, 20__

Table G3

Sample Recorded Overflight Notification

Glossary of Terms

Above Ground Level (AGL): An elevation datum given in feet above ground level.

Accident Potential Zones (APZs): A set of safety-related zones defined by AICUZ studies for areas beyond the ends of military airport runways. Typically, three types of zones are established: a clear zone closest to the runway end, then APZ I and APZ II. The potential for aircraft accidents and the corresponding need for land use restrictions is greatest with the clear zone and diminishes with increased distance from the runway.

Air Carriers: The commercial system of air transportation, consisting of the certificated air carriers, air taxis (including commuters), supplemental air carriers, commercial operators of large aircraft, and air travel clubs.

Air Installation Compatible Use Zones (AICUZ): A land use compatible plan prepared by the U.S. Department of Defense for military airfields. AICUZ plans serve as recommendations to local governments bodies having jurisdiction over land uses surrounding these facilities.

Aircraft Accident: An occurrence incident to flight in which, as a result of the operation of an aircraft, a person (occupant or nonoccupant) receives fatal or serious injury or an aircraft receives substantial damage.

- Except as provided below, *substantial damage* means damage or structural failure that adversely affects the structural strength, performance, or flight characteristics of the aircraft, and that would normally require major repair or replacement of the affected component.
- Engine failure, damage limited to an engine, bent fairings or cowlings, dented skin, small puncture holes in the skin or fabric, ground damage to rotor or propeller blades, damage to landing gear, wheels, tires, flaps, engine accessories, brakes, or wingtips are not considered substantial damage.

Aircraft Incident: A mishap associated with the operation of an aircraft in which neither fatal nor serious injuries nor substantial damage to the aircraft occurs.

Aircraft Mishap: The collective term for an aircraft accident or an incident.

Aircraft Operation: The airborne movement of aircraft at an airport or about an en route fix or at other point where counts can be made. There are two types of operations: local and itinerant. An operation is counted for each landing and each departure, such that a touch-and-go flight is counted as two operations. (FAA Stats)

Airport: An area of land or water that is used or intended to be used for the landing and taking off of aircraft, and includes its buildings and facilities if any. (FAR 1)

Airport Elevation: The highest point of an airport's useable runways, measured in feet above mean sea level. (AIM)

Airport Land Use Commission (ALUC): A commission authorized under the provisions of California Public Utilities Code, Section 21670 et seq. and established (in any county within which a public-use

airport is located) for the purpose of promoting compatibility between airports and the land uses surrounding them.

Airport Layout Plan (ALP): A scale drawing of existing and proposed airport facilities, their location on an airport, and the pertinent clearance and dimensional information required to demonstrate conformance with applicable standards.

Airport Master Plan (AMP): A long-range plan for development of an airport, including descriptions of the data and analyses on which the plan is based.

Airport Reference Code (ARC): A coding system used to relate airport design criteria to the operation and physical characteristics of the airplanes intended to operate at an airport. (Airport Design AC)

Airports, Classes of: For the purposes of issuing a Site Approval Permit, The California Department of Transportation, Division of Aeronautics classifies airports into the following categories: (CCR)

- *Agricultural Airport or Heliport:* An airport restricted to use only by agricultural aerial applicator aircraft (FAR Part 137 operators).
- *Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Landing Site:* A site used for the landing and taking off of EMS helicopters that is located at or as near as practical to a medical emergency or at or near a medical facility and
 - (1) has been designated an EMS landing site by an officer authorized by a public safety agency, as defined in PUC Section 21662.1, using criteria that the public safety agency has determined is reasonable and prudent for the safe operation of EMS helicopters and
 - (2) is used, over any twelve month period, for no more than an average of six landings per month with a patient or patients on the helicopter, except to allow for adequate medical response to a mass casualty event even if that response causes the site to be used beyond these limits, and
 - (3) is not marked as a permitted heliport as described in Section 3554 of these regulations and
 - (4) is used only for emergency medical purposes.
- *Heliport on Offshore Oil Platform:* A heliport located on a structure in the ocean, not connected to the shore by pier, bridge, wharf, dock or breakwater, used in the support of petroleum exploration or production.
- *Personal-Use Airport:* An airport limited to the non-commercial use of an individual owner or family and occasional invited guests.
- *Public-Use Airport:* An airport that is open for aircraft operations to the general public and is listed in the current edition of the *Airport/Facility Directory* that is published by the National Ocean Service of the U.S. Department of Commerce.
- *Seaplane Landing Site:* An area of water used, or intended for use, for landing and takeoff of seaplanes.
- *Special-Use Airport or Heliport:* An airport not open to the general public, access to which is controlled by the owner in support of commercial activities, public service operations, and/or personal use.
- *Temporary Helicopter Landing Site:* A site, other than an emergency medical service landing site at or near a medical facility, which is used for landing and taking off of helicopters and

- (1) is used or intended to be used for less than one year, except for recurrent annual events and
- (2) is not marked or lighted to be distinguishable as a heliport and
- (3) is not used exclusively for helicopter operations.

Ambient Noise Level: The level of noise that is all encompassing within a given environment for which a single source cannot be determined. It is usually a composite of sounds from many and varied sources near to and far from the receiver.

Approach Protection Easement: A form of easement that both conveys all of the rights of an aviation easement and sets specified limitations on the type of land uses allowed to be developed on the property.

Approach Speed: The recommended speed contained in aircraft manuals used by pilots when making an approach to landing. This speed will vary for different segments of an approach as well as for aircraft weight and configuration. (AIM)

Aviation-Related Use: Any facility or activity directly associated with the air transportation of persons or cargo or the operation, storage, or maintenance of aircraft at an airport or heliport. Such uses specifically include runways, taxiways, and their associated protected areas defined by the Federal Aviation Administration, together with aircraft aprons, hangars, fixed base operations, terminal buildings, etc.

Avigation Easement: A type of easement that typically conveys the following rights:

- A right-of-way for free and unobstructed passage of aircraft through the airspace over the property at any altitude above a surface specified in the easement (usually set in accordance with FAR Part 77 criteria).
- A right to subject the property to noise, vibrations, fumes, dust, and fuel particle emissions associated with normal airport activity.
- A right to prohibit the erection or growth of any structure, tree, or other object that would enter the acquired airspace.
- A right-of-entry onto the property, with proper advance notice, for the purpose of removing, marking, or lighting any structure or other object that enters the acquired airspace.
- A right to prohibit electrical interference, glare, misleading lights, visual impairments, and other hazards to aircraft flight from being created on the property.

Based Aircraft: Aircraft stationed at an airport on a long-term basis.

California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA): Statutes adopted by the state legislature for the purpose of maintaining a quality environment for the people of the state now and in the future. The Act establishes a process for state and local agency review of projects, as defined in the implementing guidelines that may adversely affect the environment.

Ceiling: Height above the earth's surface to the lowest layer of clouds or obscuring phenomena. (AIM)

Circling Approach/Circle-to-Land Maneuver: A maneuver initiated by the pilot to align the aircraft with a runway for landing when a straight-in landing from an instrument approach is not possible or not desirable. (AIM)

Clear Zone: The military airport equivalent of runway protection zones at civilian airports.

Combining District: A zoning district that establishes development standards in areas of special concern over and above the standards applicable to basic underlying zoning districts.

Commercial Activities: Airport-related activities that may offer a facility, service or commodity for sale, hire or profit. Examples of commodities for sale are: food, lodging, entertainment, real estate, petroleum products, parts and equipment. Examples of services are: flight training, charter flights, maintenance, aircraft storage, and tiedown. (CCR)

Commercial Operator: A person who, for compensation or hire, engages in the carriage by aircraft in air commerce of persons or property, other than as an air carrier. (FAR 1)

Community Noise Equivalent Level (CNEL): The noise metric adopted by the State of California for evaluating airport noise. It represents the average daytime noise level during a 24-hour day, adjusted to an equivalent level to account for the lower tolerance of people to noise during evening and nighttime periods relative to the daytime period. (State Airport Noise Standards)

Compatibility Plan: As used herein, a plan, usually adopted by an Airport Land Use Commission that sets forth policies for promoting compatibility between airports and the land uses that surround them. Often referred to as a *Comprehensive Land Use Plan (CLUP)*.

Controlled Airspace: Any of several types of airspace within which some or all aircraft may be subject to air traffic control. (FAR 1)

Day-Night Average Sound Level (DNL): The noise metric adopted by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for measurement of environmental noise. It represents the average daytime noise level during a 24-hour day, measured in decibels and adjusted to account for the lower tolerance of people to noise during nighttime periods. The mathematical symbol is L_{dn} .

Decibel (dB): A unit measuring the magnitude of a sound, equal to the logarithm of the ratio of the intensity of the sound to the intensity of an arbitrarily chosen standard sound, specifically a sound just barely audible to an unimpaired human ear. For environmental noise from aircraft and other transportation sources, an *A-weighted sound level* (abbreviated dBA) is normally used. The A-weighting scale adjusts the values of different sound frequencies to approximate the auditory sensitivity of the human ear.

Deed Notice: A formal statement added to the legal description of a deed to a property and on any subdivision map. As used in airport land use planning, a deed notice would state that the property is subject to aircraft overflights. Deed notices are used as a form of buyer notification as a means of ensuring that those who are particularly sensitive to aircraft overflights can avoid moving to the affected areas.

Designated Body: A local government entity, such as a regional planning agency or a county planning commission, chosen by the county board of supervisors and the selection committee of city mayors to act in the capacity of an airport land use commission.

Displaced Threshold: A landing threshold that is located at a point on the runway other than the designated beginning of the runway (see *Threshold*). (AIM)

Dwelling Unit: Any building, structure or portion thereof which is occupied as, or designed or intended for occupancy as, a residence by one or more families, and any vacant land which is offered for sale or lease for the construction or location thereon of any such building, structure, or portion thereof. (HUD)

Easement: A less-than-fee-title transfer of real property rights from the property owner to the holder of the easement.

Equivalent Sound Level (L_{eq}): The level of constant sound that, in the given situation and time period, has the same average sound energy as does a time-varying sound.

Federal Aviation Regulations (FAR) Part 77: The part of Federal Aviation Regulations that deals with objects affecting navigable airspace in the vicinity of airports. Objects that exceed the Part 77 height limits constitute airspace obstructions. FAR Part 77 establishes standards for identifying obstructions to navigable airspace, sets forth requirements for notice to the FAA of certain proposed construction or alteration, and provides for aeronautical studies of obstructions to determine their effect on the safe and efficient use of airspace.

FAR Part 77 Surfaces: Imaginary airspace surfaces established with relation to each runway of an airport. There are five types of surfaces: (1) primary; (2) approach; (3) transitional; (4) horizontal; and (5) conical.

Federal Aviation Administration (FAA): The U.S. government agency that is responsible for ensuring the safe and efficient use of the nation's airports and airspace.

Federal Aviation Regulations (FAR): Regulations formally issued by the FAA to regulate air commerce.

Findings: Legally relevant subconclusions that expose a government agency's mode of analysis of facts, regulations, and policies, and that bridge the analytical gap between raw data and ultimate decision.

Fixed Base Operator (FBO): A business that operates at an airport and provides aircraft services to the general public including, but not limited to, sale of fuel and oil; aircraft sales, rental, maintenance, and repair; parking and tiedown or storage of aircraft; flight training; air taxi/charter operations; and specialty services, such as instrument and avionics maintenance, painting, overhaul, aerial application, aerial photography, aerial hoists, or pipeline patrol.

General Aviation: That portion of civil aviation that encompasses all facets of aviation except air carriers. (FAA Stats)

Glide Slope: An electronic signal radiated by a component of an ILS to provide vertical guidance for aircraft during approach and landing.

Global Positioning System (GPS): A navigational system that utilizes a network of satellites to determine a positional fix almost anywhere on or above the earth. Developed and operated by the U.S. Department of Defense, GPS has been made available to the civilian sector for surface, marine, and aerial navigational use. For aviation purposes, the current form of GPS guidance provides en route aerial navigation and selected types of nonprecision instrument approaches. Eventual application of GPS as the principal system of navigational guidance throughout the world is anticipated.

Helipad: A small, designated area, usually with a prepared surface, on a heliport, airport, landing/takeoff area, apron/ramp, or movement area used for takeoff, landing, or parking of helicopters. (AIM)

Heliport: A facility used for operating, basing, housing, and maintaining helicopters. (HAI)

Infill: Development that takes place on vacant property largely surrounded by existing development, especially development that is similar in character.

Instrument Approach Procedure: A series of predetermined maneuvers for the orderly transfer of an aircraft under instrument flight conditions from the beginning of the initial approach to a landing or to a point from which a landing may be made visually. It is prescribed and approved for a specific airport by competent authority (refer to *Nonprecision Approach Procedure* and *Precision Approach Procedure*). (AIM)

Instrument Flight Rules (IFR): Rules governing the procedures for conducting instrument flight. Generally, IFR applies when meteorological conditions with a ceiling below 1,000 feet and visibility less than 3 miles prevail. (AIM)

Instrument Landing System (ILS): A precision instrument approach system that normally consists of the following electronic components and visual aids: (1) Localizer; (2) Glide Slope; (3) Outer Marker; (4) Middle Marker; (5) Approach Lights. (AIM)

Instrument Operation: An aircraft operation in accordance with an IFR flight plan or an operation where IFR separation between aircraft is provided by a terminal control facility. (FAA ATA)

Instrument Runway: A runway equipped with electronic and visual navigation aids for which a precision or nonprecision approach procedure having straight-in landing minimums has been approved. (AIM)

Inverse Condemnation: An action brought by a property owner seeking just compensation for land taken for a public use against a government or private entity having the power of eminent domain. It is a remedy peculiar to the property owner and is exercisable by that party where it appears that the taker of the property does not intend to bring eminent domain proceedings.

Land Use Density: A measure of the concentration of land use development in an area. Mostly the term is used with respect to residential development and refers to the number of dwelling units per acre. Unless otherwise noted, policies in this compatibility plan refer to *gross* rather than *net* acreage.

Land Use Intensity: A measure of the concentration of nonresidential land use development in an area. For the purposes of airport land use planning, the term indicates the number of people per acre attracted by the land use. Unless otherwise noted, policies in this compatibility plan refer to *gross* rather than *net* acreage.

Large Airplane: An airplane of more than 12,500 pounds maximum certificated takeoff weight. (Airport Design AC)

Localizer (LOC): The component of an ILS that provides course guidance to the runway. (AIM)

Mean Sea Level (MSL): An elevation datum given in feet from mean sea level.

Minimum Descent Altitude (MDA): The lowest altitude, expressed in feet above mean sea level, to which descent is authorized on final approach or during circle-to-land maneuvering in execution of a standard instrument approach procedure where no electronic glide slope is provided. (FAR 1)

Missed Approach: A maneuver conducted by a pilot when an instrument approach cannot be completed to a landing. (AIM)

National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB): The U.S. government agency responsible for investigating transportation accidents and incidents.

Navigational Aid (Navaid): Any visual or electronic device airborne or on the surface that provides point-to-point guidance information or position data to aircraft in flight. (AIM)

Noise Contours: Continuous lines of equal noise level usually drawn around a noise source, such as an airport or highway. The lines are generally drawn in 5-decibel increments so that they resemble elevation contours in topographic maps.

Noise Level Reduction (NLR): A measure used to describe the reduction in sound level from environmental noise sources occurring between the outside and the inside of a structure.

Nonconforming Use: An existing land use that does not conform to subsequently adopted or amended zoning or other land use development standards.

Nonprecision Approach Procedure: A standard instrument approach procedure in which no electronic glide slope is provided. (FAR 1)

Nonprecision Instrument Runway: A runway with an approved or planned straight-in instrument approach procedure that has no existing or planned precision instrument approach procedure. (Airport Design AC)

Obstruction: Any object of natural growth, terrain, or permanent or temporary construction or alteration, including equipment or materials used therein, the height of which exceeds the standards established in Subpart C of Federal Aviation Regulations Part 77, *Objects Affecting Navigable Airspace*.

Overflight: Any distinctly visible and/or audible passage of an aircraft in flight, not necessarily directly overhead.

Overflight Easement: An easement that describes the right to overfly the property above a specified surface and includes the right to subject the property to noise, vibrations, fumes, and emissions. An overflight easement is used primarily as a form of buyer notification.

Overflight Zone: The area(s) where aircraft maneuver to enter or leave the traffic pattern, typically defined by the FAR Part 77 horizontal surface.

Overlay Zone: See *Combining District*.

Planning Area Boundary: An area surrounding an airport designated by an ALUC for the purpose of airport land use compatibility planning conducted in accordance with provisions of the State Aeronautics Act.

Precision Approach Procedure: A standard instrument approach procedure where an electronic glide slope is provided. (FAR 1)

Precision Instrument Runway: A runway with an existing or planned precision instrument approach procedure. (Airport Design AC)

Referral Area: The area around an airport defined by the planning area boundary adopted by an airport land use commission within which certain land use proposals are to be referred to the commission for review.

Runway Protection Zone (RPZ): An area (formerly called a *clear zone*) off the end of a runway used to enhance the protection of people and property on the ground. (Airport Design AC)

Safety Zone: For the purpose of airport land use planning, an area near an airport in which land use restrictions are established to protect the safety of the public from potential aircraft accidents.

Secondary Dwelling Unit: An attached or a detached residential dwelling unit which provides complete independent living facilities for one or more persons. It shall include permanent provisions for living, sleeping, eating, cooking, and sanitation on the same parcel as the single-family dwelling is situated. (California Department of Housing and Community Development)

Single-Event Noise: As used in herein, the noise from an individual aircraft operation or overflight.

Single Event Noise Exposure Level (SENEL): A measure, in decibels, of the noise exposure level of a single event, such as an aircraft flyby, measured over the time interval between the initial and final times for which the noise level of the event exceeds a threshold noise level and normalized to a reference duration of one second. SENEL is a noise metric established for use in California by the state Airport Noise Standards and is essentially identical to *Sound Exposure Level (SEL)*.

Site Approval Permit: A written approval issued by the California Department of Transportation authorizing construction of an airport in accordance with approved plans, specifications, and conditions. Both public-use and special-use airports require a site approval permit. (CCR)

Small Airplane: An airplane of 12,500 pounds or less maximum certificated takeoff weight. (Airport Design AC)

Sound Exposure Level (SEL): A time-integrated metric (i.e., continuously summed over a time period) that quantifies the total energy in the A-weighted sound level measured during a transient noise event. The time period for this measurement is generally taken to be that between the moments when the A-weighted sound level is 10 dB below the maximum.

Straight-In Instrument Approach: An instrument approach wherein a final approach is begun without first having executed a procedure turn; it is not necessarily completed with a straight-in landing or made to straight-in landing weather minimums. (AIM)

Structure: Something that is constructed or erected.

Taking: Government appropriation of private land for which compensation must be paid as required by the Fifth Amendment of the U.S. Constitution. It is not essential that there be physical seizure or appropriation for a *taking* to occur, only that the government action directly interferes with or substantially disturbs the owner's right to use and enjoyment of the property.

Terminal Instrument Procedures (TERPS): Procedures for instrument approach and departure of aircraft to and from civil and military airports. There are four types of terminal instrument procedures: precision approach, nonprecision approach, circling, and departure.

Threshold: The beginning of that portion of the runway usable for landing (also see *Displaced Threshold*). (AIM)

Touch-and-Go: An operation by an aircraft that lands and departs on a runway without stopping or exiting the runway. (AIM)

Traffic Pattern: The traffic flow that is prescribed for aircraft landing at, taxiing on, or taking off from an airport. The components of a typical traffic pattern are upwind leg, crosswind leg, downwind leg, base leg, and final approach. (AIM)

Visual Approach: An approach where the pilot must use visual reference to the runway for landing under VFR conditions.

Visual Flight Rules (VFR): Rules that govern the procedures for conducting flight under visual conditions. VFR applies when meteorological conditions are equal to or greater than the specified minimum—generally, a 1,000-foot ceiling and 3-mile visibility.

Visual Runway: A runway intended solely for the operation of aircraft using visual approach procedures, with no straight-in instrument approach procedure and no instrument designation indicated on an FAA-approved airport layout plan. (Airport Design AC)

Zoning: A police power measure, enacted primarily by units of local government, in which the community is divided into districts or zones within which permitted and special uses are established, as are regulations governing lot size, building bulk, placement, and other development standards. Requirements vary from district to district, but they must be uniform within districts. A zoning ordinance consists of two parts: the text and a map.

Glossary Sources

FAR 1: Federal Aviation Regulations Part 1, Definitions and Abbreviations

AIM: Aeronautical Information Manual

Airport Design AC: Federal Aviation Administration, *Airport Design* Advisory Circular 150/5300-13

CCR: California Code of Regulations, Title 21, Section 3525 et seq., *Division of Aeronautics*

FAA ATA: Federal Aviation Administration, *Air Traffic Activity*

FAA Stats: Federal Aviation Administration, *Statistical Handbook of Aviation*

HAI: Helicopter Association International

NTSB: National Transportation and Safety Board