

Torrance Airport Association

Chapter of California Pilots Association

2785 Pacific Coast Highway PMB E164 Torrance, CA 90505

Via E-mail October 9, 2020

Torrance Airport Commission

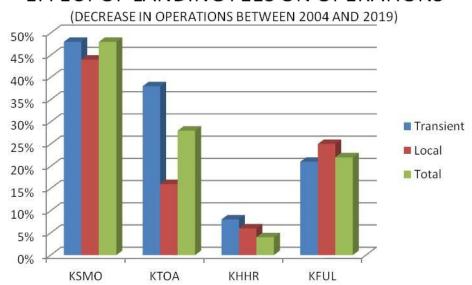
Subject: Follow-up--Airport Commission agenda for 10/8/2020--Item 8B: Noise monitoring

Dear Chairperson O'Brien and Members of the Airport Commission:

There were several questions raised by Commissioners at the meeting last night regarding the effect of landing fees on Santa Monica airport operations. Here is some information I did not include in my verbal presentation last night:

Result

EFFECT OF LANDING FEES ON OPERATIONS



Total operations at Santa Monica airport (KSMO) showed a significant decrease as a result of landing fees--48%. That was 1.7 times that experienced by Torrance airport (KTOA) in the same period; 12 times that experienced at Hawthorne airport (KHHR) and 2.2 times that experienced at Fullerton airport (KFUL).

Methodology:

On August 1, 2005, the Santa Monica City Council implemented a revised landing fee program for all transient aircraft (those not based at the Santa Monica Airport) based on a uniform rate of \$2.07 per 1,000 pounds of maximum certificated gross landing weight.

On April 30, 2013, the Santa Monica City Council set the landing fee at \$5.48 per thousand pounds of certificated maximum landing weight and applied this fee to both itinerant and based aircraft at the

Santa Monica Airport. These changes to the landing fee structure became effective on August 1, 2013.

In order to establish a baseline, I used FAA's ATAD data base and computed the average number of operations per year for the 5-year period 2000-2004. I then compared that average with the number of operations in the year 2019 and computed the percentage decrease.

For comparison, I did the same for Torrance, Hawthorne and Fullerton airports--all very similar to Santa Monica airport in terms of runway length, usage, surrounding community and airport businesses.

Data:

YEAR	SANTA MONICA			TORRANCE		
	Transient	Local	Total	Transient	Local	Total
2000	105450	59222	172754	94883	82633	178169
2001	86753	50084	147869	86780	73961	161664
2002	87817	50342	151499	92726	73959	168229
2003	84258	46316	142859	97506	80003	179453
2004	78635	41303	133414	102765	76663	181347
Average	88583	49453	149679	94932	77444	173772
2019	45622	27831	77280	59290	65169	125174
REDUCTION	48%	44%	48%	38%	16%	28%
YEAR		IAWTHORNE			FULLERTON	
YEAR	H Transient	IAWTHORNE Local	Total	Transient	FULLERTON Local	Total
YEAR 2000		_			_	Total 89958
	Transient	Local	Total	Transient	Local	
2000	Transient 33923	Local 43099	Total 78412	Transient 56285	Local 33673	89958
2000 2001	Transient 33923 35010	Local 43099 40455	Total 78412 77005	Transient 56285 53820	Local 33673 38868	89958 92688
2000 2001 2002	Transient 33923 35010 41375	Local 43099 40455 37316	Total 78412 77005 80210	Transient 56285 53820 58868	Local 33673 38868 44613	89958 92688 103481
2000 2001 2002 2003	Transient 33923 35010 41375 38999	Local 43099 40455 37316 28660	Total 78412 77005 80210 68752	Transient 56285 53820 58868 53411	Local 33673 38868 44613 36042	89958 92688 103481 89453
2000 2001 2002 2003 2004 Average	Transient 33923 35010 41375 38999 43189 38499	Local 43099 40455 37316 28660 31890 36284	Total 78412 77005 80210 68752 77264 76329	Transient 56285 53820 58868 53411 46291 53735	Local 33673 38868 44613 36042 30845 36808.2	89958 92688 103481 89453 77136 90543
2000 2001 2002 2003 2004	Transient 33923 35010 41375 38999 43189	Local 43099 40455 37316 28660 31890	Total 78412 77005 80210 68752 77264	Transient 56285 53820 58868 53411 46291	Local 33673 38868 44613 36042 30845	89958 92688 103481 89453 77136

Clearly, introducing landing fees at Torrance Airport would have serious adverse effects and cause long-term damage in response to a relatively short-term problem.

Respectfully,
Jim Gates, President
Torrance Airport Association