



## NEWPORT BEACH AND JOHN WAYNE AIRPORT



### OVERVIEW

For more than three decades, the City of Newport Beach (City) and citizen-led advocacy groups have worked together to stave off additional, substantive changes to John Wayne Airport's operations, particularly those that would further erode the quality of life in our community. Our efforts, and the cooperation of the County of Orange (County), resulted in the neighborhood-friendly protections that are in place today. These protections include:

- The 1985 Settlement Agreement (and its subsequent amendments) that established a noise-based curfew, passenger caps, and caps on the number of the loudest flights that can depart per day. The current agreement expires December 31, 2030. The curfew remains in place through 2035.
- A 2017 Southern California Metroplex Settlement with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), and other parties, that addressed some of the City's concerns with the FAA's NextGen program. This led to the creation of a special departure out of John Wayne Airport (JWA).

Our top priority is ensure these protections continue.

The City, its consulting team, and the citizen advocacy groups continue to work together to protect Newport Beach residents from having to shoulder the burdens related to any additional overhead air traffic. Our collective goals include:

- Preserve and protect the 1985 JWA Settlement Agreement.
- Support maintaining the existing level of general aviation operations and the current level of general aviation support facilities at JWA, while conforming the existing general aviation facilities to FAA standards.
- Monitor federal legislative efforts such as the recent FAA Reauthorization Bill to promote mitigation measures in an effort to protect the City from the effects of noise and pollution as well as the constant monitoring of the local, regional, state and federal forces that affect JWA.
- Advocate policies that incentivize air carrier fleet transition to newer, quieter aircraft.
- Identify and work with the air carriers to implement the quietest, safest and least-polluting departure procedure possible out of John Wayne Airport.
- Aggressively oppose any proposal or plan that could lead to development of a second air carrier runway or runway extension and any plan or proposal that could lead to any modification of the existing curfew.

## **CURRENT ENDEAVORS**

### **Seeking Quietest Departure Procedure**

The FAA's implementation of its NextGen program at JWA began in early 2017 and resulted in departing flights following more concentrated paths. Many Newport Beach residents living under or close to the departure paths hear and/or see differences in the flight patterns and have expressed concerns about noise and air quality impacts.

The City, its consultants, and representatives from one of the citizen advocacy groups, have been working to identify the quietest, safest and least-polluting departure procedure possible out of JWA. The air carriers have been very receptive to hearing our ideas and working collaboratively on possible solutions. Our discussions are ongoing.

### **Tracking Legislation, Meeting with Elected Officials**

City Council members have met with elected and appointed officials in Washington, D.C. and in Southern California to advocate our community's position.

The five-year FAA Reauthorization bill, approved last fall, contains a number of provisions related to community impacts, including seven that pertain to overhead noise. The City is closely tracking the bill's implementation and any provisions that could benefit Newport Beach.

John Wayne Airport is owned and operated by the County of Orange and it is imperative for the City and County to maintain open dialogue and a solid working relationship. Without the County's cooperation, we would not have the protections we have in place today at JWA. City officials are meeting with each member of the Board of Supervisors to keep the lines of communication open.

### **Assessing the Proposed General Aviation Improvement Program (GAIP)**

Last fall, the County of Orange circulated a draft environmental impact report (DEIR) for its proposed JWA General Aviation Improvement Program. The City reviewed the DEIR and is concerned that the GAIP, as proposed, would increase private and corporate jet traffic over Newport Beach, encourage international travel to and from JWA, allow commercial operations at privately held, fixed base operators, and would introduce commercial operations into an area of the airport historically used for lighter general aviation (GA) purposes. If approved, the project would result in additional impacts for a large section of our community such as noise and diminished air quality.

The City understands JWA has a need to update its general aviation facilities to FAA standards. The City Council recently voted to support, pending possible further environmental review, the project alternative that allows for updating JWA's GA facilities, but would not expand GA facilities or result in more GA jet traffic. The City believes this alternative would be the least impactful on Newport Beach neighborhoods. For more information, please visit [newportbeachca.gov/gaip](http://newportbeachca.gov/gaip).

## STAY INFORMED

### City of Newport Beach

**[newportbeachca.gov](http://newportbeachca.gov)**  
**949-644-3001**

The City website contains a considerable amount of airport- and aviation-related information.

**[newportbeachca.gov/jwa](http://newportbeachca.gov/jwa)** – History of John Wayne Airport, the 1985 Settlement Agreement and extensions, aircraft noise and emissions information, more.

**[newportbeachca.gov/gaip](http://newportbeachca.gov/gaip)** – Information about the General Aviation Improvement Program.

**[newportbeachca.gov/aviation](http://newportbeachca.gov/aviation)** - The City's Aviation Committee advises the City Council on the implementation of its Airport Policy (A-17), and other airport matters.

### Community Organizations

AWG and SPON are current members, and CAANP is a pending member, of the City's Aviation Committee.

**Stop Polluting Our Newport**  
**[spon-newport.org](http://spon-newport.org)** - Stop Polluting Our Newport (SPON) is a non-profit, public education organization that works to protect and preserve the residential and environmental qualities of Newport Beach. SPON has been actively engaged in efforts to control the growth of JWA for more than four decades.

### Airport Working Group of Orange County

**[awgoc.org](http://awgoc.org)** – Founded in Newport Beach in 1982, the Airport Working Group of Orange County (AWG) is a community advocacy, non-profit organization that leverages the technical and legal expertise of its Board of Directors and the support of its members, countywide, to ensure that JWA does not expand further, either geographically or operationally, and to protect the John Wayne Airport Settlement Agreement.

### Citizens Against Airport Noise and Pollution

**[caanp.com](http://caanp.com)** - Citizens Against Airport Noise and Pollution (CAANP) is a grassroots, community organization formed by Newport Beach residents committed to reducing the noise and pollution generated from John Wayne Airport.

### Orange County Board of Supervisors

**[ocgov.com/gov/bos](http://ocgov.com/gov/bos)**

Orange County Board of Supervisors  
333 W. Santa Ana Blvd.  
Santa Ana, CA 92701

For information and an email link for the full Board, visit  
[ocgov.com/gov/bos/opinion](http://ocgov.com/gov/bos/opinion).

Michelle Steel, Vice Chair  
(represents Newport Beach)  
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Andrew Do  
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Donald Wagner  
Supervisor, 3rd District

Doug Chaffee  
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### John Wayne Airport

**[ocair.com](http://ocair.com)**

Access & Noise Office  
949-252-5185  
[ocair.com/aboutjwa/accessandnoise](http://ocair.com/aboutjwa/accessandnoise)