

Letter to the Editor
[Stu News Newport](#)
April 16, 2019

Now's the time to learn more about JWA's General Aviation plans

We appreciated Stu News' recent coverage of the April 6 John Wayne Airport Town Hall. The meeting certainly had its rough spots, but we believe the presence of approximately 500 community members demonstrated to the County of Orange (County) just how deeply concerned Newport Beach, and other communities already impacted by the airport's operations, are about the proposed General Aviation Improvement Program (GAIP).

The County sees the proposed project as a modernization of the airport's general aviation facilities and a way to provide better service to its airport customers. We see much more than that. Especially now that JWA's staff is recommending the approval of a project alternative that will result in an expansion of the airport's general aviation facilities and amenities, and more corporate and private jet flights over Newport Beach and other Orange County cities. Thus, this proposed plan should be called the General Aviation Expansion Program.

If you share the City's concerns about the GAIP, now is the time to act. The Airport Commission is expected to vote on the GAIP and the environmental impact report on April 17. The Board of Supervisors is scheduled to consider the GAIP and the environmental impact report on April 23.

We urge you to:

–Learn more about this issue, and what the City will and will not support, by visiting the City's website at www.newportbeachca.gov/gaip.

–Tell the County how you feel about it. Attend the:

~Orange County Airport Commission meeting on April 17 at 5 p.m., at the JWA Administrative Offices, 3160 Airway Ave. in Costa Mesa.

~Orange County Board of Supervisors hearing on April 23 at 9:30 a.m., at the County Hall of Administration, 333 W. Santa Ana Blvd. in Santa Ana.

–Write to the Board of Supervisors. Go to www.ocgov.com/bos/opinion for information.

We strongly encourage you to take a few moments to learn more about this pending project and join our efforts to protect our community from any further noise and air quality impacts related to John Wayne Airport's operations. Your voice matters!

Mayor Diane B. Dixon
Council Member Jeff Herdman
Council Member Kevin Muldoon