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ROSENDAHL CALLS FOR NEW STUDY OF RUNWAY SAFETY *Councilman Asks for Analysis of End-Around Taxiway*

LOS ANGELES – Unconvinced by "bogus arguments" in favor of moving runways north into Westchester and Playa del Rey, Councilman Bill Rosendahl today demanded a new airport safety study that examines an end-around taxiway system.

Rosendahl submitted a [council motion](#) today calling previous safety studies "highly suspect," and requesting Los Angeles World Airports (LAWA) to work with a panel of community representatives to select an objective firm to conduct a more comprehensive study that examines alternatives to runway movement. The motion was seconded by Council President Eric Garcetti and Councilmember Bernard Parks.

"If there is truly a safety issue, we want to deal with it," Rosendahl said. "But LAWA has simply not demonstrated any evidence that the runways need to be moved a single inch. They are making bogus arguments and are using 'safety' as a smokescreen for expansion. We need a real study – something genuine, independent and credible."

Rosendahl said that peer review studies released last week by LAWA were "biased and unfounded." He said the studies were conducted in a cursory manner by airline insiders, came to no clear conclusions, and strayed from safety issues to focus more on "operational efficiency," which many consider to be code for "expansion".

Rosendahl's motion calls for a new study to be conducted by an independent firm selected with community input. The study would be required to focus only on safety issues, recommend a range of potential solutions to any identified problems, and specifically examine the feasibility of an end-around taxiway system.

The end-around taxiway system, such as is used at Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport and Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport, would eliminate the need to move the runways in the North Airfield by allowing for arrived flights to circumvent the inboard runway as they taxi to their gates. Such a taxiway would eliminate the most likely opportunities for runway incursions, ending the current debate on safety of the northern runways.

Rosendahl submitted his motion one day after moderating a Town Hall meeting on runway safety issues attended by several hundred Westchester and Playa del Rey residents. At the meeting, opponents of LAX expansion easily debunked LAWA safety arguments.

LAWA's proposal to move the north runway 340 feet or more into Westchester and Playa del Rey has drawn sharp rebuke from U.S. Rep. Jane Harman, U.S. Rep. Maxine Waters, and Los Angeles County Supervisor Don Knabe. Councilman Bernard Parks attended the Town Hall meeting to condemn the runway movement, and Assemblyman Ted Lieu and Assemblyman Curren Price also sent representatives to voice support for the community position.

Rosendahl's motion calls on the Board of Airport Commissioners (BOAC) to examine the results of the new study before releasing formal proposals for LAX modernization.

The motion says that the new safety study should be shaped by a community advisory committee, which would also have input into BOAC's selection of the study group. The committee would include representatives of the Alliance for a Regional Solution to Airport Congestion (ARSAC), the local neighborhood council, elected officials, neighboring jurisdictions, airlines, and the Los Angeles business community.

The motion was referred to the council's Trade, Commerce and Tourism Committee.

The LAX North Runway and Modernization Town Hall meeting will air today on the City's television station, Channel 35, at 4:00pm and Friday, June 8 at 3:15am and 5:45am.

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