

John Wayne Airport Update - General Aviation Improvement Program

The date that the John Wayne Airport (JWA) General Aviation Improvement Project (GAIP) will again be considered by the Orange County Board of Supervisors (board) has been changed to Tuesday, June 25, 9:30 a.m. at the Hall of Administration in Santa Ana. [[Information here](#)]

The Board first discussed the GAIP at its May 7 meeting. Dozens of community members spoke and many expressed concerns related to the project’s potential to increase general aviation jet flights, create additional noise and pollution impacts, and to reduce the amount of space allocated for lighter general aviation aircraft.

Representatives of the cities of Newport Beach and Costa Mesa, and Supervisor Michelle Steel, spoke in support of Alternative 3. However, a motion to approve that alternative failed. The Board discussed aspects of Alternative 1 and Supervisor Andrew Do proposed a compromise solution, a “modified Alternative 1.” The concern with the County-favored Alternative 1 is the potential increase in general aviation flights (e.g., small jets like Jet Suite X) that are not limited by the airport curfew and can take-off/land at any hour.

A comparison of Alternatives 1, 3 and the proposed compromise are shown in the table below.

Alternative 1	Alternative 3	Proposed Compromise
3 new full service FBOs	2 existing full service FBOs	2 new full service FBOs
1 new limited service FBO		1 new limited service FBO
1 existing limited service FBO	2 existing limited FBOs	1 existing limited service FBO
New GA/GAF Terminal	No GA Terminal/GAF	No GAF
Correction of existing, non-standard design features	Correction of existing non-standard design features	Correction of existing non-standard design features
76 Based Turbo Jets	58 Based Turbo Jets	65 Based Turbo Jets
26 Based Turboprop	19 Based Turboprop	26 Based Turboprop
200 Based Single Engine	360 Based Single Engine	339 Based Single Engine
37 Based Multi Engine	37 Based Multi Engine	35 Based Multi Engine
		Increase hangar space for small GA planes

After further discussion, the Board continued the item to allow time for County of Orange staff and consultants to evaluate the proposal and determine if it is in alignment with the GAIP's environmental documentation. The City of Newport Beach (City) is awaiting the results of the County's analysis of the proposed compromise.

There are elements of the proposal – such as limiting the Fixed Based Operators (FBOs or terminals) to two, eliminating the General Aviation Facility (GAF), and providing for a lower number of based turbo jets than proposed in Alternative 1 – that are similar to Alternative 3, the City's preferred option. The City of Newport Beach indicates that it will continue to strongly support any plan or proposal that maintains, and oppose any plan or proposal that proposes, any significant change to the existing level of general aviation operations or the current level of general aviation support facilities.

For updates from the City on the GAIP, please visit NewportBeachca.gov/gaip. The Board of Supervisors meetings are held at 9:30 a.m. in the Board Hearing Room located in the Hall of Administration 333 W. Santa Ana Blvd. 10 Civic Center Plaza, 1st Floor Santa Ana, CA 92701 and will consider the GAIP at its meeting on June 25, 2019.

Online Petition - Please consider adding your name to the growing list of concerned residents.

In addition, the City of Costa Mesa is circulating an [Online Petition](#) to express concerns about noise and jet-related environmental and health impacts on residents and schools from aircraft using JWA.

Thank you for your interest in this important issue.

Debbie Stevens

President



Corona del Mar Residents Association
PO Box 1500 | Corona del Mar, CA 92625 | VM/Text 949.478.2454
Cdmra.org | [Facebook @CdMRA](#)

Corona del Mar Residents Assn (CdMRA) is a 501(c)(3) public charity (ID #83-0928052).
Donations to CdMRA are tax-deductible to the extent the law allows.