

**COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA**  
**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS POLICY**

**Subject**

Development of McClellan-Palomar Airport

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**Purpose**

To provide a policy establishing guidelines for the operation and development of McClellan-Palomar Airport.

**Background**

McClellan-Palomar Airport is a County-owned airport facility, with approximately 339 based aircraft. The development of land adjacent to the airport has restricted the airport to a single runway. Runway pavement strength limits the weight of aircraft using the facility to a maximum of 110,000 pounds dual tandem landing gear. There is a need to ensure that residential and commercial land uses around the airport and airport operations remain compatible.

**Policy**

It is the policy of the Board of Supervisors that:

1. The role of McClellan-Palomar Airport shall be to provide air transportation for the residents of North San Diego County and to facilitate general aviation support activities while minimizing noise impacts on surrounding areas and communities.
2. Scheduled commuter airline operations are limited to aircraft having 70 seats which meet the approach speed and wingspan categories for McClellan-Palomar Airport in accordance with FAA regulations. Commuter airline aircraft shall meet the FAA Stage III or IV noise criteria.
3. The County will take a proactive role working with local agencies, the San Diego County Regional Airport Authority, and the FAA to protect the airspace around the airport from encroachment and to promote compatible off airport land development, and to ensure the future safety and compatibility of the existing runway length and displacement threshold.
4. The County will operate the airport in accordance with any adopted FAA Part 150 Noise Compatibility Plan recommendations and in full compliance with any State or Federal mandated noise standards relating to the operation of a public airport. The program will recognize the Noise Element of the City of Carlsbad's General Plan and implement mitigation measures consistent with State, Federal and FAA Grant Assurance

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Agreements to minimize noise impacts.

5. The County will monitor aircraft noise and verify the Community Noise Equivalent Level (CNEL) noise contours within the airport influence area as described in the Palomar Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan as well as monitor pilot compliance with the County Airport's Voluntary Noise Abatement Program. The County will also continue to monitor air traffic around the airport with a noise monitoring and flight tracking system and implement procedures consistent with State, Federal and FAA Grant Assurance Agreements.

6. The Airport Manager will produce, distribute and actively promote a detailed voluntary noise abatement program for the airport. The program will contain specific flight information and a chart identifying noise sensitive areas. The voluntary noise abatement program will be updated annually and distributed to pilots. The Airport Manager will request pilot compliance with the program.

7. This policy recognizes the San Diego County Regional Airport Authority as the Airport Land Use Commission responsible for developing an Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan for the Airport.

**Sunset Date**

This policy will be reviewed for continuance by 12-31-30.

**Board Action**

10-9-02 (5)

10-6-87 (58)

12-12-89 (49)

6-5-90 (43)

10-23-90 (45)

4-30-91 (32)

9-17-91 (42)

7-16-96 (19)

12-9-08 (33)

02-24-10 (2)

12-14-16 (16)

10-25-23 (7)

01-08-25 (4) Repealed

**CAO Reference**

1. Department of Public Works