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December 11, 2024

**Environmental Review Update Checklist Form
For projects with Previously Approved Environmental Documents**

**FOR PURPOSES OF CONSIDERATION OF
COMMERCIAL AIRLINE FACILITIES LEASE AND OPERATIONS AGREEMENT
WITH AMERICAN AIRLINES, INC. AT McCLELLAN-PALOMAR AIRPORT**

The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines Sections 15162 through 15168 set forth the criteria for determining the appropriate additional environmental documentation, if any, to be completed when there is a previously adopted Negative Declaration or a previously certified Environmental Impact Report (EIR), covering the project for which a subsequent discretionary action is required. This Environmental Review Update Checklist Form has been prepared in accordance with CEQA Guidelines Section 15168, to explain the rationale for determining whether any additional environmental documentation is needed for the subject discretionary action.

1. Background on the previously certified Program EIR:

A Program EIR (PEIR) for the McClellan-Palomar Airport Master Plan Update (Project; State Clearinghouse No. 2016021105) was certified by the County of San Diego (County) Board of Supervisors on December 8, 2021 (Item #6). The Airport Master Plan Update provides the framework to guide future airport development based on its ability to meet existing and future aviation demand in a safe and cost-effective manner. It evaluated proposed improvements and based their constructability on their ability to meet technical, economic, and environmental considerations. The Master Plan Update is a long-term planning document, and the exact scope, scale, and timing for implementation of each proposed element had not yet been defined because project-specific information had not been fully developed to quantify exact impacts. Therefore, the associated environmental impact for each element, and the Master Plan Update as a whole, was analyzed at a programmatic level for the purpose of environmental analysis. Additional analysis under CEQA was anticipated for projects at the time that they are proposed.

The Master Plan Update is a phased 20-year strategy to prioritize projects at the Airport that meet the objectives described in the PEIR. As such, 16 project elements were identified that are categorized either as airfield or landside based on the nature of each project element. Regarding aircraft activity, the County acknowledges that although it doesn't have discretion or enforcement over non-commercial aviation activity, it does have discretion over the approval of commercial air service leases (i.e., allowing the use of County facilities for the purpose of commercial air carrier service).

In summary, the PEIR analyzed the environmental impacts associated with various airfield and landside improvements as well aircraft operations through 2036, including commercial air service. The PEIR found significant effects to Aesthetics, Biological Resources, Hazards and Hazardous Materials, Noise, and Transportation/Traffic. These effects were determined to be mitigable or avoided to a level below significance.

2. Lead agency name and address:
County of San Diego, Department of Public Works Airports Division
5510 Overland Avenue, Suite 410
San Diego, CA 92123
 - a. Contact: Jeff Kashak, Environmental Planning Manager
 - b. Phone number: (858) 288-5740
 - c. E-mail: Jeff.Kashak@sdcounty.ca.gov
3. Proposed action's applicant name and address:
American Airlines, Inc.
1 Skyview Drive
MD 2W.188B
Fort Worth, TX 76155
 - a. Contact: Mitch Goodman
4. Summary of the present proposed action:

American Airlines, Inc. (operating as and hereinafter referred to as "American Airlines") proposes to enter into a two-year lease (hereinafter "proposed action" or "proposed operations"), as a tenant of County of San Diego, Department of Public Works Airports Division (County Airports) at McClellan-Palomar Airport (Airport) to support the commencement of commercial air carrier service. American Airlines would operate in accordance with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Part 121 Air Carrier Certification operational specifications and adhere to the requirements of FAA's Part 139 Airport Certification at the Airport. County Airports, as the Airport Sponsor, would use revenues generated from the lease to support the County's Airport Enterprise Fund, which is used to fund the maintenance and operations of the Airport system.

American Airlines proposes to operate Embraer 175 turbojet aircraft. American Airlines proposes to operate two departure flights per day (and receive two arrival flights per day). As accommodated by the existing terminal facilities, American Airlines would utilize the existing ticket counter spaces to check in passengers, and passengers would then await their flight in the current hold room. American Airlines anticipates up to 76 passengers in the hold room and up to four airline crew aboard each flight for commercial air carrier service. American Airlines proposes approximately 55,480 enplanements per year¹.

The airside and landside ground facilities at the Airport were constructed and are operated in part with federal funds from the FAA's Airport Improvement Program. The County is responsible for the day-to-day management of the Airport's ground facilities.

The acceptance of federal grant funding requires compliance with a list of Airport Sponsor Assurances enforced by the FAA. Assurance 22a states that the County:

*"Would make the airport available as an airport for public use on reasonable terms and without unjust discrimination to all types, kinds and classes of aeronautical activities, including commercial aeronautical activities offering services to the public at the airport."*²

In 1996, the FAA issued a Part 139 Airport Operating Certificate to County Airports, which was most recently reissued in 2005. As a certificated airport, the Airport was deemed a Class I facility for air carrier service.

¹ American Airlines proposes 76 passengers x 2 departing flights per day x 365 days = 55,480 enplanements/year

² U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Aviation Administration "Airport Sponsor Assurances," 2011.

As a tenant at the Airport, American Airlines would use the existing vehicle parking facilities, aircraft ramp space, and other infrastructure to accommodate a commercial air carrier services. The airline will also use ground support equipment, including an aircraft fueler to refuel, Ground Power Unit to supply energy to the aircraft, and Air Start Unit to start the engines. These services will be provided to American Airlines by the Airport’s Fixed Base Operators.

5. Does the project for which a subsequent discretionary action is now proposed differ in any way from the previously approved project?

YES

NO

The McClellan-Palomar Airport Master Plan Update Program EIR (PEIR), as certified by the County Board of Supervisors on December 8, 2021, included the environmental review of forecasted commercial air passenger service up to 575,000 annual enplanements³. American Airlines proposes up to 55,480 enplanements each year during the two-year lease, which is approximately 10% of the operations previously evaluated in the PEIR and uses aircraft modeled in the evaluation of environmental impacts. When considering the previously-approved commercial airline activity, the combined authorized annual enplanements would be 74,460.

Action	Annual Enplanements
Advanced Airlines LLC (dba Taos Air) [2020]	3,000
Delux Public Charter LLC (dba JSX Air) [2023]	18,980
American Airlines, Inc. [proposed]	55,480
Total	77,460
Exceeds 575,000 annual enplanements analyzed in Master Plan Update PEIR?	No

Accordingly, American Airlines’ proposal is well below the amount of enplanements previously evaluated in the PEIR associated with the facility’s commercial service as disclosed to the public in the previously approved Project. Pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines Section 15168, County Airports considers the proposed action as being within the scope of the Project covered by the PEIR.

³ Enplanement = fare-paying passenger aboard scheduled flights that originate at an airport.

ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS POTENTIALLY AFFECTED: The environmental factors checked below would be potentially affected by this proposed action and involve at least one impact that is a “Potentially Significant Impact” or a “Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated,” as indicated by the checklist on the following pages.

NONE

Aesthetics

Biological Resources

Geology & Soils

Hydrology & Water Quality

Noise

Recreation

Utilities & Service Systems

Agriculture and Forestry
Resources

Cultural Resources

Greenhouse Gas Emissions

Land Use & Planning

Population & Housing

Transportation

Wildfire

Air Quality

Energy

Hazards & Hazardous
Materials

Mineral Resources

Public Services

Tribal Cultural Resources

Mandatory Findings of
Significance

DETERMINATION:

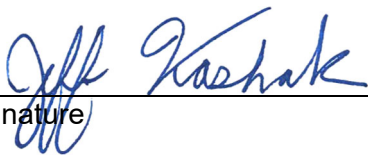
On the basis of this analysis, the Department of Public Works has determined that:

- No substantial changes are proposed in the project and there are no substantial changes in the circumstances under which the project will be undertaken that will require major revisions to the previous EIR due to the involvement of significant new environmental effects or a substantial increase in the severity of previously identified significant effects. Also, there is no "new information of substantial importance" as that term is used in CEQA Guidelines Section 15162(a)(3). Therefore, the previously adopted ND or previously certified EIR is adequate without modification.

- No substantial changes are proposed in the project and there are no substantial changes in the circumstances under which the project will be undertaken that will require major revisions to the previous EIR or ND due to the involvement of significant new environmental effects or a substantial increase in the severity of previously identified significant effects. Also, there is no "new information of substantial importance" as that term is used in CEQA Guidelines Section 15162(a)(3). Therefore, because the project is a residential project in conformance with, and pursuant to, a Specific Plan with an EIR completed after January 1, 1980, the project is exempt pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15182.

- Substantial changes are proposed in the project or there are substantial changes in the circumstances under which the project will be undertaken that will require major revisions to the previous ND due to the involvement of significant new environmental effects or a substantial increase in the severity of previously identified significant effects. Or, there is "new information of substantial importance," as that term is used in CEQA Guidelines Section 15162(a)(3). However all new significant environmental effects or a substantial increase in severity of previously identified significant effects are clearly avoidable through the incorporation of mitigation measures agreed to by the project applicant. Therefore, a SUBSEQUENT ND is required.

- Substantial changes are proposed in the project or there are substantial changes in the circumstances under which the project will be undertaken that will require major revisions to the previous ND or EIR due to the involvement of significant new environmental effects or a substantial increase in the severity of previously identified significant effects. Or, there is "new information of substantial importance," as that term is used in CEQA Guidelines Section 15162(a)(3). Therefore, a SUBSEQUENT or SUPPLEMENTAL EIR is required.

 Signature	12/11/24 Date
Jeff Kashak Printed Name	Environmental Planning Manager Title

EVALUATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

CEQA Guidelines Sections 15162 through 15164 set forth the criteria for determining the appropriate additional environmental documentation, if any, to be completed when there is a previously adopted ND or a previously certified EIR for the project.

CEQA Guidelines, Section 15162(a) and 15163 state that when an ND has been adopted or an EIR certified for a project, no Subsequent or Supplemental EIR or Subsequent Negative Declaration shall be prepared for that project unless the lead agency determines, on the basis of substantial evidence in light of the whole public record, one or more of the following:

1. Substantial changes are proposed in the project which will require major revisions of the previous EIR or Negative Declaration due to the involvement of new significant environmental effects or a substantial increase in the severity of previously identified significant effects.
2. Substantial changes occur with respect to the circumstances under which the project is undertaken which will require major revisions of the previous EIR or Negative Declaration due to the involvement of new significant environmental effects or a substantial increase in the severity of previously identified significant effects.
3. New information of substantial importance, which was not known and could not have been known with the exercise of reasonable diligence at the time the previous EIR was certified as complete or the Negative Declaration was adopted, shows any of the following:
 - a. The project will have one or more significant effects not discussed in the previous EIR or Negative Declaration; or
 - b. Significant effects previously examined will be substantially more severe than shown in the previously adopted Negative Declaration or previously certified EIR; or
 - c. Mitigation measures or alternatives previously found not to be feasible would in fact be feasible, and would substantially reduce one or more significant effects of the project, but the project proponents decline to adopt the mitigation measure or alternative; or
 - d. Mitigation measures or alternatives which are considerably different from those analyzed in the previous Negative Declaration or EIR would substantially reduce one or more significant effects on the environment, but the project proponents decline to adopt the mitigation measure or alternative.

CEQA Guidelines, Section 15164(a) states that an Addendum to a previously certified EIR may be prepared if some changes or additions are necessary but none of the conditions described in Section 15162 calling for preparation of a Subsequent or Supplemental EIR have occurred.

CEQA Guidelines, Section 15164(b) states that an Addendum to a previously adopted Negative Declaration may be prepared if only minor technical changes or additions are necessary.

If the factors listed in CEQA Guidelines Sections 15162, 15163, or 15164 have not occurred or are not met, no changes to the previously certified EIR or previously adopted ND are necessary.

The following responses detail any changes in the project, changes in circumstances under which the project is undertaken and/or "new information of substantial importance" that may cause one or more effects to environmental resources. The responses support the "Determination," above, as to the type of environmental documentation required, if any.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW UPDATE CHECKLIST

I. AESTHETICS – Since the previous PEIR was certified, are there any changes in the project, changes in circumstances under which the project is undertaken and/or "new information of substantial importance" that cause one or more effects to aesthetic resources, except as provided in Public Resources Code Section 21099, including: scenic vistas; scenic resources including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, or historic buildings within a state scenic highway; public views of the site and its surroundings; existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings; applicable zoning and other regulations governing scenic quality; or day or nighttime views in the area?

YES

NO

The proposed operations of a commercial air carrier service would not substantially change the composition of an existing scenic vista in a way that would adversely alter the visual quality or character of the view. No new permanent structures, and no alterations to existing structures are proposed. Accordingly, there would not be a change to the visual landscape. Therefore, the proposed action would not have an adverse effect on a scenic vista.

The proposed action location is within the existing infrastructure of the Airport and consists of densely developed land adjacent to existing aviation use areas. The proposed location does not possess any scenic resources such as trees, rock outcroppings, or historic buildings. Therefore, the proposed action would not have any substantial adverse effect on a scenic resource within a State scenic highway.

The proposed action does not propose discernable changes to the visual environment.

Sources of existing lighting in the vicinity of the proposed action site include existing aviation navigational lighting at the Airport, and lighting associated with nighttime commercial, residential, and local roads in the surrounding area. The proposed action would not introduce new lighting sources or change the existing lighting at the Airport. The proposed operations do not propose construction or alteration of existing outdoor lighting or building materials with highly reflective properties such as highly reflective glass or high-gloss surface colors. Therefore, the proposed action would not create any new sources of light pollution that could contribute to skyglow, light trespass or glare, and adversely affect day or nighttime views in area.

The proposed American Airlines operations would use the existing air service infrastructure at the Airport, as analyzed in the 2021 Master Plan Update PEIR, and the operations would be well within the forecast used for evaluation of environmental impacts. There would be no substantial changes to the Project, changes in circumstances under which the Project is undertaken, and/or "new information of substantial importance" that would cause one or more effects to aesthetics.

II. AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY RESOURCES -- Since the previous PEIR was certified, are there any changes in the project, changes in circumstances under which the project is undertaken and/or "new information of substantial importance" that cause one or more effects to agriculture or forestry resources including: conversion of Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance to a non-agricultural use, conflicts with existing zoning for agricultural use or Williamson Act contract, or conversion of forest land (as defined in Public Resources Code section 12220(g)), timberland (as defined by Public Resources Code section 4526), or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined by Government Code section 51104(g))?

YES

NO

The proposed action site does not contain any agricultural resources, lands designated as Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide or Local Importance as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency. Therefore, no agricultural resources including Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide or Local Importance would be converted to a non-agricultural use. The proposed site is zoned manufacturing, which is not considered to be an agricultural zone.

Additionally, the proposed action site (McClellan-Palomar Airport) is not under a Williamson Act Contract. Therefore, the proposed action does not conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act Contract. The proposed operations do not contain forest lands or timberland. The County does not have any existing Timberland Production Zones. In addition, the proposed action is consistent with existing zoning and a rezone of the property is not proposed. Therefore, implementation of the proposed action would not conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land, timberland or timberland production zones. The proposed action site, including any off-site improvements, do not contain any forest lands as defined in Public Resources Code section 12220(g); therefore, implementation of the proposed action would not result in the loss or conversion of forest land to a non-forest use.

Moreover, the proposed action is not located in the vicinity of off-site forest resources. The proposed action site and surrounding area within a radius of 0.25 mile do not contain any active agricultural operations or lands designated as Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide or Local Importance as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency. Therefore, no Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, Farmland of Statewide or Local Importance, or active agricultural operations would be converted to a non-agricultural use.

The proposed American Airlines' operations would use the existing air service infrastructure at the Airport, as analyzed in the 2021 Master Plan Update PEIR, and the operations would be well within the forecast used for evaluation of environmental impacts. There would be no substantial changes to the Project, changes in circumstances under which the Project is undertaken, and/or "new information of substantial importance" that would cause one or more effects to agriculture and forestry resources.

III. AIR QUALITY -- Since the previous PEIR was certified, are there any changes in the project, changes in circumstances under which the project is undertaken and/or "new information of substantial importance" that cause one or more effects to air quality including: conflicts with or obstruction of implementation of the San Diego Regional Air Quality Strategy (RAQS) or applicable portions of the State Implementation Plan (SIP); a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard; exposure of sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations; or creation of objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people?

YES

NO

When studying potential environmental impacts of a project, two components must be analyzed: construction and operation. The proposed action includes issuance of a lease to allow for a commercial air carrier (American Airlines) the use of the Airport's ground facilities. The project would not produce construction-related emissions as American Airlines would use the existing passenger terminal, parking facilities, aircraft ramp space, and infrastructure to accommodate passengers. Thus, no construction-related air quality emissions would be generated.

Regarding operations, the proposed action would result in emissions associated with aircraft operations as well as ground transportation emissions due to an increase in the number of passengers accessing the Airport (i.e., increase in vehicle trips). It is important to note that ongoing aircraft operations are under the jurisdiction and regulatory authority of FAA; however, because County Airports has discretion over the approval of commercial air carrier services, it has been analyzed pursuant to CEQA. As further explained below, air quality emissions associated with the proposed action were previously anticipated and analyzed in the PEIR.

The proposed commercial air carrier service by American Airlines would result in 1,460 aircraft operations per year⁴. By comparison, the PEIR anticipated an increase in aviation activity at the Airport (including air carrier service) and analyzed up to 208,004 aircraft operations per year using the highest planning scenario, PAL 2. After analyzing air quality emissions of 208,004 annual aircraft operations, the PEIR determined air quality impacts would be less than significant.

Furthermore, the proposed commercial air carrier service by American Airlines would result in 55,480 enplanements per year. By comparison, the PEIR anticipated and analyzed up to 575,000 enplanements per year using the highest planning scenario, PAL 2. After analyzing air quality emissions of 575,000 annual enplanements, the PEIR determined air quality impacts would be less than significant.

Specifically, the PEIR demonstrated that commercial airline operations using forecasted enplanements would be below Federal De Minimis threshold levels as summarized in the PEIR’s Table 3.1.2-7 below:

PEIR Table 3.1.2-7. PEIR Project Emissions from Operational Activities

Scenario	Total Emissions (tons per year)						
	CO	VOC	NOX	SOX	PM _{2.5}	PM ₁₀	Pb
Master Plan Update	97.42	3.87	47.13	7.29	2.65	7.63	0
Federal De Minimis Threshold Level	NA	100	100	NA	NA	NA	NA
Impact	No	No	No	No	No	No	No

Regarding sensitive receptors, exhaust emissions from motor vehicles could potentially cause a direct, localized CO “hotspot” impact if located at or near proposed development or sensitive receptors. As analyzed in the PEIR, no sensitive receptors are located within a quarter-mile (the radius determined by the SCAQMD in which the dilution of pollutants is typically significant) of the proposed action and Airport. Furthermore, neither the Master Plan Update nor the proposed commercial air service includes the major expansion or construction of new stationary sources that could potentially emit TACs and increase long-term public health risks, nor do they involve placing sensitive receptors closer to the Airport.

The proposed action does not include heavy industrial or agricultural uses that are typically associated with odor complaints. The proposed action involves use of the Airport by American Airlines, allowing this commercial air carrier to use the Airport’s existing ground facilities. Commercial airline activity is an ongoing, current use at the Airport. While the proposed action would result in fueling operations at the Airport, all fuel storage, transport, and handling would follow existing protocols as outlined in the Airport’s Airport Certification Manual, which has been approved by FAA, is reviewed annually, and was last updated in November 2023.

The proposed American Airlines operations would use the existing passenger terminal, parking facilities, aircraft ramp space, and infrastructure as analyzed in the PEIR, and the operations would be well within the forecast used for evaluation of environmental impacts. There would be no

⁴ 2 departures + 2 arrivals = 4 aircraft operations per day x 365 days = 1,460 operations

substantial changes to the Project, changes in circumstances under which the Project is undertaken, and/or "new information of substantial importance" that would cause one or more effects to air quality.

IV. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES -- Since the previous PEIR was certified, are there any changes in the project, changes in circumstances under which the project is undertaken and/or "new information of substantial importance" that cause one or more effects to biological resources including: adverse effects on any sensitive natural community (including riparian habitat) or species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in a local or regional plan, policy, or regulation, or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; adverse effects to federally protected wetlands; interference with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with wildlife corridors, or impeding the use of native wildlife nursery sites; and/or conflicts with the provisions of any adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Communities Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional or state habitat conservation plan, policies or ordinances?

YES

NO

The proposed action consists of entering into a Commercial Airline Service Facilities Lease and Operations Agreement, allowing a commercial air carrier to use the Airport's existing ground facilities. American Airlines would operate using existing infrastructure, with no construction or operational impacts to biological resources. Therefore, the proposed action would not have a substantial adverse effect on any candidate, sensitive, or special status species and would not contribute to cumulative impacts to these designated species. As such, no impacts to riparian or sensitive natural communities are associated with the proposed action. There would be no impacts to state or federal wetlands, including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, stream, lake, river or Waters of the U.S. or State that could potentially be impacted through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, diversion or obstruction by the proposed development. Therefore, no impacts would occur to state or federally protected wetlands. No impacts to the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or native wildlife nursery sites would occur. The proposed operations would not conflict with local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, including adopted habitat conservation plans.

The proposed American Airlines operations would use the existing infrastructure at the airport, as analyzed in the 2021 Master Plan Update PEIR, and the operations would be well within the forecast used for evaluation of environmental impacts. There would be no substantial changes to the Project, changes in circumstances under which the Project is undertaken, and/or "new information of substantial importance" that would cause one or more effects to biological resources.

V. CULTURAL RESOURCES -- Since the previous PEIR was certified, are there any changes in the project, changes in circumstances under which the project is undertaken and/or "new information of substantial importance" that cause one or more effects to cultural resources including: causing a change in the significance of a historical or archaeological resource pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5; and/or disturbing any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?

YES

NO

The proposed action consists of issuance of a Commercial Airline Service Facilities Lease and Operations Agreement, allowing a commercial air carrier to use the Airport's existing ground facilities. American Airlines would operate using existing infrastructure, with no construction or operational impacts to historic or cultural resources. The proposed action does not include nor is there any

reasonable expectation of any subsurface ground disturbing activities. Therefore, there would not be any potential for impacts to archaeological resources. The proposed action would not disturb any human remains because the proposed action site does not include a formal cemetery or any archaeological resources that might contain interred human remains.

The proposed American Airlines operations would use the existing infrastructure at the airport, as analyzed in the 2021 Master Plan Update PEIR, and the operations would be well within the forecast used for evaluation of environmental impacts. There would be no substantial changes to the Project, changes in circumstances under which the Project is undertaken, and/or "new information of substantial importance" that would cause one or more effects to historic or cultural resources.

VI. ENERGY-- Since the previous PEIR was certified, are there any changes in the project, changes in circumstances under which the project is undertaken and/or "new information of substantial importance" that cause one or more effects to energy resources including: causing a potentially significant environmental impact due to wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources, during project construction or operation; conflict with or obstruct a state or local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency?

YES

NO

The proposed action involves use of the Airport by American Airlines, allowing this commercial air carrier to use the Airport's existing ground facilities. The PEIR, which anticipated and analyzed commercial air service among other elements, concluded that the Master Plan Update would be consistent with County plans, including the Strategic Energy Plan, Renewable Energy Plan, Comprehensive Strategic Plan to Reduce Waste, and would be consistent with the San Diego Association of Governments San Diego Forward Regional Plan and the SDG&E Long-term Resource Plan. The PEIR concluded that implementation of the Master Plan Update, including commercial air service, would not result in energy being used in a wasteful manner or conflict with adopted energy conservation plans, and therefore, would result in less than significant impacts.

The proposed American Airlines operations are within the scope of activities previously anticipated in the Master Plan Update and PEIR. American Airlines would use existing infrastructure at the airport, as analyzed in the 2021 Master Plan Update PEIR, and the operations would be well within the forecast used for evaluation of environmental impacts. There would be no substantial changes to the Project, changes in circumstances under which the Project is undertaken, and/or "new information of substantial importance" that would cause one or more effects to energy resources.

VII. GEOLOGY AND SOILS -- Since the previous PEIR was certified, are there any changes in the project, changes in circumstances under which the project is undertaken and/or "new information of substantial importance" that result in one or more effects from geology and soils including: directly or indirectly cause potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving rupture of a known earthquake fault, seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction, strong seismic ground shaking, or landslides; result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil; produce unstable geological conditions that will result in adverse impacts resulting from landslides, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction or collapse; being located on expansive soil creating substantial direct or indirect risks to life or property; and/or having soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of wastewater?

YES

NO

The proposed action consists of issuance of a Commercial Airline Service Facilities Lease and Operations Agreement, allowing a commercial air carrier to use the Airport's existing ground facilities. American Airlines would operate using existing infrastructure. The proposed action does not propose, nor is there any reasonable expectation of, any subsurface ground disturbing activities.

As analyzed in the PEIR, the Airport is not located in the Alquist-Priolo Zone and there are no known active faults near the Airport. The closest active fault to the Airport is the Newport-Inglewood Rose Canyon Fault, located more than four miles west of the Airport. Furthermore, the Airport is not located in a known liquefaction area or landslide susceptibility zone, and although expansive soil classifications are known to be present at the Airport, any future development would comply California Building Code requirements. As such, the EIR concluded that impacts to Geology and Soils would be less than significant. Nonetheless, the proposed action does not include any ground disturbing activities, development of structures, or other physical improvements. The proposed action simply allows the use of existing County facilities for the purpose of commercial air carrier service.

The proposed American Airlines operations would use the existing air service infrastructure at the airport, as analyzed in the 2021 Master Plan Update PEIR, and the operations would be well within the forecast used for evaluation of environmental impacts. There would be no substantial changes to the Project, changes in circumstances under which the Project is undertaken, and/or "new information of substantial importance" that would cause one or more effects to geology and soil resources.

VIII. GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS -- Since the previous PEIR was certified, are there any changes in the project, changes in circumstances under which the project is undertaken and/or "new information of substantial importance" that result in one or more effects related to environmental effects associated with the generation of greenhouse gas emissions, either direct or indirect, or compliance with applicable plans, policies or regulations adopted for the purpose of reducing greenhouse gas emissions?

YES

NO

The proposed action involves allowing American Airlines to use the Airport's existing ground facilities. The proposed American Airlines operations are within the scope of activities previously anticipated in the 2021 Master Plan Update and associated PEIR. Due to the evolving nature of establishing GHG thresholds and the County's Climate Action Plan (CAP), the following includes a brief background of how GHG emissions were analyzed for the Master Plan Update.

On February 14, 2018, the County Board of Supervisors adopted a long-term programmatic CAP that outlined the actions the County would undertake to achieve its proportional share of State GHG emissions reductions. However, as a result of litigation, the Board of Supervisors rescinded and vacated the CAP and associated actions on September 30, 2020. Nonetheless, as discussed in the PEIR and its supporting documents, County Airports did not rely on the CAP for its GHG emissions analysis of the Master Plan Update. The PEIR developed a project-specific GHG threshold for which to compare against the Master Plan Update's anticipated GHG emissions. The method involved developing a scientifically-based and widely used emissions screening level. For analysis that would exceed the screening level, the PEIR discussed the methodology for applying a Service Population threshold to consider GHG efficiency. Analysis was conducted using a threshold based on CARB's guidance and emissions reduction targets from the 2017 Scoping Plan Update and using a project- and location-specific approach to determining GHG efficiency, as shown in the table below.

PEIR Table 3.1.5-7. Net Increase in Operational Activities GHG Emissions 2036
Between Project vs. No Project

Scenario	Annual Emissions (Net MT CO2e)	2036 SP	Annual Emission (MT CO2e/SP)	2036 Threshold (MT CO2e/SP)	Significant Impact?
PAL1	13,469	1,552,067	0.009	3.01	No
PAL2	24,115		0.016		No

Note: This table presents the 2036 emissions for PAL 1 and PAL 2 with the Master Plan Update (which is the Master Plan Update's full implementation year) compared to the same timeframe without the Master Plan Update. While CEQA only requires the analysis of the project, the PEIR acknowledges that aircraft operations would naturally grow overtime even without the Master Plan Update. This table reflects only the GHG emissions due to the Master Plan Update.

Regarding applicable plans, policies or regulations, state and local GHG reduction plans have limited applicability due to the unique nature of aviation activity and aircraft operations. For example, the 2017 Scoping Plan does not contain any measure or goal requirements for aviation-related GHG emissions; thus, the Scoping Plan would achieve the identified statewide goals for 2030 regardless of aviation activity. Similarly, the County's 2018 CAP did not contain a measure or goal requirements for aviation-related GHG emissions, and it would have achieved the CAP objectives regardless of aviation activity.

The proposed American Airlines operations would use the existing infrastructure at the airport, as analyzed in the PEIR, and the operations would be well within the forecast used for evaluation of environmental impacts. There would be no substantial changes to the Project, changes in circumstances under which the Project is undertaken, and/or "new information of substantial importance" that would cause one or more effects related to greenhouse gas emissions.

IX. HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS -- Since the previous PEIR was certified, are there any changes in the project, changes in circumstances under which the project is undertaken and/or "new information of substantial importance" that result in one or more effects from hazards and hazardous materials including: creation of a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, storage, use, or disposal of hazardous materials or wastes; creation of a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment; production of hazardous emissions or handling hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school; location on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 creating a hazard or excessive noise to the public or the environment; location within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport; impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan; and/or exposure of people or structures, either directly or indirectly, to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires?

YES

NO

Since the PEIR was certified, there have not been changes in the circumstances under which the proposed action was undertaken related to Hazards and Hazardous Materials. The proposed action involves the issuance of a Commercial Airline Service Facilities Lease and Operations Agreement to American Airlines, allowing this commercial air carrier to use the Airport's existing ground facilities. American Airlines would operate using existing Airport infrastructure.

Fueling and maintenance of aircraft would occur onsite at the Airport, using current ongoing procedures, as noted in the current Airport Certification Manual⁵ and in accordance with the Fire Code adopted by the City of Carlsbad. The proposed action would not result in a significant hazard to the public or environment because all storage, handling, transport, emission and disposal of hazardous substances would be in full compliance with local, State, and Federal regulations.

The proposed action does not propose to demolish any existing structures onsite, nor does it propose construction of structures or other facilities that would require excavation or ground disturbance. Therefore, it would not create a hazard related to the release of asbestos, lead based paint, other hazardous materials from demolition activities, or result in the release of hazardous substances that would create a significant hazard to the public or the environment. Further, the Airport is not located within one-quarter mile of an existing or a proposed school. Therefore, the proposed action would not have any effect on an existing or proposed school.

Additionally, the proposed action does not involve construction or alteration of structures or other facilities that would require excavation or ground disturbance resulting in the release of hazardous substances that would create a significant hazard to the public or the environment. Nor do the proposed operations involve activities that would constitute a safety hazard to aircraft and/or operations from an airport or heliport. The air service would adhere to existing flight patterns under the purview of the FAA and would adhere to all governing regulations regarding overflight. Therefore, the proposed action would not constitute a safety hazard for people residing or working in the proposed action's area. Finally, the proposed operations do not involve construction or alteration of any structures that would constitute a safety hazard to or excessive noise from operations for people residing or working in the proposed action's area. The operations of this commercial air service are compatible with ongoing Airport operations; no impact would occur. Therefore, the proposed action would not constitute a safety hazard in the proposed action area.

The San Diego County Department of Environmental Health and Quality Hazardous Materials Division (DEHQ HMD) is the Certified Unified Program Agency (CUPA) for San Diego County responsible for enforcing Chapter 6.95 of the Health and Safety Code. As the CUPA, the DEHQ HMD is required to regulate hazardous materials business plans and chemical inventory, hazardous waste and tiered permitting, underground storage tanks, and risk management plans. The Airport maintains a Hazardous Materials Business Plan and Spill Prevention Countermeasures and Control Plan, under the purview of DEHQ HMD. The Hazardous Materials Business Plan (HMBP) is required to contain basic information on the location, type, quantity and health risks of hazardous materials stored, used, or disposed of onsite. The HMBP also contains an emergency response plan which describes the procedures for mitigating a hazardous release, procedures and equipment for minimizing the potential damage of a hazardous materials release, and provisions for immediate notification of the HMD, the Office of Emergency Services, and other emergency response personnel such as the local Fire Agency having jurisdiction. Implementation of the emergency response plan facilitates rapid response in the event of an accidental spill or release, thereby reducing potential adverse impacts. Furthermore, the DEHQ HMD is required to conduct ongoing routine inspections to ensure compliance with existing laws and regulations; to identify safety hazards that could cause or contribute to an accidental spill or release; and to suggest preventative measures to minimize the risk of a spill or release of hazardous substances.

The Airport also has an Airport Emergency Plan (AEP), which is reviewed annually; however, for security reasons it is not available for release to the public. The County is required to maintain an FAA-approved AEP, pursuant to FAA Advisory Circular 150/5200-31 and CFR Part 139.325. The AEP discusses the assignment of responsibilities, command and control, communications, and hazard control and response, including aircraft incidents, unlawful interference with operations,

⁵ McClellan-Palomar Airport: Airport Certification Manual dated December 2022 approved by FAA in 2022.

power failure, and crowd control. These procedures are central to the training of airport staff and management in the event of a catastrophic event.

Due to the strict requirements that regulate hazardous substances outlined above and the fact that the initial planning, ongoing monitoring, and inspections would occur in compliance with local, State, and Federal regulation, the proposed action would not result in potentially significant impacts related to the routine transport, use, and disposal of hazardous substances or related to the accidental explosion or release of hazardous substances.

The Airport is predominately surrounded by urbanized environments including industrial and commercial complexes, as well as an adjacent golf course. Due to the Airport's commercial airline or commercial air service activity authorized under FAR Part 139, the Airport is required to maintain Aircraft Rescue Fire Fighting (ARFF) service onsite. As such, the Airport's Airport Certification Manual identifies the ARFF equipment and facilities retained onsite, as well as response time requirements. The FAA-approved Airport Certification Manual identifies a required response time of 3 minutes by onsite ARFF resources and 6 minutes by City Carlsbad Fire Department, which also supports the Airport. Therefore, through compliance with the FAA-approved Airport Certification Manual conditions, the proposed action is not expected to expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving hazardous wildland fires.

The proposed American Airlines operations would use the existing air service infrastructure at the airport, as analyzed in the 2021 Master Plan Update PEIR, and the operations would be well within the forecast used for evaluation of environmental impacts. There would be no substantial changes to the Project, changes in circumstances under which the Project is undertaken, and/or "new information of substantial importance" that would cause one or more effects to hazards or hazardous materials.

X. HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY -- Since the previous PEIR was certified, are there any changes in the project, changes in circumstances under which the project is undertaken and/or "new information of substantial importance" that cause one or more effects to hydrology and water quality including: violation of any waste discharge requirements or otherwise substantially degrade surface or groundwater quality; substantially decrease groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that the project may impede sustainable groundwater management of the basin; substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river or through the addition of impervious surfaces, in a manner which would i) result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site; ii) substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff; iii) create or contribute to runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff; risk release of pollutants due to project inundation; conflict with or obstruct implementation of a water quality control plan or sustainable groundwater management plans?

YES

NO

The proposed action consists of issuance of a Commercial Airline Service Facilities Lease and Operations Agreement to American Airlines, allowing this commercial air carrier to use the Airport's existing ground facilities. American Airlines would operate using existing infrastructure, with no ground-disturbing construction or operational impacts. The proposed action does not involve waste discharges that require waste discharge requirement permits, National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permits, or water quality certification from the San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board (SDRWQCB). In addition, the proposed action does not involve any known sources of polluted runoff or land use activities that would require special site design considerations, source control BMPs or treatment control BMPs, under the San Diego Regional

Municipal Storm Water Permit (SDRWQCB Order No. R9-2013-0001, amended by R9-2015-0001 and R9-2015-0100).

The proposed action's conformance to the waste discharge requirements listed above ensures the proposed action would not create cumulatively considerable water quality impacts related to waste discharge because, through the permit, the action would conform to Countywide watershed standards in the San Diego County Jurisdictional Urban Runoff Management Program (JURMP) and Standard Urban Stormwater Mitigation (SUSMP), derived from State regulation to address human health and water quality concerns. Therefore, the proposed action would not contribute to a cumulatively considerable impact to water quality from waste discharges.

The proposed action site is located within the Carlsbad Hydrologic Unit as defined in the San Diego Basin Water Quality Control Plan, referred to as the Basin Plan. The proposed action is located within two hydrologic areas (HA): Encinas (904.4) and Agua Hedionda (904.3). In accordance with CWA Section 303, Agua Hedionda Creek is classified as a 303(d) listed water body under Category 5 associated with toxicity, pesticides, and nutrients (WBID No. CAR9043100020010924145051). However, the proposed action would not include discharges to Agua Hedionda Creek, which has a downstream confluence with the Agua Hedionda Lagoon and the Pacific Ocean (Regional Board website). Because the proposed action does not propose any known sources of pollutants, or land use activities that might contribute to pollutants in the hydrologic unit, no impact would occur.

Additionally, the proposed operations would not create any sources of pollution runoff. The proposed action would not establish new storm water drainage facilities, and there would not be changes to site topography or existing natural drainage features that would exceed water quality objectives or degrade beneficial uses. The proposed action would neither increase the peak discharge nor degrade the quality of storm water runoff discharging from the site.

Further, the Airport obtains its water supply from the Carlsbad Municipal Water District that gets water from surface reservoirs or other imported water source. The proposed operations would not use any groundwater for any purpose, including irrigation, domestic or commercial demands. In addition, the proposed action does not involve operations that would interfere substantially with groundwater recharge including, but not limited to: the proposed action does not involve regional diversion of water to another groundwater basin or diversion or channelization of a stream course or waterway with impervious layers, such as concrete lining or culverts, for substantial distances (e.g., 1/4 mile). These activities and operations can substantially affect rates of groundwater recharge. Therefore, no impact to groundwater resources is anticipated.

Moreover, the proposed action does not involve construction of new or expanded development that could alter the drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, in a manner which would result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site. The proposed action site is completely developed, and the proposed action would not increase the peak discharge, nor would it result in substantial erosion, surface runoff, flooding on- or off-site, or siltation on- or off-site. Additionally, the proposed action would not alter the course of a stream or a river in a manner which would affect the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff. The proposed action would not impede or redirect flood flows, nor include structures that could be considered obstacles to flood flows.

Moreover, no new sources of pollution runoff are proposed. The proposed action does not involve construction of new or expanded development. The proposed action site is not located along a shoreline of a lake or reservoir and, therefore, could not be inundated by a seiche. The proposed action site is located more than a mile from the coast and in the event of a tsunami or a flood hazard would not be inundated.

Finally, the proposed action site is located outside of all Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) floodplains. Flood conditions at the site were determined by reviewing Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRM) maintained by FEMA. The maps delineate areas that would be inundated by the 100-year flood, indicating areas potentially at risk for flood-based hazards or damage. The proposed action would not encroach upon the 100-year floodplain, which is designated as Zone X. The closest 100-year floodway is associated with Agua Hedionda Creek, located north and east of the Airport.

The proposed American Airlines' operations would use the existing air service infrastructure at the airport, as analyzed in the 2021 Master Plan Update PEIR, and the operations would be well within the forecast used for evaluation of environmental impacts. There would be no substantial changes to the Project, changes in circumstances under which the Project is undertaken, and/or "new information of substantial importance" that would cause one or more effects to hydrology and water quality resources.

XI. LAND USE AND PLANNING -- Since the previous PEIR was certified, are there any changes in the project, changes in circumstances under which the project is undertaken and/or "new information of substantial importance" that cause one or more effects to land use and planning including: physically dividing an established community; cause a significant environmental impact due to a conflict with any land use plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?

YES

NO

County Airports owns and operates McClellan-Palomar Airport, which is located within the municipal boundaries of the City of Carlsbad. Although the Airport is located in the City of Carlsbad, the County is the owner and operator of ground facilities at this public-use airport. The proposed action site is McClellan-Palomar Airport, which is generally bounded by El Camino Real to the east, Palomar Airport Road to the south, the Crossings at Carlsbad golf course to the west, and commercial and industrial buildings to the north. The proposed action consists of issuance of a Commercial Airline Service Facilities Lease and Operations Agreement to American Airlines, allowing this commercial air carrier to use the Airport's existing ground facilities. American Airlines would operate using existing infrastructure, with no construction or operational impacts that would introduce either new infrastructure, such major roadways or water supply systems, or utilities to the area. Therefore, the proposed action would not physically divide the established community.

As discussed in the PEIR, there are several plans, policies, and regulations associated with the airport, including but not limited to the Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan (ALUCP), County General Plan, Airport Master Plan and Airport Layout Plan, and City of Carlsbad General Plan. As explained in the following analysis, the PEIR concluded that the Master Plan Update, which includes anticipated commercial airline activity, would not result in a conflict with these plans, policies, and regulations and would result less than significant impacts to land use and planning.

Regarding the ALUCP, the San Diego County Regional Airport Authority (SDCRAA) adopted the McClellan-Palomar Airport ALUCP as amended on December 1, 2011. The ALUCP is the fundamental tool in guiding land use compatibility surrounding the Airport in order to "provide for the orderly growth of each public airport and the area surrounding the airport... [and to] safeguard the general welfare of the inhabitants within the vicinity of the airport and the public in general (Public Utilities Code Section 21675)." This proposed action consists of issuance of a lease agreement to facilitate American Airlines' commercial air carrier service at the Airport. No construction is anticipated, and the continuation of commercial air carrier service is consistent with the ALUCP.

Regarding the County General Plan, there are no land use policies that govern commercial airline activities. However, in general County Airports complies with the County General Plan goals of

continuing to effectively serve the evolving needs of the region while minimizing adverse impacts as well as minimizing safety risks by protecting the public from incompatible land uses and obstructions.

Regarding the Master Plan Update, its aviation activity forecast anticipated a maximum growth planning scenario of 575,000 annual enplanements from commercial airline activity (PAL 2). American Airlines proposes up to 55,480 enplanements each year during the five-year license agreement, which is less than approximately 10% of the operations anticipated in the Master Plan Update.

Furthermore, the Master Plan Update anticipated that the existing commercial air carrier service facilities, including public parking at the airline terminal and airline support areas, would be satisfactory to accommodate commercial airline activity. As such, no new construction to the current terminal or associated facilities is necessary to support American Airlines' proposed operations at the Airport, and their operations would not conflict with the adopted Master Plan Update.

Regarding the City of Carlsbad, the Airport is located on County property within the municipal limits of the City and is zoned Industrial (M) pursuant to the Carlsbad Municipal Code (CMC) Title 21 "Zoning Ordinance" (Section 21.34) and consists of government (airport) facility land uses. The General Plan also identifies the land use designation of "Public" for the Airport. The proposed action includes commercial air carrier service that would use the existing air service infrastructure at the airport. The proposed action does not include any change to the airport's infrastructure or its Airport Reference Code.

The proposed American Airlines operations would use the existing air service infrastructure at the airport, as analyzed in the 2021 Master Plan Update PEIR, and the operations would be well within the forecast used for evaluation of environmental impacts. There would be no substantial changes to the Project, changes in circumstances under which the Project is undertaken, and/or "new information of substantial importance" that would cause one or more effects to land use and planning resources.

XII. MINERAL RESOURCES -- Since the previous PEIR was certified, are there any changes in the project, changes in circumstances under which the project is undertaken and/or "new information of substantial importance" that cause one or more effects to mineral resources including: the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state; and/or loss of locally-important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan or other land use plan?

YES

NO

The proposed action consists of issuance of a Commercial Airline Service Facilities Lease and Operations Agreement with American Airlines, allowing this commercial air carrier to use the Airport's existing ground facilities. American Airlines would operate using existing infrastructure and no earthwork would be conducted. The proposed action site is not designated as a mineral resource recovery site, nor are there any designated locally important mineral recovery sites nearby. Therefore, implementation of the proposed action would not result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource of locally important mineral resource recovery (extraction) site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan or other land use plan. Additionally, the proposed action does not involve ground-disturbing activities and would not affect subsurface mineral resources. Therefore, no potentially significant loss of availability of a known mineral resource from a locally important mineral resource recovery (extraction) site delineated on a local General Plan, Specific Plan or other land use plan would occur as a result of this proposed action.

The proposed American Airlines operations would use the existing air service infrastructure at the airport, as analyzed in the 2021 Master Plan Update PEIR, and the operations would be well within the forecast used for evaluation of environmental impacts. There would be no substantial changes to the Project, changes in circumstances under which the Project is undertaken, and/or "new information of substantial importance" that would cause one or more effects to mineral resources.

XIII. NOISE -- Since the previous PEIR was certified, are there any changes in the project, changes in circumstances under which the project is undertaken and/or "new information of substantial importance" that result in one or more effects to the people residing or working in the project area from noise including: generation of a substantial temporary or permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the vicinity of the project in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies; for projects located within the vicinity of a private airstrip or an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport?

YES

NO

The proposed action consists of issuance of a Commercial Airline Service Facilities Lease and Operations Agreement with American Airlines, allowing this commercial air carrier to use the Airport's existing ground facilities. American Airlines would operate using existing infrastructure and no earthwork or other construction activities would be conducted. As such, the following discussion only pertains to aircraft-related noise.

As discussed in the PEIR, neither the County Guidelines for Determining Significance nor State CEQA Guidelines Appendix G provide a threshold of significance related to changes in aircraft noise levels. As such, the PEIR used the federal threshold according to FAA Order 1050.1F, *Environmental Impacts: Policies and Procedures*. In accordance with FAA Order 1050.1F, impact analysis was conducted by comparing noise exposure areas modeled for various scenarios including, existing and future conditions with and without implementation of the Master Plan Update, which included up to 575,000 annual enplanements. American Airlines proposes up to 55,480 annual enplanements, which is approximately 10% of the enplanements evaluated in the PEIR. In addition, the aircraft proposed by American Airlines (Embraer 175) is consistent with aircraft modeled (Embraer 170) in the PEIR's evaluation and analysis of aircraft noise. Under Future Conditions (2036), assumptions were made to help identify the Airport's future fleet mix. Since each aircraft's useful life is different depending on factors such as type of aircraft, frequency of use, and level of maintenance, it can be challenging to identify which aircraft from the Master Plan Update 2016 baseline fleet mix would still be operating at the Airport under future conditions. For the purposes of the noise analysis, it was assumed that any aircraft that ended production prior to 2005 would be replaced with a newer comparable model by 2036. As the FAA continues to phase out older, noisier civil aircraft, some stages of aircraft are no longer flown. According to FAA publications on FAA Noise Levels, Stages, and Phaseouts, by December 31, 2015 all civil jet aircraft, regardless of weight were required to meet Stage 3 or Stage 4 noise standards to fly within the contiguous U.S. Furthermore, both Embraer 170 and 175 are both Stage 3 aircraft. Therefore, the variation specific exact aircraft modeling would not result in a difference in noise studied under the PEIR.

Furthermore, the proposed commercial air carrier service by American Airlines would result in 1,460 aircraft operations per year. By comparison, the PEIR anticipated an increase in aviation activity at the Airport (including air carrier service) and analyzed up to 208,004 aircraft operations per year using the highest planning scenario, PAL 2. After analyzing the potential noise effect of 208,004 annual aircraft operations, the PEIR determined noise impacts from aircraft, including commercial airline activity, would be less than significant.

In addition, American Airlines' aircraft are compliant with the rules associated with Stage 3 noise standards, which meets the Airport's requirements for noise. Additionally, the airline would operate its fleet in conformance with existing National Business Aviation Association Noise Abatement Program and Voluntary Noise Abatement Program flight tracks for the Airport. The FAA oversees the airport's Air Traffic Control Tower, which provides navigational guidance to pilots.

The proposed American Airlines operations would use the existing air service infrastructure at the airport, as analyzed in the 2021 Master Plan Update PEIR, and the operations would be well within the forecast used for evaluation of environmental impacts. There would be no substantial changes to the Project, changes in circumstances under which the Project is undertaken, and/or "new information of substantial importance" that would cause one or more effects to noise.

XIV. POPULATION AND HOUSING -- Since the previous PEIR was certified, are there any changes in the project, changes in circumstances under which the project is undertaken and/or "new information of substantial importance" that result in one or more effects to population and housing including substantial unplanned population growth in an area, either directly or indirectly; displacing substantial numbers of existing people or housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?

YES

NO

The proposed action would not induce substantial population growth in an area because it does not propose any physical or regulatory change that would remove a restriction to or encourage population growth in an area including but limited to new or extended infrastructure or public facilities; new commercial or industrial facilities; large-scale residential development; accelerated conversion of homes to commercial or multi-family use; or regulatory changes including General Plan amendments, Specific Plan amendments, zone reclassifications, sewer or water annexations; or LAFCO annexation actions. Additionally, the proposed action would not displace any existing housing because the proposed action site is currently and will continue to be used for airport uses only.

The proposed American Airlines operations would use the existing air service infrastructure at the airport, as analyzed in the 2021 Master Plan Update PEIR, and the operations would be well within the forecast used for evaluation of environmental impacts. There would be no substantial changes to the Project, changes in circumstances under which the Project is undertaken, and/or "new information of substantial importance" that would cause one or more effects to population and housing.

XV. PUBLIC SERVICES -- Since the previous PEIR was certified, are there any changes in the project, changes in circumstances under which the project is undertaken and/or "new information of substantial importance" that result in one or more substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically-altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for any of the following public services: fire protection, police protection, schools, parks, or other public facilities?

YES

NO

As a result of the Airport's ongoing commercial airline activity authorized under Federal Aviation Regulation (FAR) Part 139, the Airport is required to maintain Aircraft Rescue and Fire Fighting (ARFF) services onsite, which include facilities and equipment needed for fire suppression and emergency response as defined in FAR Part 139.315(b)(4).

As such, the Airport's Airport Certification Manual identifies specific ARFF equipment and facilities retained onsite, as well as emergency response time requirements. Under the current FAA-approved Airport Certification Manual, the required response time is 3 minutes by onsite ARFF resources and 6 minutes by City Carlsbad Fire Department, which also supports the Airport.

Based on these requirements to comply with FAA-approved emergency response protocol, the proposed action would not result in the need for significantly altered services or facilities. In addition, the proposed operations do not involve construction of new or physically-altered governmental facilities, including but not limited to fire protection facilities, sheriff facilities, schools, or parks in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance service ratios or objectives for any public services. Therefore, the proposed action would not have an adverse physical effect on the environment because it does not require new or significantly altered services or facilities to be constructed.

The proposed American Airlines operations would use the existing air service infrastructure at the airport, as analyzed in the 2021 Master Plan Update PEIR, and the operations would be well within the forecast used for evaluation of environmental impacts. There would be no substantial changes to the Project, changes in circumstances under which the Project is undertaken, and/or "new information of substantial importance" that would cause one or more effects to public services.

XVI. RECREATION -- Since the previous PEIR was certified, are there any changes in the project, changes in circumstances under which the project is undertaken and/or "new information of substantial importance" that result in an increase in the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated; or that include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?

YES

NO

The proposed action does not propose any residential use, including but not limited to residential subdivision, mobile home park, or construction for a single-family residence that may increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities in the vicinity. Additionally, the proposed action does not include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities and, therefore, cannot have an adverse physical effect on the environment.

The proposed American Airlines operations would use the existing air service infrastructure at the airport, as analyzed in the 2021 Master Plan Update PEIR, and the operations would be well within the forecast used for evaluation of environmental impacts. There would be no substantial changes to the Project, changes in circumstances under which the Project is undertaken, and/or "new information of substantial importance" that would cause one or more effects to recreational resources.

XVII. TRANSPORTATION -- Since the previous PEIR was certified, are there any changes in the project, changes in circumstances under which the project is undertaken and/or "new information of substantial importance" that cause effects to transportation/traffic including: conflict with program, plan, ordinance or policy addressing the circulation system, including transit, roadway, bicycle and pedestrian facilities; conflict or be inconsistent with CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.3 subdivision (b); substantially increase hazards due to geometric design feature (e.g. sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g. farm equipment); or result in inadequate emergency access?

YES

NO

The proposed action consists of issuance of a Commercial Airline Service Facilities Lease and Operations Agreement with American Airlines, allowing this commercial air carrier to use the Airport's existing ground facilities. Specifically, American Airlines proposes 2 departing flights per day. Because each flight could potentially include up to 76 passengers, this would result in a maximum of 152 passengers (i.e., enplanements) per day.

As described in the PEIR, the Master Plan Update anticipated an increase in commercial airline activity up to 575,000 annual enplanements (PAL 2). In accordance with City of Carlsbad guidelines, Traffic Impact Study Guidelines, and the project-specific Transportation Impact Analysis, a trip generation rate used to estimate the number of vehicle trips associated with the increase in enplanements. The trip generation rate accounts for traffic generated by passengers, employees, and airport operations associated with the increase in enplanements. Project-generated traffic volumes were then distributed and assigned to the street system surrounding the Airport. The resulting traffic volumes were evaluated under three scenarios: existing conditions (2016), near-term conditions (2020), and long-term conditions (2036). Under the existing and near-term conditions, traffic impacts were determined to be less than significant with no mitigation required. However, under the long-term conditions, two intersections were found to result in an increased delay resulting in significant impacts: Palomar Airport Road/Camino Vida Roble and Palomar Airport Road/EI Camino Real. As identified in the PEIR's Transportation Impact Analysis Technical Report, the amount of peak hour traffic that would trigger these impacts was correlated to daily enplanements using the trip generation factors. As such, the impact at Palomar Airport Road/Camino Vida Roble is not estimated to occur until the total commercial airline activity at the Airport reaches 1,260 daily enplanements. The impact at Palomar Airport Road/EI Camino Real is not estimated to occur until the total commercial airline activity at the Airport reaches 670 daily enplanements.

Therefore, because American Airlines' air carrier service would result in 152 daily enplanements, which is less than the allowed 670 (23%) and 1,260 (12%) daily enplanements at the aforementioned intersections, the proposed action would be consistent with the PEIR and result in less than significant impacts. Furthermore, when considering the previously-approved commercial airline activity in combination with American Airlines, the total authorized daily enplanements would be approximately 212⁶, which would not trigger the impact discussed above.

The proposed action would not have a significant impact related to a conflict with any performance measures established for the effectiveness of the circulation system because the proposed action's trips would not exceed the City of Carlsbad's criteria for impacts related to Transportation. The proposed action trips would not result in an increase in the number of vehicle trips, volume of capacity ratio on roads, or congestion at intersections during peak hours and non-peak hours that would exceed the levels of service thresholds in relation to existing conditions. In addition, the proposed action would not conflict with policies related to non-motorized travel such as mass transit, pedestrian or bicycle facilities. Therefore, the proposed action would not conflict with any policies establishing measures of the effectiveness for the performance of the circulation system and no mitigation was required.

Furthermore, the proposed action does not involve construction of structures, access roads, or other improvements that would result in roadway hazards. Therefore, the proposed operations would not alter traffic patterns, roadway design, place incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment) on existing roadways, or create or place curves, slopes or walls which impede adequate site distance on a road.

⁶ 77,460 combined annual enplanements ÷ 365 days = 212.22 daily enplanements

Additionally, the current Airport Certification Manual, Section 10.9, identifies that the Airport maintains an emergency access road and perimeter entryway as designated emergency access roads to the runway, necessary to support ARFF vehicles for all weather conditions. The proposed action site has adequate emergency access. Therefore, the proposed action would not result in inadequate emergency access.

The proposed American Airlines operations would use the existing air service infrastructure at the airport, as analyzed in the 2021 Master Plan Update PEIR, and the operations would be well within the forecast used for evaluation of environmental impacts. There would be no substantial changes to the Project, changes in circumstances under which the Project is undertaken, and/or "new information of substantial importance" that would cause one or more effects to transportation resources.

XVIII. TRIBAL CULTURAL RESOURCES -- Since the previous PEIR was certified, are there any changes in the project, changes in circumstances under which the project is undertaken and/or "new information of substantial importance" that cause one or more effects to tribal cultural resources including: causing a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource as defined in Public Resource Code §21074 as either a site, feature, place, cultural landscape that is geographically defined in terms of the size and scope of the landscape, sacred place, or object with cultural value to a California Native American tribe and that is: a) listed or eligible for listing in the Cal. Register of Historical Resources, or in a local register of historical resources as defined in Public Resources Code Section 5020.1(k), or b) A resource determined by the lead agency, in its discretion and supported by substantial evidence, to be significant pursuant to criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code Section 5024.1?

YES

NO

The proposed action consists of issuance of a Commercial Airline Service Facilities Lease and Operations Agreement with American Airlines for commercial air service, using existing the Airport infrastructure, within the boundaries of the Airport. No earthwork is required or proposed for the proposed action. As analyzed in the 2021 certified Master Plan Update and PEIR, a records search was conducted at the SCIC at San Diego State University. No previously recorded historic resources were found within the site. In addition, no resources with the potential for meeting the criteria of eligibility for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources (CRPC Section 5024) are present within the proposed action site. Therefore, because no historic resources are known to exist onsite, there would be no impact to historic resources.

No significant historic or cultural resources were found to be potentially impacted within the proposed action site. No resources with the potential for meeting the criteria of eligibility for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (36 CFR Section 60) or the California Register of Historical Resources (CPRC Section 5024.1) are present within the proposed action site. Therefore, because no historic or cultural resources are known to exist onsite, there would be no impact to these resources.

The proposed American Airlines operations would use the existing air service infrastructure at the airport, as analyzed in the 2021 Master Plan Update PEIR, and the operations would be well within the forecast used for evaluation of environmental impacts. There would be no substantial changes to the Project, changes in circumstances under which the Project is undertaken, and/or "new information of substantial importance" that would cause one or more effects to tribal cultural resources.

XIX. UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS -- Since the previous PEIR was certified, are there any changes in the project, changes in circumstances under which the project is undertaken and/or "new

information of substantial importance" that causes effects to utilities and service systems including: require or result in the relocation or construction of new or expanded water, wastewater treatment or storm water drainage, electric power, natural gas, or telecommunications facilities, the construction or relocation of which could cause significant environmental effects; have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project and reasonably foreseeable future development during normal, dry and multiple dry years; result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider, which serves or may serve the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments; generate solid waste in excess of State or local standards, or in excess of the capacity of local infrastructure, or otherwise impair the attainment of solid waste reduction goals; and/or comply with federal, state, and local management and reduction statutes and regulations related to solid waste?

YES

NO

The proposed action consists of issuance of a Commercial Airline Service Facilities Lease and Operations Agreement to American Airlines, allowing this commercial air carrier to use the Airport's existing ground facilities and infrastructure. American Airlines' proposed use of the ground facilities and passenger terminal are within the existing capacities of the infrastructure. The proposed action would not generate substantial additional water demand or increase in wastewater as compared to current conditions, as both are within the capacities of the existing infrastructure and the projections of the PEIR. Additionally, proposed action does not include new or expanded water or wastewater treatment facilities, nor does it require the construction or expansion of water or wastewater treatment facilities. Therefore, the proposed action would not require any construction of new or expanded facilities that could cause significant environmental effects.

Further, there would not be a significant increase in the generation of solid waste, as commercial airline activity, such as American Airlines' proposed operations, were anticipated as part of PEIR for solid waste disposal needs. The proposed operations would result in continued deposit of all solid waste at a permitted solid waste facility and thus would comply with Federal, State, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste. Therefore, there is sufficient existing permitted solid waste capacity to accommodate the proposed action's solid waste disposal needs.

The proposed American Airlines operations would use the existing air service infrastructure at the airport, as analyzed in the 2021 Master Plan Update PEIR, and the operations would be well within the forecast used for evaluation of environmental impacts. There would be no substantial changes to the Project, changes in circumstances under which the Project is undertaken, and/or "new information of substantial importance" that would cause one or more effects to utilities and service systems.

XX. WILDFIRES – Since the previous PEIR was certified, are there any changes in the project, changes in circumstances under which the project is undertaken and/or "new information of substantial importance" that result in: a) substantial impairment of an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan; b) due to slope, prevailing winds, and other factors, exacerbate wildfire risks, and thereby exposure of project occupants to, pollutant concentrations from a wildfire or the uncontrolled spread of a wildfire; c) requirement of the installation or maintenance of associated infrastructure (such as roads, fuel breaks, emergency water sources, power lines or other utilities) that may exacerbate fire risk or exacerbate fire risk or result in temporary or ongoing impacts to the environment; and/or exposure of people or structures to significant risks, including downslope or downstream flooding or landslides, as a result of runoff, post-fire slope instability, or drainage changes?

YES

NO

The proposed operations would be located within the active airfield at the Airport and would not be located in or near State responsibility areas or lands classified as very high fire severity zone. Therefore, the proposed action would not substantially impair the adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan. Additionally, the proposed action is not within an area of risk due to slope, prevailing winds, and other factors, would not exacerbate wildfire risks, and not expose occupants to pollutant concentrations from a wildfire or an uncontrolled spread of a wildfire, and would have no impact to these risks. Further, the proposed operations do not require the installation or maintenance of associated infrastructure and, therefore, there is no exacerbation of fire risk associated with construction of the proposed action, hence – no temporary or ongoing impacts to the environment. Finally, the proposed action would not expose people or structures to significant risks due to flooding or landslides, runoff, post-fire slope instability, or drainage changes.

The proposed American Airlines operations would use the existing air service infrastructure at the airport, as analyzed in the 2021 Master Plan Update PEIR, and the operations would be well within the forecast used for evaluation of environmental impacts. There would be no substantial changes to the Project, changes in circumstances under which the Project is undertaken, and/or "new information of substantial importance" that would cause one or more effects to wildfires.

XXI. MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE: Since the previous EIR was certified, are there any changes in the project, changes in circumstances under which the project is undertaken and/or "new information of substantial importance" that result in any mandatory finding of significance listed below?

- a) Does the project have the potential to substantially degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, substantially reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?
- b) Does the project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? ("Cumulatively considerable" means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects)?
- c) Does the project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?

YES

NO

a) Per instructions for evaluating environmental impacts pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Sections 15162 through 15164, the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory were considered in the response to each question in sections IV and V of this form. In addition to action-specific impacts, this evaluation considered the proposed action's potential for significant cumulative effects. There is no substantial evidence that there are biological or cultural resources that are affected or associated with this action. Therefore, the proposed action has been determined not to meet this Mandatory Finding of Significance.

- b) Regarding cumulatively considerable effects, the proposed action does not include construction or operational activities that would exacerbate environmental impacts when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, other current projects, or probable future projects. The proposed action only includes issuance of a Commercial Airline Service Facilities Lease and Operations Agreement to allow for a commercial air carrier (American Airlines) the use of the Airport ground facilities. There are no applicable cumulative projects by which to compare. Nonetheless, cumulative projects were previously analyzed in the PEIR for the Master Plan Update (which included increased commercial airline activity) and were found to be less than significant. The only exception is that cumulative impacts would occur under Transportation in the long-term condition (2036); however, as explained in Section XVII, the traffic volumes that would result a cumulative impact would not occur under the proposed action. Based on the evaluation of environmental impacts in this Checklist, the potential for adverse cumulative effects were considered in the response to each question in sections I through XX of this form. In addition to action-specific impacts, this evaluation considered the proposed action's potential for incremental effects that are cumulatively considerable. As a result of this evaluation, there is no substantial evidence that there are cumulative effects associated with this proposed action. Therefore, this action has been determined not to meet this Mandatory Finding of Significance.
- c) Based on the evaluation of environmental impacts in this Checklist, the potential for adverse direct or indirect impacts to human beings was considered in responses to questions in sections I. Aesthetics, III. Air Quality, V. Cultural Resources, VII. Geology and Soils, IX. Hazards and Hazardous Materials, X. Hydrology and Water Quality XIII. Noise, XIV. Population and Housing, XV. Public Services, XVI. Recreation, XVII. Transportation, and XVIII. Utilities and Service Systems. The proposed action would not increase air carrier service (i.e., commercial airline activity) at the Airport within the operational forecast anticipated in the County's 2021 Master Plan Update. As a result of this evaluation, there is no substantial evidence that there are adverse effects on human beings associated with this proposed action. Therefore, this action has been determined not to meet this Mandatory Finding of Significance.

XXII. REFERENCES USED IN THE COMPLETION OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW UPDATE CHECKLIST FORM

All references to Federal, State and local regulation are available on the Internet. For Federal regulation refer to <http://www4.law.cornell.edu/uscode/>. For State regulation refer to www.leginfo.ca.gov. For County regulation refer to www.amlegal.com. All other references are available upon request.

CITATIONS SPECIFIC TO PROPOSED ACTION

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- 2021 Final Program Environmental Impact Report: McClellan-Palomar Airport Master Plan, certified by the Board of Supervisors on December 8, 2021.
- 2021 McClellan-Palomar Airport Master Plan Update, approved by the Board of Supervisors on December 8, 2021.

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