

P.O. Box 27404
Los Angeles, CA 90027
www.hillsidefederation.org



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Supervisor Sheila Kuehl
Los Angeles County Supervisor, District 3
821 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 Temple Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

July 3, 2019

Re: Helicopter Noise Complaint System

Argyle Civic Assn.
Beachwood Canyon NA
Bel-Air Assn.
Bel-Air Hills Assn.
Bel Air Knolls Property Owners
Bel Air Skycrest Property Owners
Benedict Canyon Association
Brentwood Hills Homeowners
Brentwood Residents Coalition
Cahuenga Pass Property Owners
Canyon Back Alliance
Crests Neighborhood Assn.
Doheny-Sunset Plaza NA
Franklin Ave./Hollywood Bl. West
Franklin Hills Residents Assn.
Highlands Owners Assn.
Hollywood Dell Civic Assn.
Hollywood Heights Assn.
Holmby Hills Homeowners Assn.
Kagel Canyon Civic Assn.
Lake Hollywood HOA
Laurel Canyon Assn.
LFIA (Los Feliz)
Mt. Olympus Property Owners
Mt. Washington Homeowners All.
Nichols Canyon NA
N. Beverly Dr./Franklin Canyon
Oak Forest Canyon HOA
Oaks Homeowners Assn.
Outpost Estates HOA
Residents of Beverly Glen
Save Coldwater Canyon!
Shadow Hills POA
Sherman Oaks HOA
Silver Lake Heritage Trust
Studio City Residents Assn.
Sunset Hills HOA
Tarzana POA
Torreyson Flynn Assn.
Upper Mandeville Canyon Assn.
Upper Nichols Canyon NA
Whitley Heights Civic Assn.

Honorable Supervisor Kuehl,

The Federation of Hillside and Canyon Associations, Inc., founded in 1952 and representing 42 resident and homeowner associations spanning the Santa Monica Mountains, supports the continued documenting of helicopter noise. At our June 18, 2019 board meeting, The Federation approved a motion to support funding provided by the County for a county-wide helicopter noise complaint system, similar to what existed from May 2015 until July 2018. The estimated cost is \$50,000 and provides valuable benefits to the public.

Helicopter pilots nearly always fly under Visual Flight Rules (VFR) and are bound by no minimum altitudes. Some of the worst "hot spots" for noisy, low-flying helicopters are within District 3, largely due to non-essential tour helicopters. The hillside residential communities of the Santa Monica Mountains are disproportionately impacted due to their beauty, as well as the venues within them such as the Hollywood Sign.

The FAA has been unwilling to regulate helicopters routes or minimum altitudes. As it is, the only means for affecting improvement in pilot behavior is through voluntary measures and practices. Best practices, such as "Fly Friendly," are mostly disregarded. The Los Angeles Area Helicopter Noise Coalition (LAAHNC) is a dedicated group who have been corroborating with the pilots, pilot associations, agencies (such as LA County Sheriff and Fire Departments), and FAA. They are committed to continue seeking resolutions to the noise problem on the ground, via the only means available, voluntary cooperation.

Besides creating noise over sensitive residential, recreational and wildlife areas, industry experts agree that low-flying helicopters pose a higher risk of catastrophic crash in the case of mechanical failure. This is especially true over the rugged Santa Monica Mountains region.

A helicopter complaint system is necessary to document egregious helicopter flights and promote low-impact, safe, flying. We hope that funding can be provided soon, as your constituents already miss having a fully-functioning system.

Sincerely,

Charley Mims

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