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Raquel Girvin
Regional Administrator
FAA Western-Pacific Region
777 S. Aviation Boulevard, Suite 150
El Segundo, CA. 90245

December 1, 2019

Re: Request for Formal Action Mandating Compliance with Burbank Airport
Standard Instrument Departure Procedures

Dear Ms. Girvin:

The Federation of Hillside and Canyon Associations, Inc., founded in 1952, represents 43 homeowner and resident associations with approximately 250,000 constituents spanning the Santa Monica Mountains. Many of these constituents are directly impacted by the southerly shift of the current improper and illegal departure tracks from Burbank Airport. At its meeting of November 19, 2019, the Hillside Federation voted to join the City of Los Angeles in requesting formal action by the FAA to eliminate the southern shift of departing flights and to return to the flight tracks established before the Metroplex project.

The new flight tracks impact the Santa Monica Mountains, a precious and irreplaceable asset that includes parkland, threatened natural habitat and wildlife. Noise and air pollution from aircraft are exacerbated in terrain where aircraft are closer to the ground.

As Los Angeles City Attorney Michael N. Feuer noted in his letter of October 18, 2019, the FAA has acknowledged that FAA air traffic controllers are directing pilots departing Burbank Airport away from pre-Metroplex flight tracks that were to remain unchanged. This shift was never subject to public notice, comment, or environmental review. Since no additional formal review is required to follow already established procedures, City Attorney Feuer's letter suggests that the FAA may correct the illegal systematic flight path shift by implementing a Tower Order, Standard Operating Procedure, or similar interagency directive.

The Federation agrees with City Attorney Feuer's assessment and, noting that six weeks have passed since his letter, urges the FAA to take immediate action to reinstate the legally established flight paths.

Sincerely,

Charley Mims

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.
Dixie Canyon 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.

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cc: Senators Feinstein & Harris, Cong. Sherman, Mayor Garcetti, Councilmembers
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