

## FAA Southern California Metroplex Fact Sheet

The Los Angeles World Airports (LAWA) is committed to being a good neighbor; we strive to reduce aircraft noise within our communities and keep stakeholders informed of any changes in flight procedures. As a result, we are providing information on the Federal Aviation Administration's Southern California Metroplex (SoCal Metroplex) project,<sup>1</sup> which will modify some flight patterns to/from Los Angeles International Airport (LAX) and many other airports in Southern California.

### Project Description

---

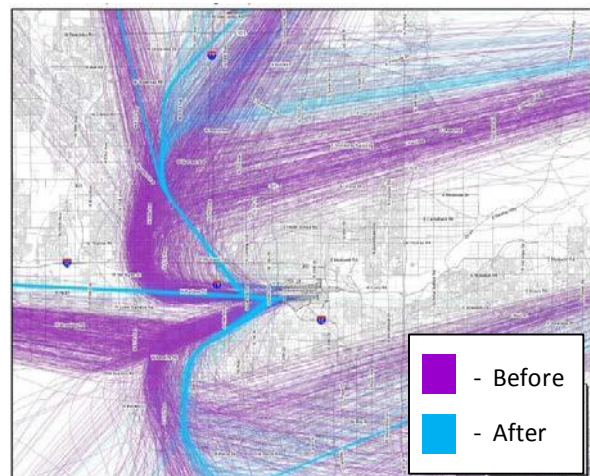
- **Who:** The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA)
- **What:** Optimization of air traffic procedures and airspace in the Southern California Metroplex, including the Los Angeles Basin, by upgrading from a ground-based navigation system to satellite-based technology.
- **Why:**
  - Improve airspace efficiency.
  - Reduce complexity and provide predictability.
- **Result:**
  - New approach and departure procedures may change where and how aircraft fly.
  - Shorter, more direct routes for passengers.
  - Reductions in fuel consumption, air emissions, and travel time.

### Facts

---

#### Overview:

- A "Metroplex" is a geographic area covering several airports serving major metropolitan areas, such as the Los Angeles Basin.
- The project involves changing aircraft flight paths and/or altitudes in certain areas.
- The new flight procedures, using satellite-based navigation technology, are more precise and create a narrower flight path, resulting in a concentration of flights over certain areas.
- Residents in areas under the concentrated flight path may experience more noise, while those outside the flight path may experience less noise.



*Example of a new departure procedure at Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport.*

---

<sup>1</sup> Please note: LAWA is not a sponsor of this project and has not been involved with developing the proposed changes to flight procedures.



- The changes in flight paths may result in exposing new areas to aircraft overflights.
- Aircraft may fly at lower or higher altitudes than previously flown.
- To get a better idea of the proposed changes for Southern California, please see the additional graphics/Google maps, etc., provided on the documents page of the FAA SoCal Metroplex Website:  
[http://www.metroplexenvironmental.com/socal\\_metroplex/socal\\_docs.html](http://www.metroplexenvironmental.com/socal_metroplex/socal_docs.html)

#### FAA Environmental Review:

- The FAA released a Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) on June 10, 2015 that analyzes the potential environmental impacts of the SoCal Metroplex Project.
- The FAA established a General Study Area (GSA), which covers a wide region from Santa Barbara to San Diego and includes most Southern California airports, to evaluate potential impacts of proposed procedure changes.
- The Draft EA concluded that there will be no significant noise impacts (no 1.5 dB or greater increases in noise within the 65 dB DNL contour) associated with the proposed SoCal Metroplex procedures.
- The FAA extended the original 30-day public review and comment period an additional 60 days; **comment period will close September 8, 2015.**

#### Tentative FAA Project Schedule

---

- |                                    |  |
|------------------------------------|--|
| • Final Procedure Design Completed | June 2014                              |
| • Draft Environmental Assessment   | June 2015                              |
| • Public Comment Period            | June 10 to September 8, 2015 (90 days) |
| • Public Workshops                 | June to July 2015                      |
| • Implementation                   | 2016                                   |

#### Resources

---

FAA's SoCal Metroplex Environmental Assessment Website:

[http://www.metroplexenvironmental.com/socal\\_metroplex/socal\\_introduction.html](http://www.metroplexenvironmental.com/socal_metroplex/socal_introduction.html)

[http://www.metroplexenvironmental.com/socal\\_metroplex/socal\\_docs.html](http://www.metroplexenvironmental.com/socal_metroplex/socal_docs.html)

#### Contacts

---



#### **For more information on the SoCal Metroplex Project EA:**

Ryan Weller, Environmental Specialist: [9-ANM-SoCalOAPM@faa.gov](mailto:9-ANM-SoCalOAPM@faa.gov)



#### **For more information on general noise issues at LAX:**

Scott Tatro, Airport Environmental Manager: [statro@lawa.org](mailto:statro@lawa.org)

For LAX noise complaints, please contact: (424) 64-NOISE (424-646-6473) or file an online complaint at <http://webtrak.bksv.com/lax>.