

Yolo County Airport

Revised County Good Neighbor Programⁱ

Recognizing the inherent challenges associated with the proximity of residential areas to airports, this Good Neighbor Program reflects the desire of Yolo County to ensure, to the extent possible, the interests of airport neighbors as well as tenants and operators are adequately addressed.

I. OPERATIONAL PRACTICES

The County commits to ensuring compliance by airport operators and pilots with lease agreements and stated operational guidelines including:

1. Flight patterns

Acceptable flight patterns pertain mostly to noise abatement and limiting disturbances to residents and livestock. To that end, aircraft are to observe designated flight patterns which include maintaining runway headings until off airport property either to the north or south, and maintaining an altitude of 1,000 feet above the ground, once established in the down-wind leg of the pattern – for fixed wing aircraft. Helicopters will fly standard entry patterns for helicopters (no lower than 500' AGL).

2. Engine run-ups

Engine run-ups and tests shall be performed in areas and during times designated by the fixed base operator (and approved by the County, as appropriate) avoiding night and early morning operations to the extent possible.

3. Touch and go operations

Touch and go operations shall be prohibited between the hours of 10:00 pm and 6:00 am.

4. Airport curfews

Purveyors or responsible parties of any nighttime activities occurring at the airport will ensure excessive noise does not occur after 10:00 p.m. (unless specified as part of a special event permit provided by the County).

5. Special operations

The County will make every effort to distribute relevant information in a timely manner using the community email list and website when atypical operations such

as military exercises, festivals or other one-time events might affect neighbors or other typical operational practices. This may not be possible, however, in cases of emergency operations or when the County is not notified in advance.

6. Lease and Operational Compliance Inspections

The County will conduct on-site inspections to ensure the conditions of lease agreements are being met, as well as operational guidelines, through both scheduled and unannounced inspections, as provided for in the tenant's leases.

7. Transportation and Road use

Tenants requiring heavy truck or other vehicular traffic associated with airport operations should attempt to minimize noise and safety impacts to the extent possible. Driving on any taxiway, runway or near hangers or airplanes is restricted to tenants of the airport, and those supporting tenant's operations.

II. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The County commits to keeping airport neighbors and the community as a whole, informed of airport developments and operations, making sure community concerns are heard and addressed as quickly and effectively as possible. Community engagement activities include:

1. Maintaining advisory committee(s)

Committee members will be designated by the Yolo Board of Supervisors. Committee(s) Co-Chairs will be selected and serve as a Coordinating Committee to assist the County in (1) developing meeting agendas, (2) providing advance review of relevant materials, (3) serving as a sounding board, and (4) serving as a conduit to the airport community – both neighbors and operators.

2. Developing meeting agendas in advance of Committee meetings

Agendas will focus on airport issues or actions over which the County has jurisdiction and which potentially impact the safe and efficient operation of the airport and/or the quality of life of nearby residents.

3. Encouraging public participation

Any person wishing to propose an agenda item may submit their suggestion to either County staff or Committee Co-Chairs, to be considered in a timely fashion pending other agenda topics, consistent with the purpose of the advisory committee(s).

4. Encouraging public outreach

County staff will email and post on the airport website meeting notices at least two weeks prior to regularly scheduled meetings. The agenda, accompanied by the meeting time and place, and relevant materials will be emailed and posted at least one week prior to meetings.

5. Maintaining an accessible website

The County will maintain a website that provides current and pertinent information related to the airport, including operations, policies, regulatory impacts and capital improvements.

6. Maintaining an email distribution list

The County will maintain an email/ mailing list which includes community members, airport operators and others interested in regular information and updates related to the airport. It will also be used for announcing Committee meetings as well as activities that impact airport neighbors and operators. It is the responsibility of interested individuals to inform the County if they desire to be added to or removed from the email/ mailing list.

7. Maintaining the following documents on the airport website

(www.yolocounty.org):

- a. Good Neighbor Program
- b. Complaint Form
- c. Advisory Committee Meeting Agendas and Minutes
- d. Contact information for County staff responsible for airport activities
- e. Contact information for County Board of Supervisors
- f. Contact information for key airport tenants
- g. Contact information for fire and police officials
- h. Contact information for the FAA

III. COMMUNICATIONS AND CONCERNS

The County commits to minimizing airport impacts on surrounding neighborhoods to the extent possible by ensuring rules, regulations and guidelines governing airport operations are clearly and effectively communicated, including:

- 1. Fostering a good working relationship with airport neighbors and users,** providing a clear understanding of neighbor interests and airport guidelines for pilots that utilize the airport either regularly or occasionally

2. **Informing pilots and flight schools** about expectations to avoid deviations from accepted take-off and landing approaches and practices, and potential implications to pilots who do not comply with adopted guidelines
3. **Providing brochures and other informational materials** to tenants, operators and other users about how to operate facilities in a manner consistent with policies and being a good neighbor
4. **Informing neighbors, operators and officials** (including police and fire officials) of any planned air shows or other “extracurricular” activities at the airport
5. **Maintaining a standard complaint form** on the airport website as the primary means for conveying a concern or complaint to the County to describe a problem and request action, to be submitted either online or directly to Margaret Raley (email: Margaret.Raley@yolocounty.org).
6. **Providing for emergency concerns** to be conveyed directly to county staff by contacting Margaret Raley, by either email or telephone (530/666-8426)
7. **Responding in a timely fashion to concerns or complaints.** Concerns about operational or other issues will be handled in the following manner:
 - a. Once a concern is brought to the County’s attention, County staff will determine if the concern/complaint is under County, FAA or other jurisdiction
 - b. County staff will communicate with the complainant by phone, in person or by e-mail whether to convey who has jurisdiction over the matter
 - c. If under County jurisdiction, County staff will send a written notice to the owner/operator of the aircraft explaining any violation and convey actions taken to the complainant
 - d. If under FAA jurisdiction, County staff will, when appropriate, send the concern/complaint to FAA and then confirm the action taken with the complainant
 - e. County staff will keep a record on file of concern/complaints submitted and actions taken.
8. **Ensuring all tenants and operators are aware** of local, state and federal rules, regulations and guidelines pertaining to airport safety and security

ⁱ Ideas initially drawn from Good Neighbor Programs at Miami International Airport, San Jose International Airport, Peachtree-DeKalb Airport (Atlanta), Beverly, MA, among others