# **MEMORANDUM**

## **DEPARTMENT OF AVIATION**

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TO:

DISTRIBUTION

FROM:

GEORGE C. SIMS, PLANNER

SUBJECT:

JULY THROUGH SEPTEMBER 2012 NOISE COMPLAINT REPORTS

DATE:

OCTOBER 19, 2012

Attached for your review are the Clark County Department of Aviation's (CCDOA) Monthly Noise Complaint Reports for July through September 2012. Please note the following airport abbreviations: McCarran International Airport (LAS), North Las Vegas Airport (VGT), and Henderson Executive Airport (HND).

The following reports describe noise complaints and operational data regarding helicopter and fixed-wing aircraft operations at LAS, VGT, and HND. Aircraft noise complaints are received either through the CCDOA's Noise Hotline (261-3694), the Noise Office (261-5600), or calls forwarded from LAS's toll free number (1-800-261-5704). Nellis Air Force Base noise complaints are forwarded to the Nellis Public Affairs Office (652-2750), and noise complaints regarding aircraft operations from the Boulder City Airport are forwarded to the Boulder City Airport Coordinator (293-9405). Individuals who express concerns regarding aircraft operations originating from private facilities (i.e., Valley Hospital, the private helipad located near Las Vegas Blvd. and Larson Lane, or the private helipad located near Cheyenne Road and North 5th Street) are asked to contact the individual property owner directly.

**Exhibit 1** of each Monthly Noise Complaint Report illustrates the number of calls received by community as well as the number of individual callers or households. **Exhibit 2** illustrates the primary nature of the disturbance as identified by the caller. The second page of each monthly report (**Exhibit 3**) graphically illustrates all known origins of the calls received that month. **Exhibits 4 and 5** summarize arrival and departure runway use for large and non-large air carrier aircraft (new for the 2012 monthly reports). Arrival and departure corridor use for helicopters are summarized in **Exhibit 6** (also new for the 2012 monthly reports). **Exhibit 7** provides a complete arrival fleet mix of all aircraft landing at LAS and highlights the two noisier aircraft types, the Boeing 727 series and Boeing 737-100 and 737-200 series (non-large air carrier aircraft types were added to the 2012 monthly reports). **Exhibit 8** illustrates the general departure direction for large aircraft (historically only provided on an annual basis).

Lastly, **Exhibit 9** summarizes how well large aircraft and helicopters adhered to the preferred, non-regulated departure corridors (also historically provided on an annual basis for large aircraft, with helicopter analysis new for the 2012 monthly reports). Adherence to preferred departure corridors is voluntary, and neither Clark County nor the State of Nevada regulates aircraft in flight. The FAA, through the discretion of Congress, has sole authority over the safe and efficient utilization of the nation's navigable airspace. Therefore, local and state authorities cannot legally enforce the use of these departure corridors, or impose penalties to pilots who opt not to comply with preferred procedures. "Compliance gates" are located along these historical/fly-quietly departure routes. If all aircraft flew with advanced navigational technologies and operated under Required Navigational Precision (RNP) procedures, then it could be expected that up to 95% of all aircraft would be within 0.3 nautical miles (NM) of a fly-over point. Therefore, 0.3 NM is the threshold for compliance for large air carrier aircraft. The compliance threshold for helicopters is 500 feet.

The following provides a synopsis of each monthly noise complaint report and additional noise-related issues addressed during the reporting period. Please refer to each noise complaint report for more detailed information.

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#### **Monthly Noise Complaint Summaries**

**July 2012:** 56 total complaints - a 331% increase from 2011 and a 75% increase from 2010. On average, each caller (or household) issued 2.4 calls. The most calls received from one household totaled 18.

## Calls by Community - (Exhibits 1 and 3)

Majority (more than 50%): (Not applicable.)

**Minority (between 10% and 50%):** The *City of Henderson* community issued 26 calls (46%). This community is typically impacted by aircraft departing to the east (from Runway 07R and Runway 07L). This community is also impacted by aircraft arriving from the east (into Runway 25R and Runway 25L, LAS preferred departure configuration).

The **Paradise and Winchester** communities issued 21 calls (38%). These communities are typically impacted by aircraft departing to the north (from Runway 01R and Runway 01L) and aircraft arriving from the north (into Runways 19R and 19L).

Repeat Caller Impact: One household issued 32% (18 calls) of all the calls received in July 2012.

#### Calls by Operation - (Exhibit 2)

**LAS:** 64% of the total calls were due to **LAS** fixed-wing operations.

43% were due to departures to the east from Runways 07L and 07R.

**VGT:** 0% of the total calls were due to **VGT** fixed-wing operations.

**HND:** 2% of the total calls were due to **HND** fixed-wing operations.

**Helos:** 34% of the total calls were due to *helicopter* operations.

95% from one household.

#### LAS Operations & Runway Use by Large Air Carriers - (Exhibit 4)

Overall: 450 daily *departures*<sup>1</sup> – a 9% decrease from 2011 and 5% decrease from 2010.

• 54% of departures were to the west, 40% east, 4% south, and 2% north.

481 daily *arrivals* – a 3% decrease from 2011 and 2% increase from 2010.

51% of arrivals were from the east, 31% north, 17% west, and 1% south.

**Daytime**: 370 daily *departures*<sup>2</sup> – an 11% decrease from 2011 and a 10% decrease from 2010.

48% of departures were to the west, 46% east, 4% south, and 2% north.

417 daily *arrivals* – a 3% decrease from 2011 and a 2% decrease from 2010.

48% of arrivals were from the east, 32% north, 19% west, and 1% south.

Note: Due to the location of the radar south of Sunset Road, and the angle of the radar signal to avoid ground clutter, some aircraft that depart to the north from LAS are not captured until well north of Tropicana Avenue. Therefore, the AirScene application, used to determine runway use and traffic counts, does not tag these operations as either occurring at LAS or as a departure. Thus, total departure counts may be less than what likely occurred.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> See footnote #1.

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**Nighttime**: 80 daily *departures*<sup>3</sup> – no change from 2011 and a 27% increase from 2010.

83% of departures were to the west, 15% east, and 3% south.

64 daily arrivals – a 5% decrease from 2011 and a 34% increase from 2010.

75% of arrivals were from the east, 20% north, 4% west, and 1% south.

Daytime vs. Nighttime: Approximately 82% of all departures and 87% of all arrivals occurred during the daytime hours.

## LAS Operations & Runway Use by Non-Large Air Carriers - (Exhibit 5)

Overall:

73 daily departures<sup>4</sup> – a 6% decrease from 2011 and 4% decrease from 2010.

• 47% of departures were to the south, 39% east, 12% west, and 2% north.

84 daily arrivals – a 2% increase from 2011 and 1% increase from 2010.

68% of arrivals were from the north, 22% west, 9% east, and 2% south.

Daytime:

65 daily *departures*<sup>5</sup> – a 7% decrease from 2011 and a 4% decrease from 2010.

44% of departures were to the south, 43% east, 11% west, and 2% north.

77 daily arrivals – a 1% increase from 2011 and a 1% decrease from 2010.

• 67% of arrivals were from the north, 23% west, 8% east, and 2% south.

**Nighttime**: 8 daily *departures*<sup>6</sup> – a 3% decrease from 2011 and a 3% decrease from 2010.

70% of departures were to the south, 19% west, 10% east, and 1% north.

7 daily arrivals – a 13% increase from 2011 and a 36% increase from 2010.

72% of arrivals were from the north, 20% east, 5% south, and 4% west.

Daytime vs. Nighttime: Approximately 89% of all departures and 92% of all arrivals occurred during the daytime hours.

#### Operations by Corridor for Helicopter Tours - (Exhibit 6)

**Tropicana:** 120 daily *departures* - a 3% decrease from 2011 and a 3% increase from 2010.

Charleston: 119 daily arrivals - a 3% decrease from 2011 and a 3% increase from 2010.

Strip: 39 daily touch and go's - a 6% increase from 2011 and an 11% increase from 2010.

Daytime vs. Nighttime: Approximately 94% of all helicopter tour operations occurred during the daytime hours.

#### LAS Fleet Mix for All Aircraft Types - (Exhibit 7)

**Heavies:** Very large air carrier turbine-driven aircraft (those weighing 300,000 lbs. or more)

accounted for 2% of the daily traffic.

Large: Large air carrier turbine-driven aircraft (those weighing more than 75,000 lbs. and less

than 300,000 lbs.) accounted for 65% of the daily traffic.

See footnote #1.

See footnote #1.

See footnote #1.

See footnote #1.

Medium: Medium turbine-driven aircraft (those weighing more than 41,000 lbs. and less than

75,000 lbs.) accounted for 1% of the daily traffic.

Small: Small turbine-driven aircraft (those weighing 41,000 lbs. or less) accounted for 7% of the

daily traffic.

**Military:** Military turbine-driven aircraft accounted for less than 1% of the daily traffic.

**Non-Jet:** *Piston-driven* aircraft and unassigned aircraft types accounted for 4% of the daily traffic.

**Helos:** Touring helicopters accounted for 22% of the daily traffic.

**Noisier Aircraft Types:** The hush-kitted Boeing 727 aircraft and Boeing 737 (100 & 200 series) aircraft accounted for no operations per day.

#### LAS General Departure Direction for Large Aircraft - (Exhibit 8)

**Primary:** In 2012, 54% departed to the *west* (from LAS's primary departure runways). This figure

was 73% in 2011 and 58% in 2010.

Secondary: In 2012, 4% departed to the south (from LAS's secondary departure runways). This

figure was 5% in 2011 and 4% in 2010.

Alternate 1: In 2012, 2% departed to the north (from LAS's alternate departure runways). This figure

was 1% in 2011 and 0% in 2010.

Alternate 2: In 2012, 40% departed to the *east* (from LAS's alternate departure runways). This figure

was 21% in 2011 and 38% in 2010. Temperatures in excess of 100 degrees Celsius for

all 31 days of July resulted in heavy departure flows to the east.

#### Gate Compliance for Large Aircraft and Helicopters - (Exhibit 9)

SVHS:

In 2012, 94% of the large air carrier aircraft (excluding those destined to the Nevada Test Site) that departed to the west from Runways 25L or 25R and made a left-hand turn were within 0.3 NM of *Sierra Vista High School* (SVHS). This figure was 93% in 2011 and 92% in 2010.

The SVHS "compliance gate" is located southwest of Warm Springs Rd. and Buffalo Dr., approximately 5 miles due west and 1.5 miles due south of the extended runway centerline of Runways 25L and 25R. This gate was established along an existing noise abatement flight track which requests pilots to proceed runway heading to 3 nautical miles from the Las Vegas very-high frequency omnidirectional range tactical air navigation (VORTAC) facility before turning left (or towards the south) - where large air carrier aircraft have historically been encouraged to operate. This noise abatement flight track avoids communities impacted by aircraft turning early along this corridor (like the Nevada Trails community) and aircraft turning late along this corridor (like the Rhodes Ranch community).

Peace:

In 2012, 95% of the large air carrier aircraft (excluding those destined to the Nevada Test Site) that departed to the west from Runways 25L or 25R and made a right-hand turn were within 0.3 NM of the intersection of *Peace Way & Summers Shade Street*. This figure was 93% in 2011 and 91% in 2010.

The Peace "compliance gate" is located northeast of Tropicana Ave. and I-215, approximately 6 miles due west and 2 miles due north of the extended runway centerline of Runways 25L and 25R. This gate was also established along an existing noise abatement flight track which requests pilots to proceed runway heading to 4 nautical miles from the Las Vegas VORTAC before turning right (or towards the north) - where large air carrier aircraft have historically been encouraged to operate. This noise abatement flight track avoids communities impacted by aircraft turning early along this corridor (like the Spanish Trail community) and aircraft turning late along this corridor (like the Summerlin South community).

#### Pebble:

In 2012, 95% of the large air carrier aircraft (excluding those destined to the Nevada Test Site) that departed to the south from Runways 19L or 19R were within 0.3 NM of the intersection of *Pebble Road & Arville Street*. This figure was 95% in 2011 and 88% in 2010.

The Pebble "compliance gate" is located southeast of Blue Diamond Rd. and Decatur Blvd., approximately 4 miles due south by southwest of the extended runway centerline of Runways 19L and 19R. This gate was also established along an existing noise abatement flight track which requests pilots to proceed runway heading to 3 nautical miles from the Las Vegas VORTAC before turning - where large air carrier aircraft have historically been encouraged to operate. This noise abatement flight track avoids communities impacted by aircraft turning early along this corridor (like the Warm Spring Estates community) and aircraft turning late along this corridor (like the Southern Highlands community).

#### UNLV:

In 2012, 83% of the large air carrier aircraft that departed to the north from Runways 01L or 01R were within 0.3 NM of the *UNLV sports complex*. This figure was 79% in 2011 and not available in 2010.

The UNLV "compliance gate" is located southeast of Flamingo Rd. and Paradise Rd., approximately 1 mile due north by northeast of the extended runway centerline of Runways 01L and 01R. This gate was also established along an existing noise abatement flight track which requests pilots to proceed runway heading to 2 nautical miles from the Las Vegas VORTAC before turning - where large air carrier aircraft have historically been encouraged to operate. This noise abatement flight track avoids communities impacted by aircraft turning early along this corridor, located due east and due west of UNLV.

#### **Boulder:**

In 2012, 97% of the large air carrier aircraft that departed to the north from Runways 07L or 07R were within 0.3 NM of the extended runway centerline, near *Boulder Highway*. This figure was 97% in 2011 and 96% in 2010.

The Boulder Hwy. "compliance gate" is located southeast of Russell Rd. and I-93/95, approximately 7 miles due east of the extended runway centerline of Runways 07L and 07R. This gate was also established along an existing noise abatement flight track which requests pilots to proceed runway heading to 7 nautical miles from the Las Vegas VORTAC before turning - where large air carrier aircraft have historically been encouraged to operate. This noise abatement flight track avoids communities impacted by aircraft turning early along this corridor (like the Green Valley community, located in the City of Henderson, and older neighborhoods located north of Patrick Ln.).

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Hualapai:

In 2012, 96% of the large air carrier aircraft destined to the Nevada Test Site that departed to the west from Runways 25L or 25R were within 0.3 NM of the extended runway centerline, near *Hualapai Way*. This figure was not available in 2011 or 2010.

The Hualapai Way "compliance gate" is located northeast of Sunset Rd. and Hualapai Way, approximately 7 miles due west of the extended runway centerline of Runways 25L and 25R. This gate was established in May 2011 along a new noise abatement flight track which requests pilots of aircraft destined to the Nevada Test Site to proceed runway heading to 7 nautical miles from the Las Vegas VORTAC before turning. This noise abatement flight track avoids communities impacted by aircraft turning early along this corridor (like the Spanish Trail community and the Summerlin South community).

Eastern:

In 2012, 98% of the touring helicopters destined east of the Las Vegas Valley were within 500 feet of the intersection of *Tropicana Avenue & Eastern Avenue*. This figure was 96% in 2011 and 96% in 2010.

The Eastern Ave. "compliance gate" is located at Tropicana Ave. and Eastern Ave, approximately 2 miles due west of the their initial departure route. This gate was also established along an existing noise abatement flight track which requests helicopter pilots to proceed along the centerline of Tropicana Ave. until 10 nautical miles from the Las Vegas VORTAC before turning. This noise abatement flight track avoids communities impacted by helicopters located north and south of the corridor.

Hollywood: In 2012, 99% of the touring helicopters returning from areas east of the Las Vegas Valley were within 500 feet of the intersection of *Charleston Boulevard & Hollywood Boulevard*. This figure was 97% in 2011 and 95% in 2010.

The Hollywood Blvd. "compliance gate" is located at Charleston Blvd. and Los Feliz St., where their initial arrival route begins over the urbanized area of the Las Vegas Valley. This gate was also established along an existing noise abatement flight track which requests helicopter pilots to proceed along the centerline of Charleston Blvd. This noise abatement flight track avoids communities impacted by helicopters located north and south of the corridor.

**Stratosphere:** In 2012, 91% of the north-bound helicopters providing tours of the Las Vegas Strip were within 500 feet of the intersection of Oakey Boulevard & Las Vegas Boulevard, northeast of the Stratosphere Tower. This figure was 88% in 2011 and 47% in 2010.

The Stratosphere Tower "compliance gate" is located northeast of Sahara Avenue and Las Vegas Blvd., where an important turn in their fly-quietly routing structure begins near a historic portion of the urbanized area of the Las Vegas Valley.

The information denoted in this monthly summary represents **typical** residential complaints, with the exception of 18 calls from one household, flight activity, with the exception of 40% of departures to the east, fleet mix, and gate compliance.

**August 2012:** 50 total complaints - a 400% increase from 2011 and a 9% increase from 2010. On average, each caller (or household) issued 2.6 calls. The most calls received from one household totaled 25.

Calls by Community - (Exhibits 1 and 3)

**Majority (more than 50%):** The *City of Henderson* community issued 28 calls (56%). (See July 2012 synopsis of typical aircraft overflight impacts on this community.)

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> Minority (between 10% and 50%): The City of Las Vegas community issued 8 calls (16%). This community is typically impacted by aircraft departing to the west (from Runway 25R and Runway 25L).

> The **Paradise and Winchester** communities issued 7 calls (14%). (See July 2012 synopsis of typical aircraft overflight impacts on this community.)

Repeat Caller Impact: Two households issued 64% (32 calls) of all the calls received in August 2012.

## Calls by Operation - (Exhibit 2)

LAS:

44% of the total calls received were due to LAS fixed-wing operations.

24% were due to departures to the north from Runways 01L and 01R (58% from one household).

VGT:

0% of the total calls received were due to **VGT** fixed-wing operations.

HND:

2% of the total calls received were due to HND fixed-wing operations.

Helis:

54% of the total calls received were due to helicopter operations (93% from one

household).

#### LAS Operations & Runway Use by Large Air Carriers - (Exhibit 4)

Overall:

443 daily departures<sup>7</sup> – a 10% decrease from 2011 and 6% decrease from 2010.

72% of departures were to the west, 22% east, 4% south, and 1% north. 480 daily arrivals – a 2% decrease from 2011 and 2% increase from 2010.

67% of arrivals were from the east, 20% north, 9% west, and 4% south.

Daytime:

364 daily departures<sup>8</sup> – a 12% decrease from 2011 and 11% decrease from 2010.

70% of departures were to the west, 25% east, 5% south, and 1% north. 419 daily arrivals - a 2% decrease from 2011 and a 1% decrease from 2010.

• 67% of arrivals were from the east, 20% north, 10% west, and 3% south.

**Nighttime**: 79 daily *departures*<sup>9</sup> – a 6% increase from 2011 and 27% increase from 2010.

85% of departures were to the west, 10% east, 3% north, and 2% south.

62 daily arrivals - a 1% decrease from 2011 and a 34% increase from 2010.

72% of arrivals were from the east, 19% north, 6% south, and 4% west.

Daytime vs. Nighttime: Approximately 82% of all departures and 87% of all arrivals occurred during the daytime hours. As stated in the July analysis, historically these percentages have been approximately 80%. Many of the traffic reductions at LAS are occurring during the nighttime hours.

## LAS Operations & Runway Use by Non-Large Air Carriers - (Exhibit 5)

See footnote #1.

See footnote #1.

See footnote #1.

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Overall: 71 daily departures<sup>10</sup> – a 12% decrease from 2011 and 13% decrease from 2010.

• 62% of departures were to the south, 20% east, 16% west, and 2% north.

84 daily arrivals – no change from 2011 and an 8% decrease from 2010.

• 73% of arrivals were from the north, 13% east, 11% west, and 4% south.

**Daytime**: 64 daily *departures*<sup>11</sup> – a 13% decrease from 2011 and a 13% decrease from 2010.

• 61% of departures were to the south, 21% east, 16% west, and 2% north.

77 daily arrivals – a 2% decrease from 2011 and a 9% decrease from 2010.

• 73% of arrivals were from the north, 12% east, 11% west, and 4% south.

Nighttime: 7 daily departures<sup>12</sup> – a 4% decrease from 2011 and a 16% decrease from 2010.

• 73% of departures were to the south, 20% west, 4% east, and 3% north.

7 daily *arrivals* – a 23% increase from 2011 and a 6% increase from 2010.

• 66% of arrivals were from the north, 20% east, 7% south, and 7% west.

**Daytime vs. Nighttime:** Approximately 90% of all *departures* and 91% of all *arrivals* occurred during the daytime hours.

## Operations by Corridor for Helicopter Tours - (Exhibit 6)

**Tropicana:** 124 daily *departures* – a 7% decrease from 2011 and no change from 2010.

Charleston: 123 daily arrivals - a 7% decrease from 2011 and a 1% increase from 2010.

**Strip:** 39 daily *touch and go's* - a 3% increase from 2011 and a 9% increase from 2010.

**Daytime vs. Nighttime:** Approximately 95% of all helicopter tour operations occurred during the daytime hours.

#### LAS Fleet Mix for All Aircraft Types - (Exhibit 7)

**Heavies:** Very large air carrier turbine-driven aircraft (those weighing 300,000 lbs. or more)

accounted for 2% of the daily traffic.

Large: Large air carrier turbine-driven aircraft (those weighing more than 75,000 lbs. and less

than 300,000 lbs.) accounted for 65% of the daily traffic.

Medium: Medium turbine-driven aircraft (those weighing more than 41,000 lbs. and less than

75,000 lbs.) accounted for 1% of the daily traffic.

Small: Small turbine-driven aircraft (those weighing 41,000 lbs, or less) accounted for 6% of the

daily traffic.

Military: Military turbine-driven aircraft accounted for less than 1% of the daily traffic.

**Non-Jet:** *Piston-driven* aircraft and unassigned aircraft types accounted for 4% of the daily traffic.

**Helos:** Touring helicopters accounted for 22% of the daily traffic.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> See footnote #1.

<sup>11</sup> See footnote #1.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> See footnote #1.

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**Noisier Aircraft Types:** The hush-kitted Boeing 727 aircraft and Boeing 737 (100 & 200 series) aircraft accounted for almost no operations per day.

## LAS General Departure Direction for Large Aircraft - (Exhibit 8)

**Primary:** In 2012, 72% departed to the *west* (from LAS's primary departure runways). This figure was 77% in 2011 and 65% in 2010.

**Secondary:** In 2012, 4% departed to the **south** (from LAS's secondary departure runways). This figure was 6% in 2011 and 9% in 2010.

Alternate 1: In 2012, 3% departed to the *north* (from LAS's alternate departure runways). This figure was not available in 2011, due to construction activities rendering this runway unavailable, and 3% in 2010.

Alternate 2: In 2012, 22% departed to the *east* (from LAS's alternate departure runways). This figure was 18% in 2011 and 24% in 2010. Increased heat and humidity in 2012 caused an increase in eastbound departures.

#### Gate Compliance for Large Aircraft and Helicopters - (Exhibit 9)

SVHS: In 2012, 94% of the large air carrier aircraft (excluding those destined to the Nevada Test Site) that departed to the west from Runways 25L or 25R and made a left-hand turn were within 0.3 NM of *Sierra Vista High School* (SVHS). This figure was 95% in 2011 and 92% in 2010. (See July 2012 synopsis for specific location of the SVHS gate.)

Peace: In 2012, 95% of the large air carrier aircraft (excluding those destined to the Nevada Test Site) that departed to the west from Runways 25L or 25R and made a right-hand turn were within 0.3 NM of the intersection of *Peace Way & Summers Shade Street*. This figure was 93% in 2011 and 91% in 2010. (See July 2012 synopsis for specific location of the Peace gate.)

Pebble: In 2012, 96% of the large air carrier aircraft (excluding those destined to the Nevada Test Site) that departed to the south from Runways 19L or 19R were within 0.3 NM of the intersection of *Pebble Road & Arville Street*. This figure was 97% in 2011 and 94% in 2010. (See July 2012 synopsis for specific location of the Pebble gate.)

UNLV: In 2012, 72% of the large air carrier aircraft that departed to the north from Runways 01L or 01R were within 0.3 NM of the *UNLV sports complex*. This figure was not applicable in 2011, due to construction activities rendering this gate unusable, and 84% in 2010. (See July 2012 synopsis for specific location of the UNLV gate.)

Boulder: In 2012, 95% of the large air carrier aircraft that departed to the north from Runways 07L or 07R were within 0.3 NM of the extended runway centerline, near *Boulder Highway*. This figure was 95% in 2011 and 94% in 2010. (See July 2012 synopsis for specific location of the Boulder Hwy. gate.)

Hualapai: In 2012, 92% of the large air carrier aircraft destined to the Nevada Test Site that departed to the west from Runways 25L or 25R were within 0.3 NM of the extended runway

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> centerline, near Hualapai Way. This figure was not available in 2011 or 2010. (See July 2012 synopsis for specific location of the Hualapai gate.)

Eastern:

In 2012, 99% of the touring helicopters destined east of the Las Vegas Valley were within 500 feet of the intersection of Tropicana Avenue & Eastern Avenue. This figure was 97% in 2011 and 95% in 2010. (See July 2012 synopsis for specific location of the Eastern gate.)

Hollywood: In 2012, 99% of the touring helicopters returning from areas east of the Las Vegas Valley were within 500 feet of the intersection of Charleston Boulevard & Hollywood Boulevard. This figure was 98% in 2011 and 94% in 2010. (See July 2012 synopsis for specific location of the Hollywood gate.)

Stratosphere: In 2012, 84% of the north-bound helicopters providing tours of the Las Vegas Strip were within 500 feet of the intersection of Oakey Boulevard & Las Vegas Boulevard. northeast of the Stratosphere Tower. This figure was 86% in 2011 and 59% in 2010. (See July 2012 synopsis for specific location of the Stratosphere gate.)

The information denoted in this monthly summary represents typical residential complaints, with the exception of 25 complaints from one household, flight activity, with the exception of 22% of departures to the east, fleet mix, and gate compliance, with the exception of heavy departures to the east.

September 2012: 69 total complaints – a 146% increase from 2011 and a 360% increase from 2010. On average, each caller (or household) issued 2.0 calls. The most calls received from one household totaled 16.

#### Calls by Community - (Exhibits 1 and 3)

**Majority (more than 50%):** (Not applicable.)

Minority (between 10% and 50%): The City of Henderson communities issued 25 calls (36%). (See August 2012 synopsis of typical aircraft overflight impacts on this community.)

The Paradise and Winchester communities issued 20 calls (29%). (See July 2012 synopsis of typical aircraft overflight impacts on this community.)

The **Spring Valley** community issued 13 calls (19%). This community is typically impacted by aircraft departing to the west (from Runway 25R and Runway 25L). This community is also impacted by aircraft departing to the north (from Runway 01R and Runway 01L) that turn left (to the west and south).

Repeat Caller Impact: One household issued 23% (16 calls) of all the calls received in September 2012.

#### Calls by Operation - (Exhibit 2)

LAS: 61% of the total calls received were due to LAS fixed-wing operations.

28% were due to departures to the east from Runways 07L and 07R.

VGT: 2% of the total calls received were due to **VGT** fixed-wing operations.

HND: 4% of the total calls received were due to HND fixed-wing operations. Airport Noise Report October 19, 2012 Page 11 of 30

Helis:

33% of the total calls received were due to helicopter operations (70% from one

household).

## LAS Operations & Runway Use by Large Air Carriers - (Exhibit 4)

Overall:

439 daily departures<sup>13</sup> – a 10% decrease from 2011 and a 6% decrease from 2010.

79% of departures were to the west, 12% east, 5% south, and 5% north. 470 daily arrivals – a 3% decrease from 2011 and 1% increase from 2010. 78% of arrivals were from the east, 11% north, 9% south and 2% west.

Daytime:

373 daily departures<sup>14</sup> – a 12% decrease from 2011 and 9% decrease from 2010.

■ 76% of departures were to the west, 13% east, 6% south, and 5% north. 422 daily arrivals – a 3% decrease from 2011 and 1% decrease from 2010.

77% of arrivals were from the east, 11% north, 10% south, and 3% west.

**Nighttime**: 66 daily *departures*<sup>15</sup> – a 2% increase from 2011 and 14% increase from 2010.

95% of departures were to the west, 2% south, 2% north, and 1% east. 49 daily arrivals – a 4% decrease from 2011 and 19% increase from 2010.

85% of arrivals were from the east, 14% north, 1% south, and 1% west.

Daytime vs. Nighttime: Approximately 85% of all departures and 90% of all arrivals occurred during the daytime hours.

## LAS Operations & Runway Use by Non-Large Air Carriers - (Exhibit 5)

Overall:

88 daily *departures*<sup>16</sup> – a 4% decrease from 2011 and an 8% increase from 2010.

• 66% of departures were to the south, 16% west, 10% east, and 8% north. 101 daily arrivals – a 6% increase from 2011 and a 7% increase from 2010.

71% of arrivals were from the north, 14% east, 13% south, and 3% west.

Davtime:

79 daily *departures*<sup>17</sup> – a 5% decrease from 2011 and an 8% increase from 2010.

65% of departures were to the south, 16% west, 11% east, and 9% north. 94 daily *arrivals* – a 6% increase from 2011 and a 6% increase from 2010.

70% of arrivals were from the north, 14% east, 14% south, and 3% west.

**Nighttime**: 9 daily *departures*<sup>18</sup> – an 8% increase from 2011 and an 8% increase from 2010.

82% of departures were to the south, 15% west, and 3% north. 7 daily *arrivals* – a 3% increase from 2011 and a 20% increase from 2010.

81% of arrivals were from the north, 13% east, 5% south, and 1% west.

Daytime vs. Nighttime: Approximately 90% of all departures and 93% of all arrivals occurred during the daytime hours.

See footnote #1.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> See footnote #1.

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Operations by Corridor for Helicopter Tours - (Exhibit 6)

**Tropicana:** 133 daily *departures* – a 1% decrease from 2011 and a 4% increase from 2010.

Charleston: 131 daily arrivals - a 1% decrease from 2011 and a 3% increase from 2010.

Strip: 42 daily touch and go's - a 5% increase from 2011 and a 16% increase from 2010.

**Daytime vs. Nighttime:** Approximately 96% of all helicopter tour operations occurred during the daytime hours.

## LAS Fleet Mix for All Aircraft Types - (Exhibit 7)

Heavies: Very large air carrier turbine-driven aircraft (those weighing 300,000 lbs. or more)

accounted for 2% of the daily traffic.

Large: Large air carrier turbine-driven aircraft (those weighing more than 75,000 lbs. and less

than 300,000 lbs.) accounted for 62% of the daily traffic.

Medium: Medium turbine-driven aircraft (those weighing more than 41,000 lbs. and less than

75,000 lbs.) accounted for 1% of the daily traffic.

Small: Small turbine-driven aircraft (those weighing 41,000 lbs. or less) accounted for 8% of the

daily traffic.

**Military** turbine-driven aircraft accounted for 0% of the daily traffic.

**Non-Jet:** *Piston-driven* aircraft and unassigned aircraft types accounted for 4% of the daily traffic.

**Helos:** Touring helicopters accounted for 23% of the daily traffic.

**Noisier Aircraft Types:** The hush-kitted Boeing 727 aircraft and Boeing 737 (100 & 200 series) aircraft accounted almost no operations per day.

#### LAS General Departure Direction for Large Aircraft - (Exhibit 8)

**Primary:** In 2012, 78% departed to the *west* (from LAS's primary departure runways). This figure

was 86% in 2011 and 74% in 2010.

Secondary: In 2012, 5% departed to the south (from LAS's secondary departure runways). This

figure was 6% in 2011 and 13% in 2010.

Alternate 1: In 2012, 5% departed to the **north** (from LAS's alternate departure runways). This figure

was 5% in 2011 and 4% in 2010.

Alternate 2: In 2012, 12% departed to the east (from LAS's alternate departure runways). This figure

was less than 4% in 2011 and 9% in 2010.

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Gate Compliance for Large Aircraft and Helicopters - (Exhibit 9)

SVHS: In 2012, 94% of the large air carrier aircraft (excluding those destined to the Nevada Test

Site) that departed to the west from Runways 25L or 25R and made a left-hand turn were within 0.3 NM of Sierra Vista High School (SVHS). This figure was 93% in 2011 and

92% in 2010. (See July 2012 synopsis for specific location of the SVHS gate.)

Peace: In 2012, 96% of the large air carrier aircraft (excluding those destined to the Nevada Test

Site) that departed to the west from Runways 25L or 25R and made a right-hand turn were within 0.3 NM of the intersection of *Peace Way & Summers Shade Street*. This figure was 94% in 2011 and 92% in 2010. (See July 2012 synopsis for specific location of the

Peace gate.)

Pebble: In 2012, 98% of the large air carrier aircraft (excluding those destined to the Nevada Test

Site) that departed to the south from Runways 19L or 19R were within 0.3 NM of the intersection of *Pebble Road & Arville Street*. This figure was 96% in 2011 and 96% in

2010. (See July 2012 synopsis for specific location of the Pebble gate.)

UNLV: In 2012, 81% of the large air carrier aircraft that departed to the north from Runways 01L

or 01R were within 0.3 NM of the UNLV sports complex. This figure was 79% in 2011

and 80% in 2010. (See July 2012 synopsis for specific location of the UNLV gate.)

**Boulder:** In 2012, 98% of the large air carrier aircraft that departed to the north from Runways 07L

or 07R were within 0.3 NM of the extended runway centerline, near *Boulder Highway*. This figure was 96% in 2011 and 96% in 2010. (See July 2012 synopsis for specific

location of the Boulder Hwy. gate.)

**Hualapai:** In 2012, 93% of the large air carrier aircraft destined to the Nevada Test Site that departed

to the west from Runways 25L or 25R were within 0.3 NM of the extended runway centerline, near *Hualapai Way*. This figure was not available in 2011 or 2010. (See July

2012 synopsis for specific location of the Hualapai gate.)

**Eastern:** In 2012, 99% of the touring helicopters destined east of the Las Vegas Valley were within

500 feet of the intersection of *Tropicana Avenue & Eastern Avenue*. This figure was 98% in 2011 and 97% in 2010. (See July 2012 synopsis for specific location of the

Eastern gate.)

Hollywood: In 2012, 99% of the touring helicopters returning from areas east of the Las Vegas Valley

were within 500 feet of the intersection of *Charleston Boulevard & Hollywood Boulevard*. This figure was 96% in 2011 and 97% in 2010. (See July 2012 synopsis for

specific location of the Hollywood gate.)

Stratosphere: In 2012, 84% of the north-bound helicopters providing tours of the Las Vegas Strip

were within 500 feet of the intersection of Oakey Boulevard & Las Vegas Boulevard, northeast of the Stratosphere Tower. This figure was 84% in 2011 and 61% in 2010.

(See July 2012 synopsis for specific location of the Stratosphere gate.)

The information denoted in this monthly summary represents **typical** residential complaints, with the exception of 16 complaints from one household, flight activity, fleet mix, and gate compliance.

Airport Noise Report October 19, 2012 Page 14 of 30 Other Notable Issues

Helicopter Operator Users Meeting: On September 20, 2012, DOA staff members met with FAA, and local helicopter tour operators to discuss noise complaints tied to helicopter operations, route compliance, and operational growth. The FAA, in conjunction with the Transportation Security Agency (TSA) made a special presentation outlining mandatory airspace and traffic modifications associated with a short-term presidential visit. Airspace restrictions associated with this visit directly impacted helicopter tour operations. As a result, the Jean Airport was utilized from October 1, 2012 to October 3, 2012 to continue tours during the presidential visit. All helicopters and fixed-wing aircraft conducting tours during the presidential visit were provided an alternate route that complied with the airspace restrictions.

Senior Housing Development in the AE-65: On July 3, 2012, against strong opposition from the Department of Aviation (DOA), the Henderson City Council unanimously approved a 252-unit senior housing development located northeast of Sunset Avenue and Green Valley Parkway. This development will be impacted by significant noise levels from aircraft arriving at and departing from McCarran International Airport (LAS) and will be located within a significant noise exposure area (65 DNL) - which the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), and the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), and other federal agencies have determined is not compatible with residential development. Although sound attenuation and noise disclosure conditions were included in the approval of this project, as required by the Henderson Development Code, residents of this development will not benefit from these mitigation measures when utilizing the courtyards; during periods of pleasant weather conditions when windows and doors are often left open; or when walking to neighboring businesses. Future residents of the development who issue noise complaints will be informed that the developer and the City of Henderson were notified of the expected impact caused by airport operations and that the City of Henderson opted to approve the project within the official/adopted noise environs despite these facts.

Safety and Security Threats: Any threats to DOA staff or an aircraft in flight are taken seriously, and such threats will be forwarded to the appropriate law enforcement agencies.

GCS:jj

Attachments

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Distribution:

Commissioner Brager, Chair

Commissioner Sisolak, Vice-Chair

Commissioner Collins
Commissioner Weekly
Rosemary Vassiliadis
Donald G. Burnette
Ralph LePore
Harry Waters
Teresa Motley
Cecil Johnson
Alan Pinkerton
Dan Kezar
Linda Healey
Tucker Field

Maureen Merry-Lamoureux

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Jim Burgan (FAA ATC) Jon Holman (FAA ATC)

Charlie Halterman (HND Tower)

Peter Yiakof (FAA ÈSDO) Bristol Ellington (COH) Josh Reid (COH)

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David Parks (Nevada State Assembly)

J. Gordon Arkin (Foley & Lardner)
John Williams (Ricondo)
Douglas Pomeroy (FAA ADO)

La Nea M. Conner (Boeing)

Neal Phillips (Metro Wash. Air Auth.)

Frank Fiori (CNLV)

Michelle Plawecki (Detroit Metro Airport)
James Davies (Sky Harbor Airport)
Karen Everitt (Dallas City Hall)
Thomas Miller (Nellis AER)

Thomas Miller (Nellis AFB)
Raymond Chiang (FAA)

Stephanie Garcia-Vause (COH)

Andrew Powell (COH)

William Ruggiero (FAA TRACON)

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Commissioner Brown Commissioner Scow

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Dennis Anderson
Tom Peterson
Mark Silverstein

James Erbeck (CLV)

Donna Bergstrom Benedict Czyzewski

Wayne M. Niimì (FAA ATC) Paul Alukonis (FAA FSDO)

Nancy Myrick (FAA Tower Manager, NLVA)

Sydney Lowe (University Libraries)

Bob Brown (BBA)

Lisa Butterfield (Reno-Tahoe Airport)
Andrea Christensen (Denver Airport)
Jennifer Lewis (Scottsdale Airport)
Frank Iacovino (Mass Port Authority)
Jon Collette (Philadelphia Airport)
Robert Butler (Papillon Helicopters)
Christine Gerencher (American Airlines)

Bert Ganoung (SFO)

Nigel Turner (Heli USA Airways) San Diego Airport Noise Management

Jeannie Denham (Citizen) Judge Bob Johnston (Citizen)

Roy Fuhrmann (Metro Airports Commission)

Tom Schaus (Sundance Helicopters)
Brooke Satern (Port of Portland)

Gary Brodt (Citizen)

Capt. Amanda Ferrell (Nellis AFB) James P. Callahan (Nellis AFB)

Stan Shepherd (SEATAC)

Eric Sheng (Long Beach Airport)

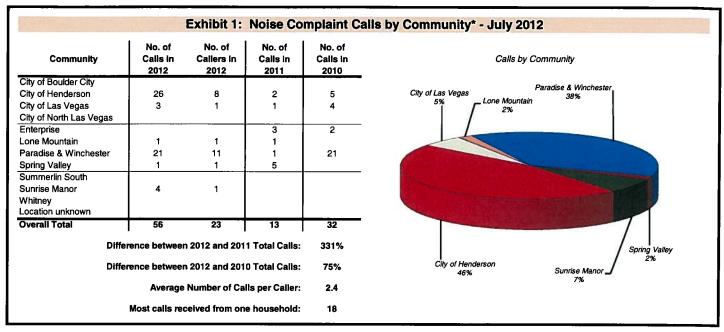
Jason Schwartz (Portland Airport)

Todd Lobato (Nellis AFB) William Olivieri (Citizen) Samuel Carter (ITT)

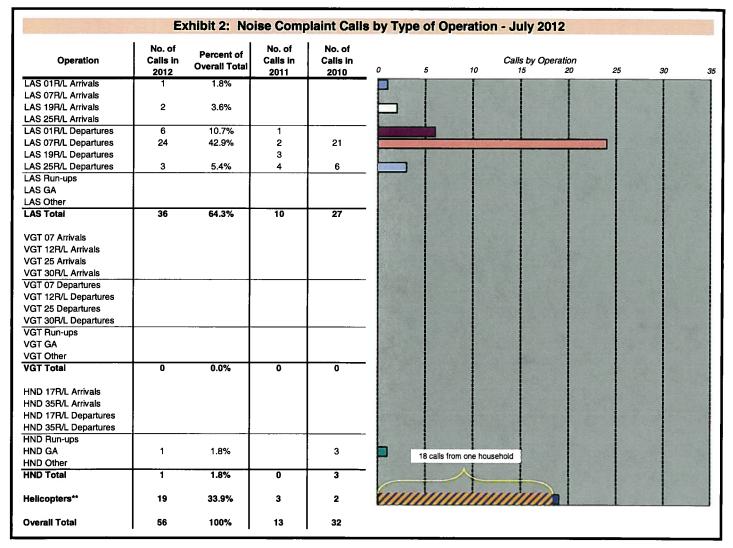
Steven Peacock (Dallas City Hall)

Jacob Snow (COH)

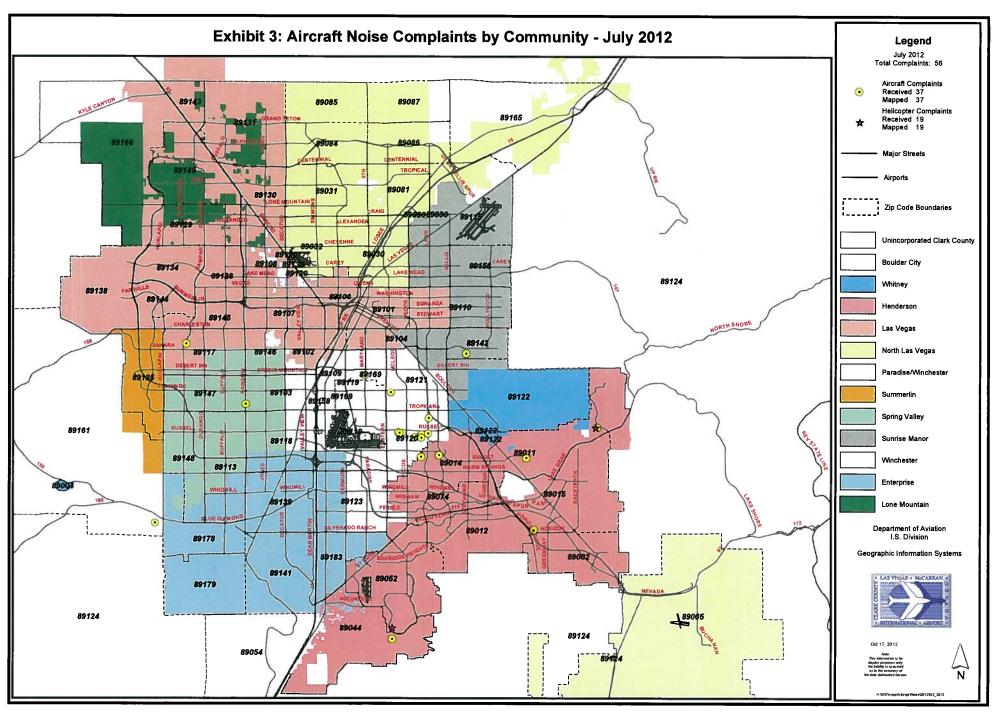
John Dietz (FAA TRACON)



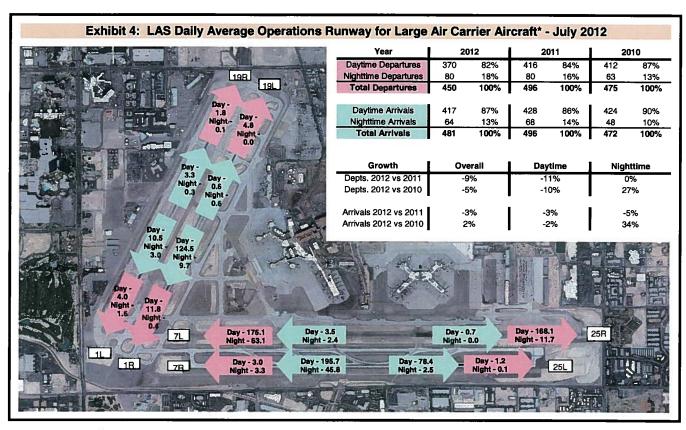
<sup>\*</sup> See map on reverse side for community boundaries and location of known noise complaints.



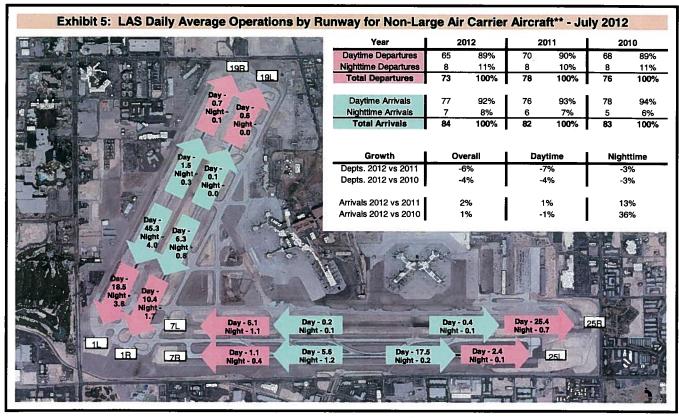
<sup>\*\*</sup> Note that helicopter noise complaints are not tied to a specific facility since the operation cannot always be associated to a specific airport. Additionally, helicopter calls do not include those associated with operations conducted by the Metropolitan Police Department or those associated with operations conducted at non-DOA facilities.



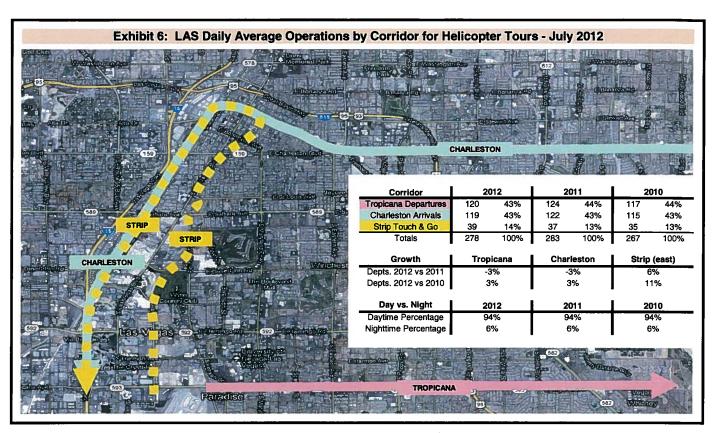
**2012 Noise Complaint Report** 

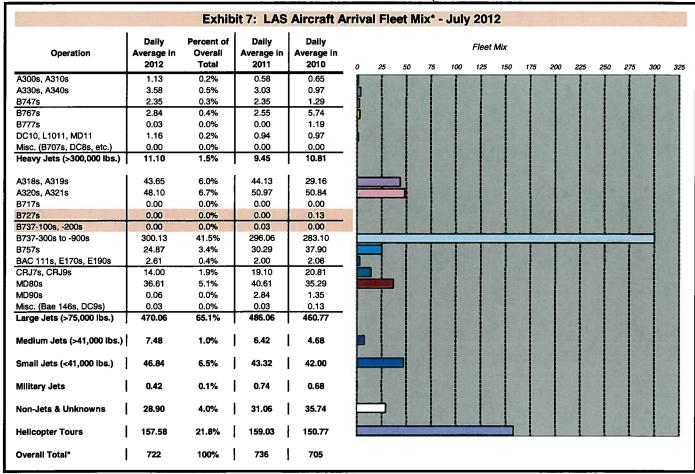


<sup>\*</sup> Aircraft types: All aircraft with a maximum gross take of weight of at least 75,000 pounds, including but not limited to, A306, A310, A311, A318, A319, A320, A330, A340, B707, B717, B727, B737, B747, B757, B767, B777, CRJ7, CRJ9, DC8, DC9, DC10, E170, E190, HA4T, L1011, MD80, MD90, MD10, MD11, VC10.

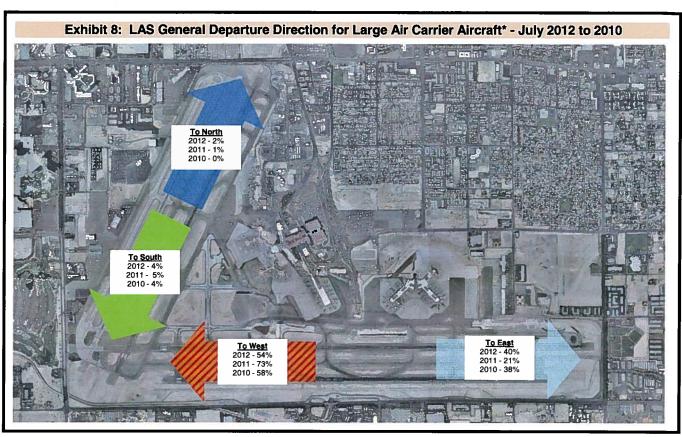


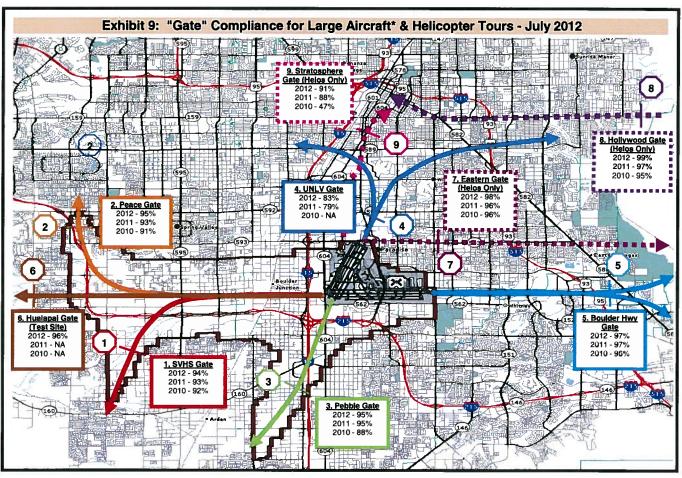
<sup>\*\*</sup> Aircraft types: All aircraft with a maximum gross take of weight less than 75,000 pounds, excluding helicopters.



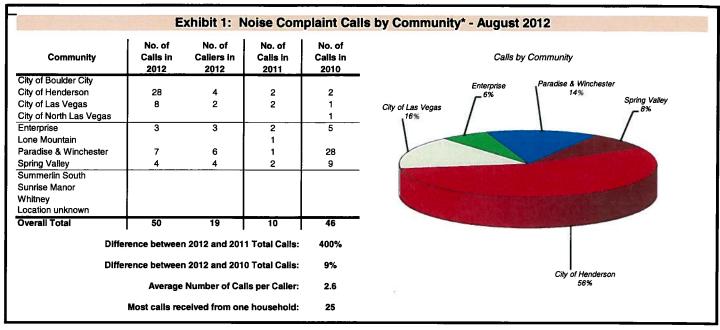


<sup>\*</sup> Overall Total: Note that operation type and runway use counts are estimated by ITT Exelis AirScene.com Noise and Monitoring Operations (NOMS) system based on radar data. Due to limitations of radar data, information for aircraft weighing less than 75,000 lbs. is inexact.

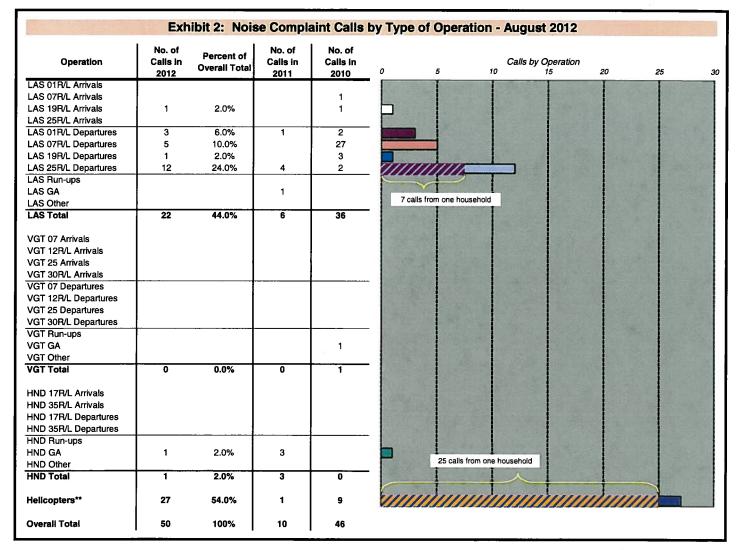




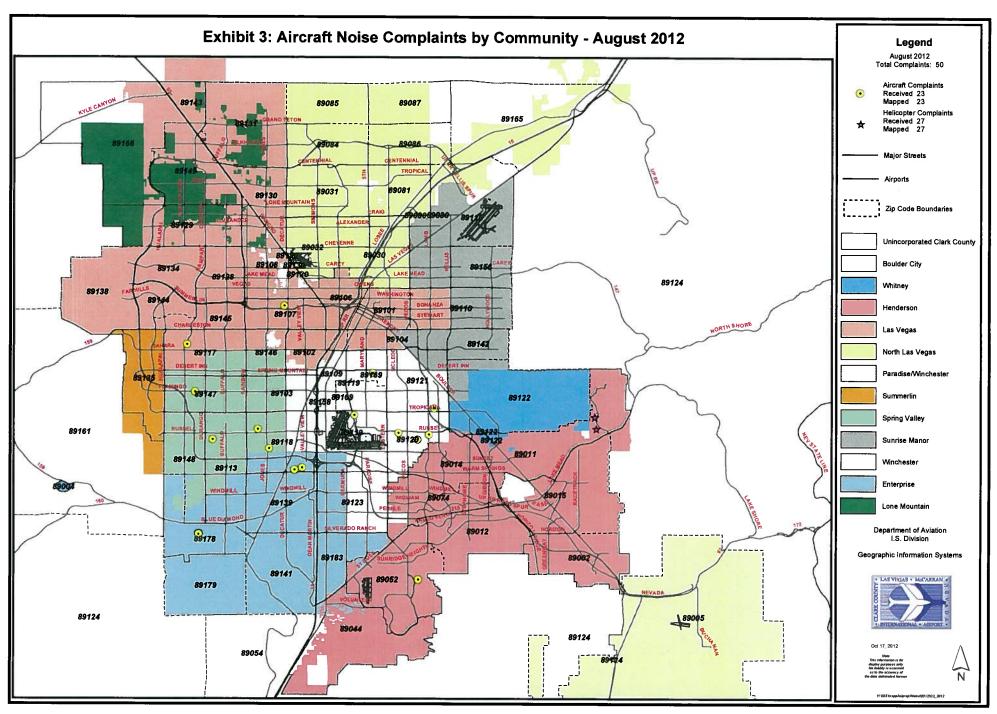
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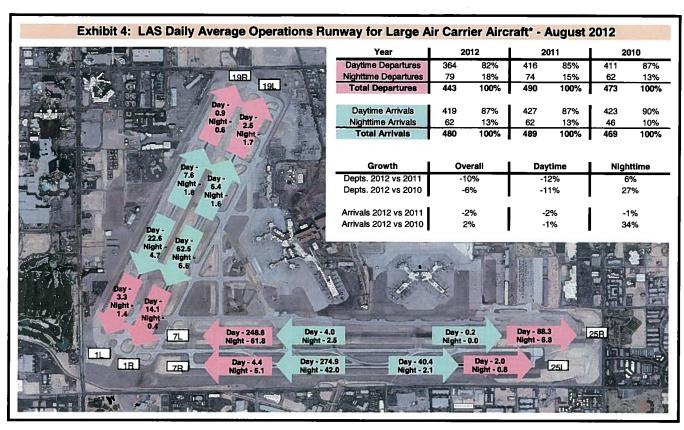
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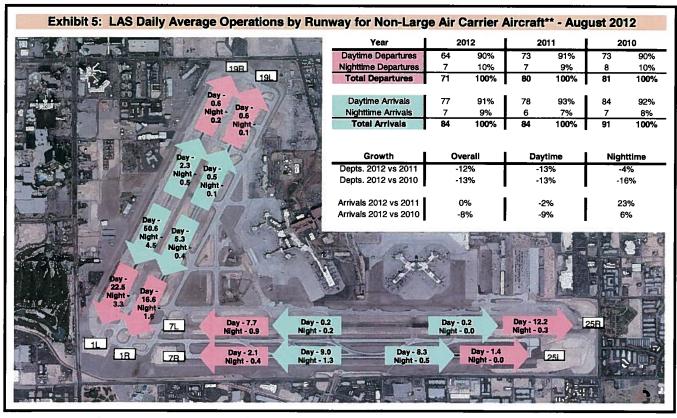
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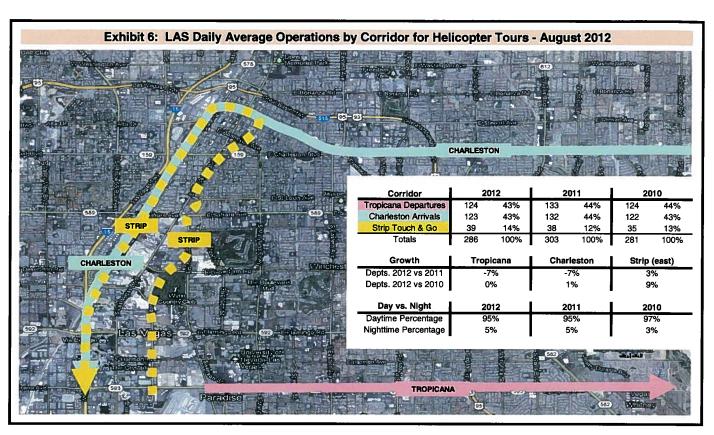
**2012 Noise Complaint Report** 

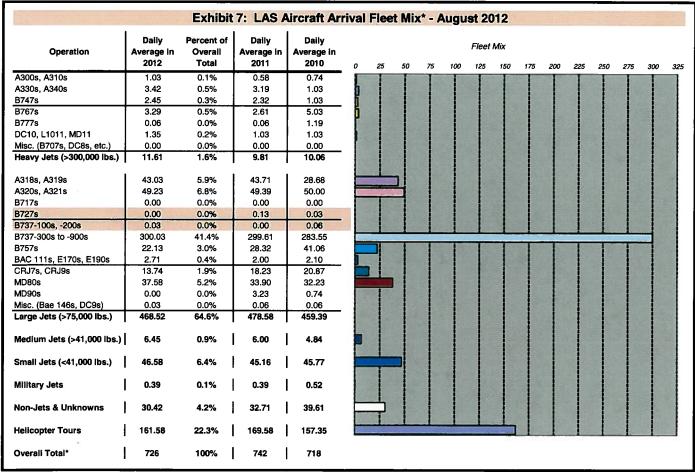


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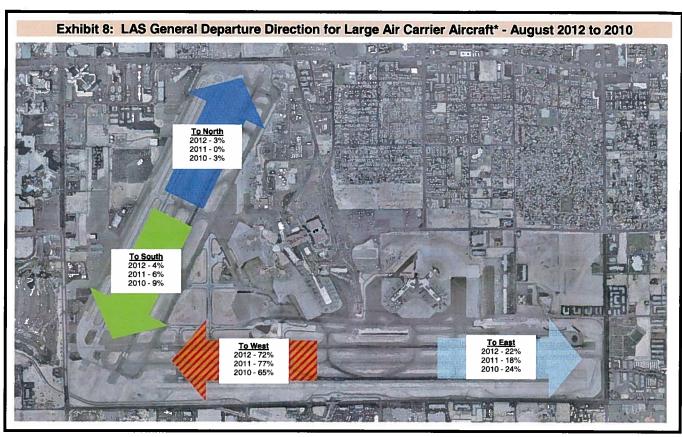


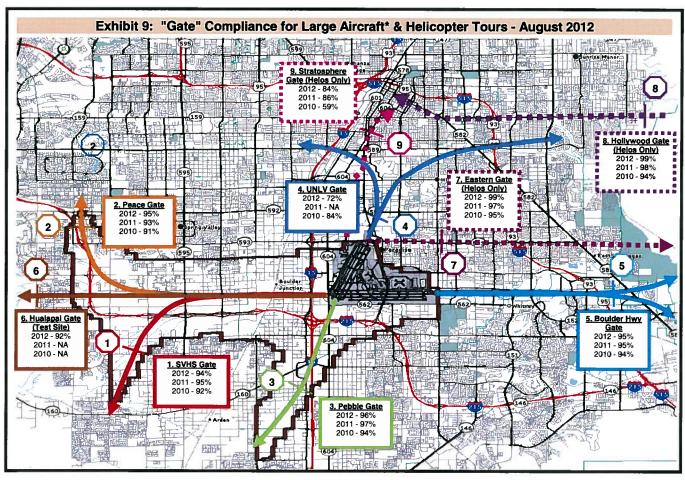
<sup>\*\*</sup> Aircraft types: All aircraft with a maximum gross take of weight less than 75,000 pounds, excluding helicopters.





<sup>\*</sup> Overall Total: Note that operation type and runway use counts are estimated by ITT Exelis AirScene.com Noise and Monitoring Operations (NOMS) system based on radar data. Due to limitations of radar data, information for aircraft weighing less than 75,000 lbs. is inexact.

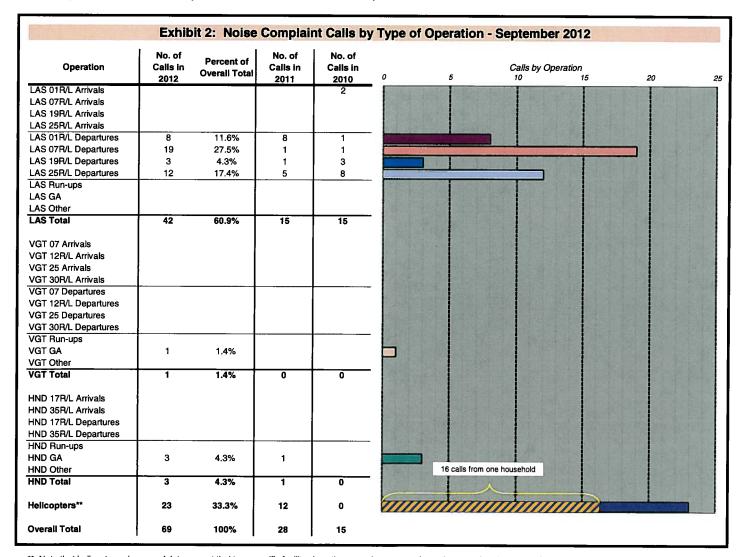




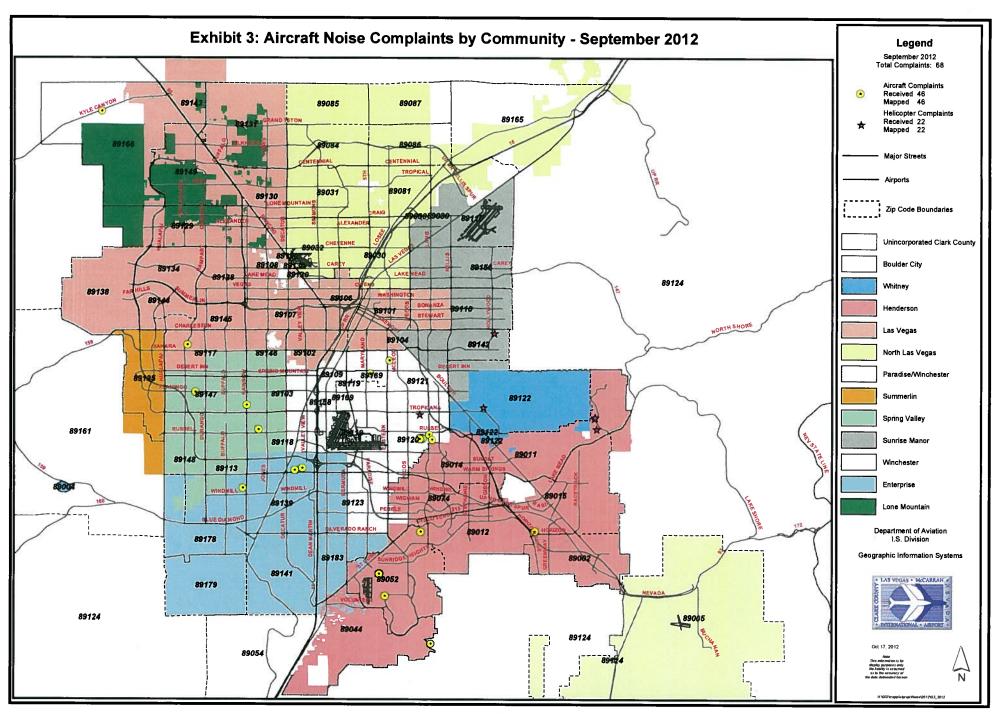
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Community	No. of Calls in 2012	No. of Callers in 2012	No. of Calls in 2011	No. of Calls in 2010	Calls by Community	
City of Boulder City		_			Sunrise Manor Whitney 2%1%	
City of Henderson	25	8	12	1	Spring Valley _	
City of Las Vegas City of North Las Vegas	3	1	3	-8	19% City of Henderso	
Enterprise	5	3	2	5	36%	
Lone Mountain	1	1				
Paradise & Winchester	20	16	5	1		
Spring Valley	13	3	4			
Summerlin South						
Sunrise Manor	1	1	1			
Whitney	1	1	1			
Location unknown						
Overall Total	69	34	28	15		
Difference between 2012 and 2011 Total Calls: 146%  Difference between 2012 and 2010 Total Calls: 360%  Average Number of Calls per Caller: 2.0				360%	Paradise & Winchester 29%  Lone Mountain 2%	
	Most calls m	ceived from one	o bousebold:	16		

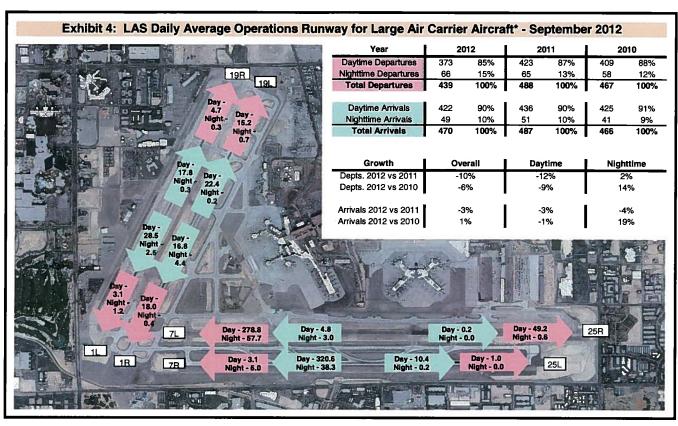
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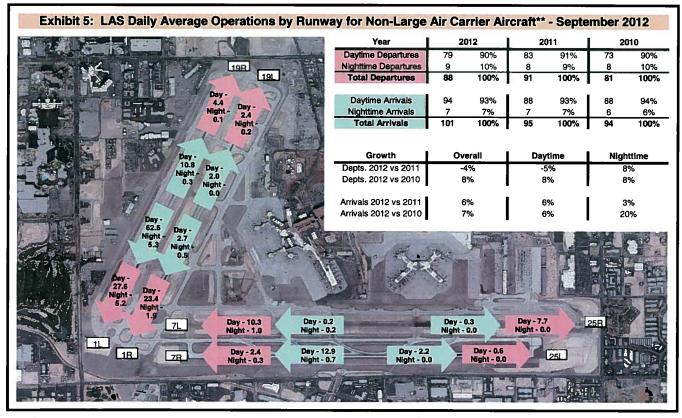
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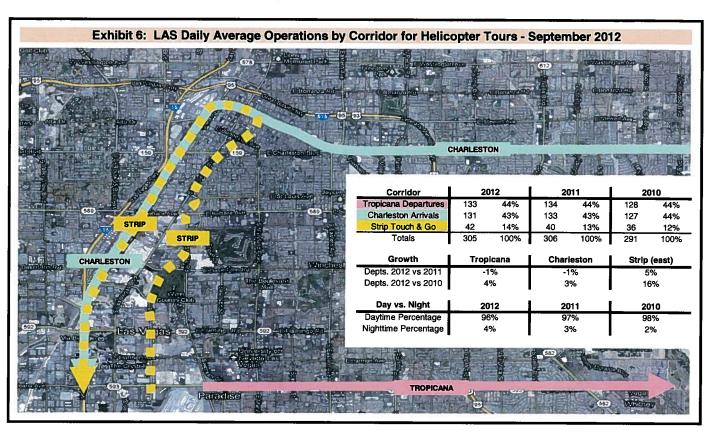
**2012 Noise Complaint Report** 

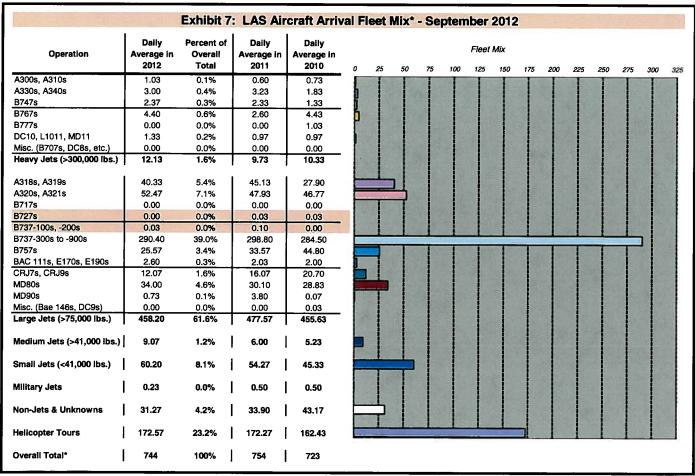


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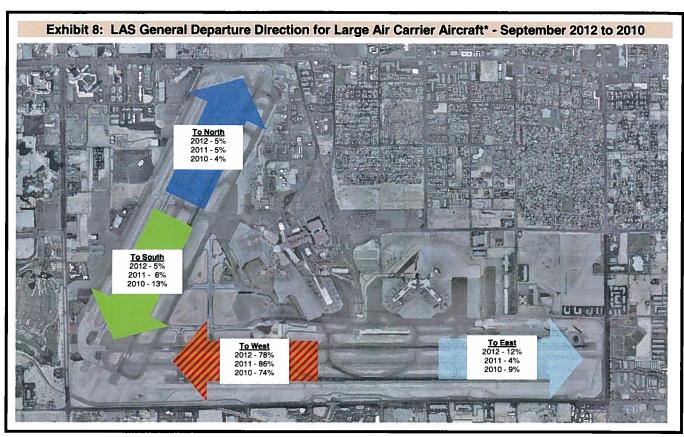


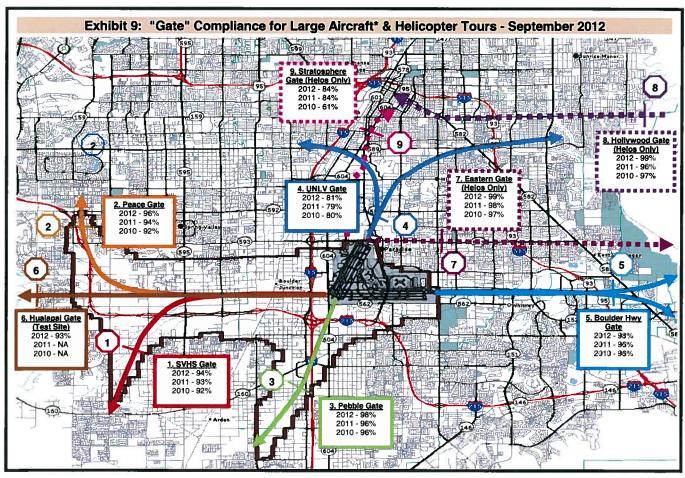
<sup>\*\*</sup> Aircraft types: All aircraft with a maximum gross take of weight less than 75,000 pounds, excluding helicopters.





<sup>\*</sup> Overall Total: Note that operation type and runway use counts are estimated by ITT Exelis AirScene.com Noise and Monitoring Operations (NOMS) system based on radar data. Due to limitations of radar data, information for aircraft weighing less than 75,000 lbs. is inexact.





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