MEMORANDUM

DEPARTMENT OF AVIATION

TO: DISTRIBUTION

Digitally signed by George C. Sims

FROM: GEORGE C. SIMS, PLANNER

SUBJECT: JULY THROUGH SEPTEMBER 2017 NOISE COMPLAINT REPORTS

DATE: OCTOBER 23, 2017

Attached for your review are the Clark County Department of Aviation's (CCDOA) Monthly Noise Complaint Reports for July through September 2017. 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 (702-261-3694), the Noise Office (702-261-5600), 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 (702-652-2750), and noise complaints regarding aircraft operations from the Boulder City Airport are forwarded to the Boulder City Airport Coordinator (702-293-9405). Individuals who express concerns regarding aircraft operations originating from private facilities (i.e., Valley Hospital or the private helipad located near Las Vegas Blvd. and Larson Lane 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. (Note that with the change from an FAA-direct feed to an independent radar feed in October 2015 used by CCDOA's analysis application, the data capture rate for departing aircraft has increased significantly. Therefore, it is inappropriate to compare 2017 and 2016 data to 2015 data.) Arrival and departure corridor use for helicopters are summarized in **Exhibit 6**. **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. **Exhibit 8** illustrates the general departure direction for large aircraft.

Lastly, **Exhibit 9** summarizes how well large aircraft and helicopters adhered to the preferred, non-regulated departure corridors. 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 corridors, or impose penalties to pilots who opt not to comply with preferred procedures. "Compliance gates" are located along historical/fly-quietly 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 2017: 24 total complaints - a 71% increase from 2016 and a 74% decrease from 2015. On average, each caller (or household) issued 1.8 calls. The most calls received from one household totaled 6.

Calls by Community - (Exhibits 1 and 3)

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

Minority (between 10% and 50%): The **Spring Valley** community issued 8 calls (34%). 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).

The *City of Las Vegas* community issued 7 calls (29%). This community is typically impacted by aircraft departing to the west (from Runway 25R and Runway 25L).

The **Paradise and Winchester** communities issued 5 calls (21%). 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 25% (6 calls) of all the calls received in July 2017.

Calls by Operation - (Exhibit 2)

LAS: 67% of the total calls were due to **LAS** fixed-wing operations.

 38% were due to departures to the west from Runways 26L and 26R (89% from two households).

VGT: 8% of the total calls were due to **VGT** fixed-wing operations.

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

Helos: 25% of the total calls were due to *helicopter* operations (83% from one household).

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

Overall: 509 daily *departures*¹ – a 2% increase from 2016. (See footnote).

• 60% of departures were to the west, 35% east, 3% south, and 2% north.

505 daily arrivals – a 2% increase from 2016 and 2% increase from 2015.

• 58% of arrivals were from the east, 26% north, 15% west, and 2% south.

¹ Note: Runway use and traffic count totals for 2014 through September 2015 were compiled by the EnvironmentalVue application using a FAA-direct radar feed. 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 EnvironmentalVue 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. Runway use and traffic count totals for October 2015 and later were compiled by the EnvironmentalVue application using an independent NextGen radar feed and the departure capture rate increased significantly. Therefore, it is inappropriate to compare 2016 departure data to 2015 and 2014 departure data.

Daytime: 406 daily *departures*² – a 1% increase from 2016. (See footnote).

• 54% of departures were to the west, 42% east, 3% south, and 2% north.

422 daily arrivals – no change from 2016 and a 1% increase from 2015.

• 53% of arrivals were from the east, 29% north, 17% west, and 1% south.

Nighttime: 102 daily *departures*³ – a 5% increase from 2016. (See footnote).

■ 85% of departures were to the west, 7% east, 5% north, and 3% south. 84 daily *arrivals* – a 13% increase from 2016 and a 4% increase from 2015.

• 83% of arrivals were from the east, 11% north, 3% south, and 2% west.

Daytime vs. Nighttime: Approximately 80% of all *departures* and 84% of all *arrivals* occurred during the daytime hours.

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

Overall: 85 daily *departures*⁴ – a 1% increase from 2016. (See footnote).

• 49% of departures were to the south, 41% east, 7% west, and 4% north.

82 daily *arrivals* – a 1% increase from 2016 and 7% increase from 2015.

■ 72% of arrivals were from the north, 21% west, 4% east, and 3% south.

Daytime: 76 daily *departures*⁵ – a 1% decrease from 2016. (See footnote).

• 47% of departures were to the south, 45% east, 5% west, and 3% north.

76 daily arrivals – no change from 2016 and a 7% increase from 2015.

■ 72% of arrivals were from the north, 23% west, 4% east, and 2% south.

Nighttime: 10 daily *departures*⁶ – an 11% increase from 2016. (See footnote).

• 67% of departures were to the south, 17% west, 11% north, and 5% east.

7 daily arrivals – a 28% increase from 2016 and a 10% increase from 2015.

81% of arrivals were from the north, 12% south, 5% east, and 1% west.

Daytime vs. Nighttime: Approximately 88% of all *departures* and 92% of all *arrivals* occurred during the daytime hours.

Operations by Corridor for Helicopter Tours - (Exhibit 6)

Tropicana: 109 daily *departures* - a 10% decrease from 2016 and a 12% decrease from 2015.

Charleston: 108 daily arrivals – a 9% decrease from 2016 and a 14% decrease from 2015.

Strip: 85 daily *touch and go's* - a 7% increase from 2016 and a 38% increase from 2015.

Daytime vs. Nighttime: Approximately 88% of all helicopter tour operations occurred during the daytime hours.

² See footnote #1.

³ See footnote #1.

⁴ See footnote #1.

⁵ See footnote #1.

⁶ See footnote #1.

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

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

accounted for 3% of the daily traffic.

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

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

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

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 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 25% of the daily traffic.

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

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

Primary: In 2017, 60% departed to the west (from LAS's primary departure runways). This figure

was 76% in 2016 and 78% in 2015.

Secondary: In 2017, 3% departed to the south (from LAS's secondary departure runways). This

figure was 3% in 2016 and 3% in 2015

Alternate 1: In 2017, 3% departed to the *north* (from LAS's alternate departure runways). This figure

was 2% in 2016 and 5% in 2015.

Alternate 2: In 2017, 35% departed to the east (from LAS's alternate departure runways). This figure

was 19% in 2016 and 14% in 2015.

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

SVHS: In 2017, 96% of the large air carrier aircraft (excluding those destined to the Nevada

> National Security Site) that departed to the west from Runway 25L or 25R and made a lefthand turn were within 0.3 NM of Sierra Vista High School (SVHS). This figure was 96%

in 2016 and 95% in 2015.

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 2017, 94% of the large air carrier aircraft (excluding those destined to the Nevada National Security Site) that departed to the west from Runway 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 2016 and 96% in 2015.

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 2017, 98% of the large air carrier aircraft (excluding those destined to the Nevada National Security Site) that departed to the south from Runway 19L or 19R were within 0.3 NM of the intersection of *Pebble Road & Arville Street*. This figure was 95% in 2016 and 97% in 2015.

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 2017, 88% of the large air carrier aircraft that departed to the north from Runway 01L or 01R were within 0.3 NM of the *UNLV sports complex*. This figure was 93% in 2016 and 80% in 2015.

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 2017, 97% of the large air carrier aircraft that departed to the north from Runway 07L or 07R were within 0.3 NM of the extended runway centerline, near Boulder Highway. This figure was 96% in 2016 and 93% in 2015.

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.).

Hualapai:

In 2017, 85% of the large air carrier aircraft destined to the Nevada Test Site that departed to the west from Runway 25L or 25R were within 0.3 NM of the extended runway centerline, near *Hualapai Way*. This figure was 91% in 2016 and 89% in 2015.

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 2017, 97% 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 90% in 2016 and 89% in 2015.

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 2017, 98% 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 2016 and 99% in 2015.

> 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.

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Stratosphere: In 2017, 98% 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 2016 and 87% in 2015.

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, flight activity, (with the exception of increased departures to the east), fleet mix, and gate compliance. The eastbound departure increase, as expected, is a result of both consistent temperatures at or above 100 degrees and the 147 foot difference in elevation between the opposite ends of the east/west runways sloping downhill toward the east. Increased temperatures of this nature creates difficulty for larger, heavier aircraft to reach the necessary takeoff speed for a westbound departure on an uphill incline. As a result, the FAA typically modifies the runway configuration to address this challenge.

August 2017: 38 total complaints - a 52% increase from 2016 and a 30% decrease from 2015. On average, each caller (or household) issued 1.8 calls. The most calls received from one household totaled 11.

Calls by Community - (Exhibits 1 and 3)

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

Minority (between 10% and 50%): The **Spring Valley** community issued 18 calls (47%). (See July 2017 synopsis of typical aircraft overflight impacts on this community.)

The *Paradise and Winchester* communities issued 8 calls (21%). (See July 2017 synopsis of typical aircraft overflight impacts on this community.)

The *City of Henderson* community issued 7 calls (18%). This community is typically impacted by aircraft departing to the east (from Runway 07R and Runway 07L), and helicopter tour operations.

Repeat Caller Impact: One household issued 29% (11 calls) of all the calls received in August 2017.

Calls by Operation - (Exhibit 2)

LAS: 90% of the total calls received were due to **LAS** fixed-wing operations.

 53% were due to departures to the west from Runways 26L and 26R (50% from one household).

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

HND: 10% of the total calls received were due to *HND* fixed-wing operations.

Helis: 0% of the total calls received were due to *helicopter* operations.

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

509 daily *departures*⁷ – a 3% increase from 2016. (See footnote). Overall:

> • 60% of departures were to the west, 30% east, 7% north, and 4% south. 506 daily arrivals – a 2% increase from 2016 and a 3% increase from 2015.

• 59% of arrivals were from the east, 25% north, 12% west, and 5% south.

410 daily *departures*⁸ – no change from 2016. (See footnote). Daytime:

> 54% of departures were to the west, 35% east, 7% north, and 3% south. 428 daily arrivals – a 1% decrease from 2016 and a 2% increase from 2015. • 55% of arrivals were from the east, 26% north, 13% west, and 5% south.

Nighttime: 99 daily *departures*⁹ – a 15% increase from 2016. (See footnote).

• 83% of departures were to the west, 7% east, 5% south, and 5% north. 78 daily arrivals – a 21% increase from 2016 and an 8% increase from 2015.

■ 79% of arrivals were from the east, 15% north, 4% south, and 2% west.

Daytime vs. Nighttime: Approximately 81% of all departures and 85% of all arrivals occurred during the daytime hours.

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

93 daily *departures*¹⁰ – a 10% increase from 2016. (See footnote). Overall:

• 50% of departures were to the south, 36% east, 8% north, and 6% west. 89 daily arrivals – a 9% increase from 2016 and a 14% increase from 2015.

■ 71% of arrivals were from the north, 15% west, 8% south, and 6% east.

82 daily *departures*¹¹ – a 9% increase from 2016. (See footnote). Daytime:

> 47% of departures were to the south, 40% east, 8% north, and 5% west. 82 daily arrivals – a 10% increase from 2016 and a 16% increase from 2015. • 70% of arrivals were from the north, 16% west, 8% south, and 6% east.

Nighttime: 11 daily *departures*¹² – a 15% increase from 2016. (See footnote).

72% of departures were to the south, 12% west, 9% north, and 7% east. 7 daily arrivals – a 2% increase from 2016 and a 3% decrease from 2015.

82% of arrivals were from the north, 9% south, 7% east, and 2% west.

Daytime vs. Nighttime: Approximately 88% of all departures and 93% of all arrivals occurred during the daytime hours.

Operations by Corridor for Helicopter Tours - (Exhibit 6)

Tropicana: 113 daily *departures* – a 12% decrease from 2016 and a 9% decrease from 2015.

Charleston: 112 daily arrivals – a 10% decrease from 2016 and a 10% decrease from 2015.

See footnote #1.

⁸ See footnote #1.

See footnote #1.

¹⁰ See footnote #1.

¹¹ See footnote #1. ¹² See footnote #1.

Strip: 80 daily *touch and go's* - a 16% increase from 2016 and a 30% increase from 2015.

Daytime vs. Nighttime: Approximately 91% 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 3% 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 61% 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 7% of the

daily traffic.

Military: **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 25% of the daily traffic.

Noisier Aircraft Types: The hush-kitted Boeing 727 aircraft and Boeing 737 (100 & 200 series) aircraft accounted for zero operations per day.

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

Primary: In 2017, 60% departed to the **west** (from LAS's primary departure runways). This figure was 75% in 2016 and 69% in 2015.

Secondary: In 2017, 4% departed to the *south* (from LAS's secondary departure runways). This figure was 5% in 2016 and 2% in 2015.

Alternate 1: In 2017, 7% departed to the *north* (from LAS's alternate departure runways). This figure was 4% in 2016, and 3% in 2015.

Alternate 2: In 2017, 30% departed to the *east* (from LAS's alternate departure runways). This figure was 17% in 2016 and 26% in 2015.

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

SVHS: In 2017, 97% of the large air carrier aircraft (excluding those destined to the Nevada Test Site) that departed to the west from Runway 25L or 25R and made a left-hand turn were within 0.3 NM of *Sierra Vista High School* (SVHS). This figure was 97% in 2016 and 96% in 2015. (See July 2017 synopsis for specific location of the SVHS gate.)

Peace:

In 2017, 95% of the large air carrier aircraft (excluding those destined to the Nevada Test Site) that departed to the west from Runway 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 2016 and 97% in 2015. (See July 2017 synopsis for specific location of the Peace gate.)

Pebble:

In 2017, 98% of the large air carrier aircraft (excluding those destined to the Nevada Test Site) that departed to the south from Runway 19L or 19R were within 0.3 NM of the intersection of Pebble Road & Arville Street. This figure was 99% in 2016 and 96% in 2015. (See July 2017 synopsis for specific location of the Pebble gate.)

UNLV:

In 2017, 91% of the large air carrier aircraft that departed to the north from Runway 01L or 01R were within 0.3 NM of the UNLV sports complex. This figure was 84% in 2016, and 80% in 2015. (See July 2017 synopsis for specific location of the UNLV gate.)

Boulder:

In 2017, 98% of the large air carrier aircraft that departed to the north from Runway 07L or 07R were within 0.3 NM of the extended runway centerline, near Boulder Highway. This figure was 93% in 2016 and 96% in 2015. (See July 2017 synopsis for specific location of the Boulder Hwy. gate.)

Hualapai:

In 2017, 79% of the large air carrier aircraft destined to the Nevada Test Site that departed to the west from Runway 25L or 25R were within 0.3 NM of the extended runway centerline, near *Hualapai Way*. This figure was 91% in 2016, and 86% 2015. (See July 2017 synopsis for specific location of the Hualapai gate.)

Eastern:

In 2017, 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 95% in 2016 and 97% in 2015. (See July 2017 synopsis for specific location of the Eastern gate.)

Hollywood: In 2017, 97% 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 2016 and 99% in 2015. (See July 2017 synopsis for specific location of the Hollywood gate.)

Stratosphere: In 2017, 98% 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 99% in 2016 and 88% in 2015. (See July 2017 synopsis for specific location of the Stratosphere gate.)

The information denoted in this monthly summary represents typical residential complaints, flight activity, (with the exception of increased departures to the east), fleet mix, and gate compliance. The eastbound departure increase, as expected, is a result of both consistent temperatures at or above 100 degrees and the 147 foot difference in elevation between the opposite ends of the east/west runways sloping downhill toward the east. Increased temperatures of this nature creates difficulty for larger, heavier aircraft to reach the necessary takeoff speed for a westbound departure on an uphill incline. As a result, the FAA typically modifies the runway configuration to address this challenge.

September 2017: 77 total complaints – a 94% decrease from 2015 and an 83% decrease from 2014. On average, each caller (or household) issued 1.7 calls. The most calls received from one household totaled 7.

Calls by Community - (Exhibits 1 and 3)

Majority (more than 50%): The **Spring Valley** community issued 39 calls (51%). (See July 2017 synopsis of typical aircraft overflight impacts on this community.)

Minority (between 10% and 50%): The *Paradise and Winchester* communities issued 26 calls (34%). (See July 2017 synopsis of typical aircraft overflight impacts on this community.)

Repeat Caller Impact: One household issued 27% (21 calls) of all the calls received in September 2017.

Calls by Operation - (Exhibit 2)

LAS: 94% of the total calls received were due to **LAS** fixed-wing operations.

- 44% were due to departures to the north from Runways 01L and 01R (26% from one household).
- 36% were due to departures to the west from Runways 26L and 26R (82% from two households, 43% of which is from the same household that issued 26% of the calls from LAS Runways 01L and 01R)

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

HND: 1% of the total calls received were due to *HND* fixed-wing operations.

Helis: 5% of the total calls received were due to *helicopter* operations (100% from one

household).

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

Overall: 500 daily *departures*¹³ – a 1% decrease from 2016. (See footnote).

63% of departures were to the west, 24% north, 10% east, and 2% south.

498 daily arrivals – no change from 2016 and a 4% increase from 2015.

• 74% of arrivals were from the east, 13% south, 9% north and 3% west.

Daytime: 417 daily *departures*¹⁴ – a 2% decrease from 2016. (See footnote).

• 61% of departures were to the west, 25% north, 12% east, and 2% south.

433 daily arrivals – a 3% decrease from 2016 and 2% increase from 2015.

• 73% of arrivals were from the east, 14% south, 9% north, and 4% west.

Nighttime: 83 daily *departures*¹⁵ – a 9% increase from 2016. (See footnote).

• 77% of departures were to the west, 19% north, 3% south, and 1% east.

64 daily arrivals – a 20% increase from 2016 and 18% increase from 2015.

• 84% of arrivals were from the east, 9% north, and 7% south.

Daytime vs. Nighttime: Approximately 83% of all *departures* and 87% of all *arrivals* occurred during the daytime hours.

¹³ See footnote #1.

¹⁴ See footnote #1.

¹⁵ See footnote #1.

Daytime:

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

Overall: 101 daily *departures*¹⁶ – a 1% increase from 2016. (See footnote).

53% of departures were to the south, 27% north, 14% east, and 6% west.
99 daily *arrivals* – a 1% decrease from 2016 and an 11% increase from 2015.
60% of arrivals were from the north, 22% south, 12% east, and 5% west.

91 daily *departures*¹⁷ – a 1% increase from 2016. (See footnote).

51% of departures were to the south, 28% north, 15% east, and 5% west.
92 daily *arrivals* – a 1% decrease from 2016 and a 12% increase from 2015.
59% of arrivals were from the north, 22% south, 13% east, and 5% west.

Nighttime: 10 daily *departures*¹⁸ – a 1% increase from 2016. (See footnote).

• 66% of departures were to the south, 20% north, 12% west, and 3% east.

7 daily *arrivals* – a 1% decrease from 2016 and a 9% increase from 2015.

• 73% of arrivals were from the north, 19% south, 7% east, and 1% west.

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

Operations by Corridor for Helicopter Tours - (Exhibit 6)

Tropicana: 118 daily *departures* – a 14% decrease from 2016 and a 7% decrease from 2015.

Charleston: 117 daily arrivals - a 15% decrease from 2016 and an 11% decrease from 2015.

Strip: 75 daily *touch and go's* - a 5% decrease from 2016 and 22% increase from 2015.

Daytime vs. Nighttime: Approximately 97% 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 3% 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 60% 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 7% of the

daily traffic.

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

Non-Jet: *Piston-driven* aircraft and unassigned aircraft types accounted for 5% of the daily traffic.

¹⁶ See footnote #1.

¹⁷ See footnote #1.

¹⁸ See footnote #1.

Helos: Touring helicopters accounted for 24% of the daily traffic.

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 2017, 63% departed to the **west** (from LAS's primary departure runways). This figure

was 76% in 2016 and 83% in 2015.

Secondary: In 2017, 3% departed to the *south* (from LAS's secondary departure runways). This

figure was 3% in 2016 and 4% in 2015.

Alternate 1: In 2017, 24% departed to the *north* (from LAS's alternate departure runways). This figure

was 10% in 2016 and 1% in 2015.

Alternate 2: In 2017, 10% departed to the *east* (from LAS's alternate departure runways). This figure

was 11% in 2016 and 12% in 2015.

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

SVHS: In 2017, 96% of the large air carrier aircraft (excluding those destined to the Nevada Test

Site) that departed to the west from Runway 25L or 25R and made a left-hand turn were within 0.3 NM of *Sierra Vista High School* (SVHS). This figure was 97% in 2016 and

97% in 2015. (See July 2017 synopsis for specific location of the SVHS gate.)

Peace: In 2017, 93% of the large air carrier aircraft (excluding those destined to the Nevada Test

Site) that departed to the west from Runway 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 2016 and 97% in 2015. (See July 2017 synopsis for specific location of the

Peace gate.)

Pebble: In 2017, 98% of the large air carrier aircraft (excluding those destined to the Nevada Test

Site) that departed to the south from Runway 19L or 19R were within 0.3 NM of the intersection of *Pebble Road & Arville Street*. This figure was 97% in 2016 and 91% in

2015. (See July 2017 synopsis for specific location of the Pebble gate.)

UNLV: In 2017, 93% of the large air carrier aircraft that departed to the north from Runway 01L or

01R were within 0.3 NM of the UNLV sports complex. This figure was 90% in 2016 and

71% in 2015. (See July 2017 synopsis for specific location of the UNLV gate.)

Boulder: In 2017, 98% of the large air carrier aircraft that departed to the north from Runway 07L or

07R were within 0.3 NM of the extended runway centerline, near *Boulder Highway*. This figure was 97% in 2016 and 94% in 2015. (See July 2017 synopsis for specific location of

the Boulder Hwy. gate.)

Hualapai: In 2017, 82% of the large air carrier aircraft destined to the Nevada Test Site that departed

to the west from Runway 25L or 25R were within 0.3 NM of the extended runway centerline, near *Hualapai Way*. This figure was 91% in 2016 and 90% in 2015. (See July

2017 synopsis for specific location of the Hualapai gate.)

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Eastern:

In 2017, 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 99% in 2016 and 94% in 2015. (See July 2017 synopsis for specific location of the Eastern gate.)

Hollywood: In 2017, 97% 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 2016 and 99% in 2015. (See July 2017 synopsis for specific location of the Hollywood gate.)

Stratosphere: In 2017, 98% 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 99% in 2016 and 81% in 2015. (See July 2017 synopsis for specific location of the Stratosphere gate.)

The information denoted in this monthly summary represents **typical** residential complaints, flight activity, (with the exception of increased departures to the north), fleet mix, and gate compliance. The northbound departure increase was a result of increase capacity associated with the Life is Beautiful Festival, and the iHeart Music Festival occurring together between September 22nd and 24th. The next four days following the conclusion of these events, LAS experienced significant winds and a direction change of winds from the north between September 25th and 28th, necessitating increased use of the north/south runways for departures.

Other Notable Issues

Helicopter Operator Users Meeting: On September 21, 2017, DOA staff members met with FAA, Las Vegas Metropolitan Police, and local helicopter tour operators to discuss noise complaints tied to helicopter operations, route compliance, and operational growth. Operators were briefed on residential complaints tied to increased tour operations and reviewed route procedures for the Red Rock canyon area. Additionally, the FAA and Metropolitan Police provided information associated with the increased use of drones and the impact these operations pose to safety and security.

Runway Numbering Change: On August 16, 2017 LAS renumbered runways 7L/25R and 7R/25L due to a magnetic variation change (MAGVAR). The airport's two longest runways were re-designated to Runway 8L/26R and Runway 8R/26L. Runway numbering, navigational aids and flight procedures are based on magnetic headings. True magnetic headings change over time, so every five years the FAA reevaluates shifts in the poles, which is known as magnetic variation. If the true heading changes more than 3 degrees at any airport, it has to renumber its runways. The FAA also takes a number of actions when the magnetic headings change, including but not limited to updating airport directories and charts used by pilots, and alerting pilots to the planned changes so a pilot looking to land on Runway 25 isn't surprised to see a "26" painted on the runway, for example. The FAA has standard procedures and checklists it goes through when making these changes which McCarran staff utilized for the transition. In the last few years, magnetic variation has required renumbering runways at several other U.S. airports, including in Tampa, Fla., and Orange County, Calif.

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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Commissioner Sisolak, Chair Distribution:

Commissioner Giunchigliani, Vice-Chair

Commissioner Brager Commissioner Brown Commissioner Kirkpatrick Commissioner Gibson Commissioner Weekly Donald G. Burnette Rosemary Vassiliadis Saeed Bonabian James Chrislev Sandra Cikity Judy Villalta Dennis Anderson Ben Czyzewski

John Howard (FAA TRACON)

Jon Holman (FAA ATC)

Donna Bergstrom

Curtis Hedgepeth

Charlie Halterman (HND Tower) Richard Falcon (FAA FSDO) Bristol Ellington (COH) Josh Reid (COH) Elizabeth Fretwell (CLV) Mayor Carolyn Goodman (CLV) Councilman Bob Beers (CLV) Councilman Bob Coffin (CLV) Councilwoman L. Tarkanian (CLV) Councilman S. Anthony (CLV) Councilman Ricki Barlow (CLV) Mayor Pro Tem Steven Ross (CLV)

Bradford Jerbic, (CLV) Brok Armantrout (CBC)

David Parks (Nevada State Assembly) J. Gordon Arkin (Foley & Lardner)

John Williams (Ricondo) Douglas Pomeroy (FAA ADO) La Nea M. Conner (Boeing) Mike Jeck (Metro Wash. Air Auth.) Karen Everitt (Dallas City Hall)

Samuel Carter (ITT)

Sean Roebuck Bruce Daugherty Kelly Burns Sam Ingalls Chris Jones Linda Healey **Christine Crews** Tina Frias Jeff Jacquart Charlie Hall Tucker Field

Stephanie Garcia-Vause (COH)

Andrew Powell (COH)

William Ruggiero (FAA TRACON) Thomas Miller (Nellis AFB) Michael Moorer (FAA ATCT) James Erbeck (CLV) Paul Alukonis (FAA FSDO)

Sydney Lowe (University Libraries) Lisa Butterfield (Reno-Tahoe Airport) Andrea Christensen (Denver Airport) Jennifer Lewis (Scottsdale Airport) Frank Iacovino (Mass Port Authority) Robert Butler (Papillon Helicopters) Christine Gerencher (American Airlines)

Bert Ganoung (SFO)

San Diego Airport Noise Management

Jeannie Denham (Citizen) Judge Bob Johnston (Citizen)

Roy Fuhrmann (Metro Airports Commission)

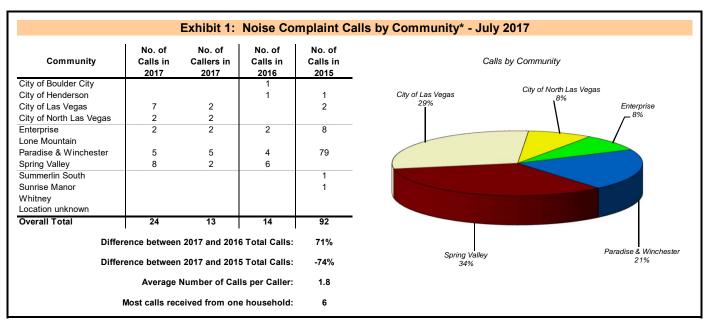
Tom Schaus (Sundance Helicopters) Brooke Satern (Port of Portland)

Gary Brodt (Citizen)

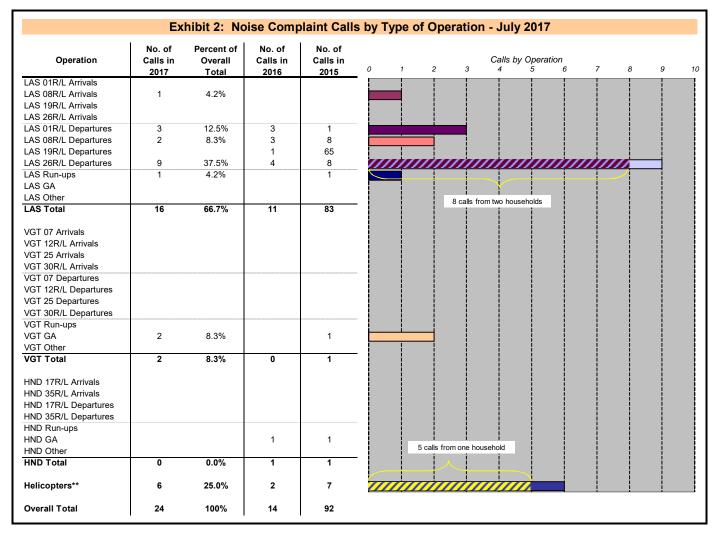
James P. Callahan (Nellis AFB) Stan Shepherd (SEATAC) Eric Sheng (Long Beach Airport) Jason Schwartz (Portland Airport) Todd Lobato (Nellis AFB)

Steven Peacock (Dallas City Hall) John Dietz (FAA TRACON)

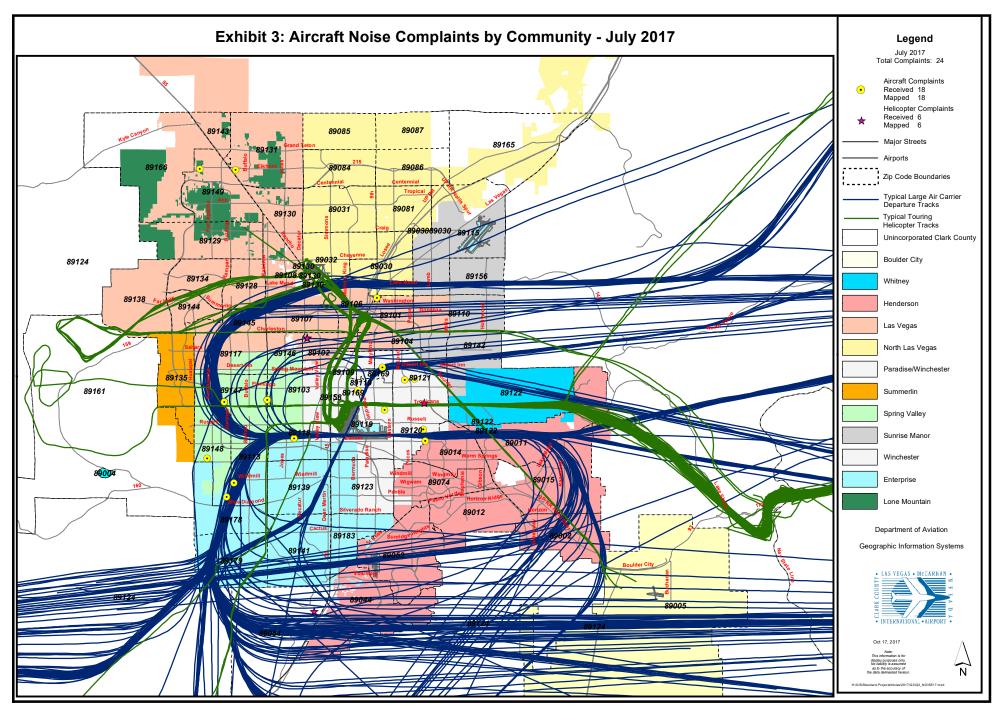
William Olivieri (Citizen)



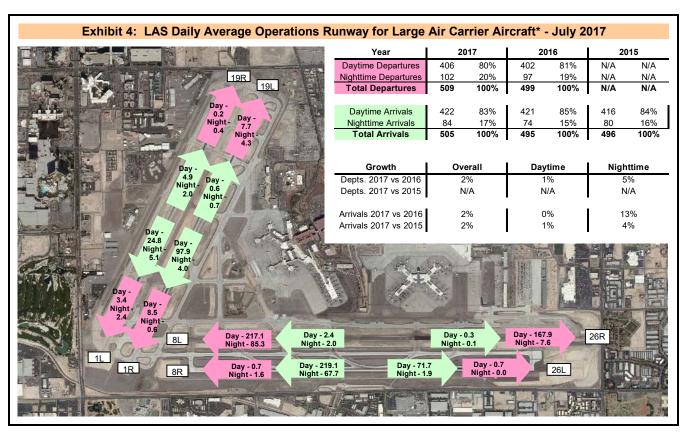
^{*} See map on reverse side for community boundaries and location of known noise complaints.



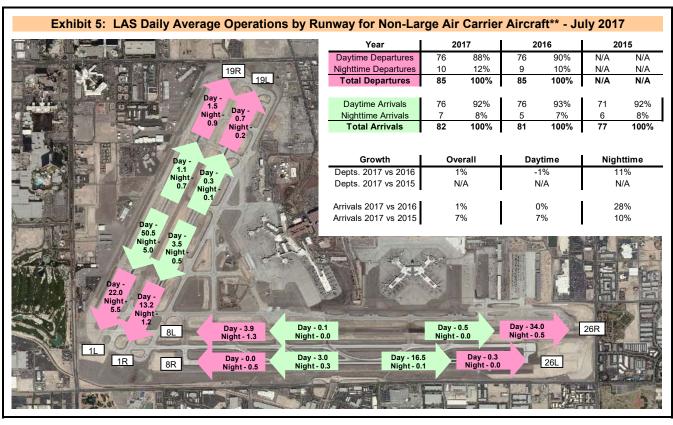
^{**} Note that helicopter noise complaints are not tied to a specific facility since the operation cannot always be associated to a specific airport. Additionally, helicopter calls do no include those associated with operations conducted by the Metropolitan Police Department or those associated with operations conducted at non-DOA facilities.



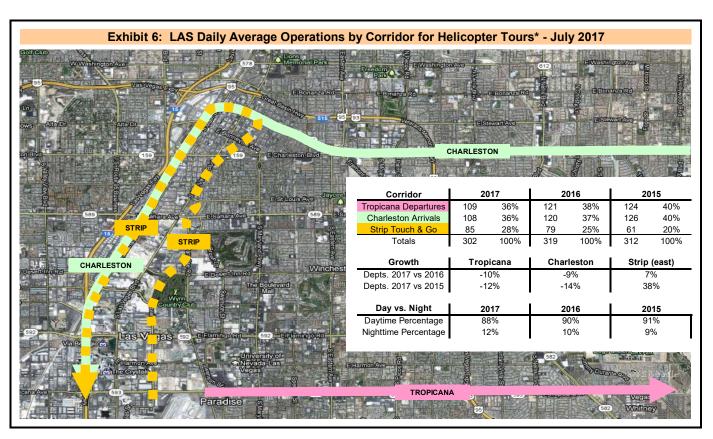
2017 Noise Complaint Report

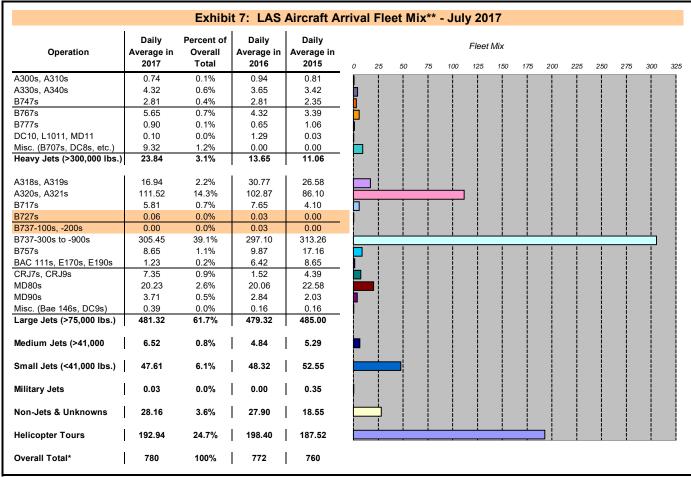


^{*} Aircraft types: All aircraft with a maximum gross take of weight of at least 75,000 pounds, including but not limited to, A306, A310, A311, A318, A319, A320, A330, A340 B707, B717, B727, B737, B747, B757, B767, B777, CRJ7, CRJ9, DC8, DC9, DC10, E170, E190, HA4T, L1011, MD80, MD90, MD10, MD11, VC10.

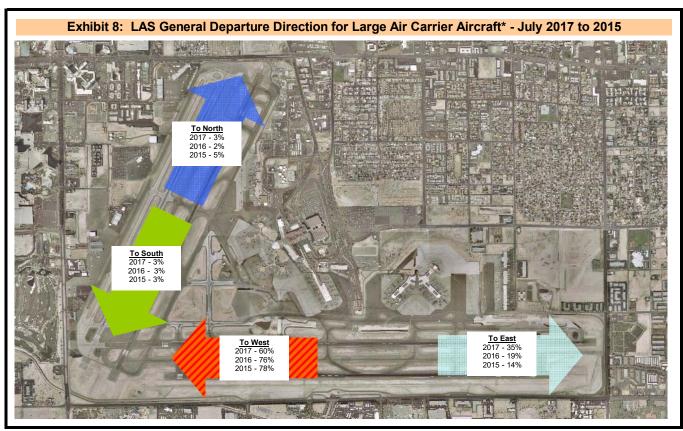


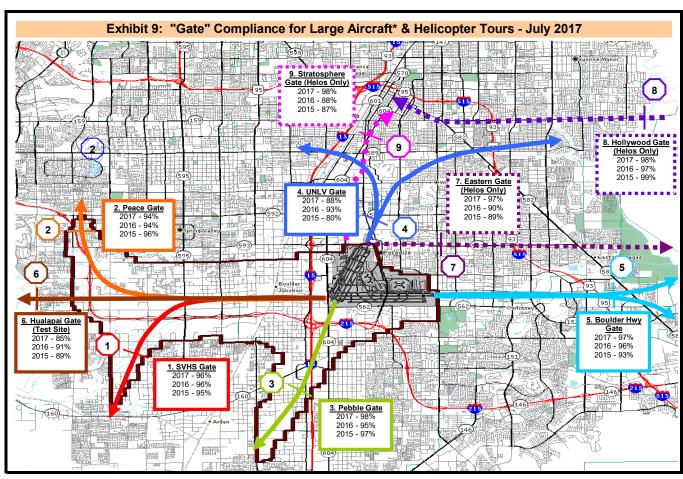
^{**} Aircraft types: All aircraft with a maximum gross take of weight less than 75,000 pounds, excluding helicopters.



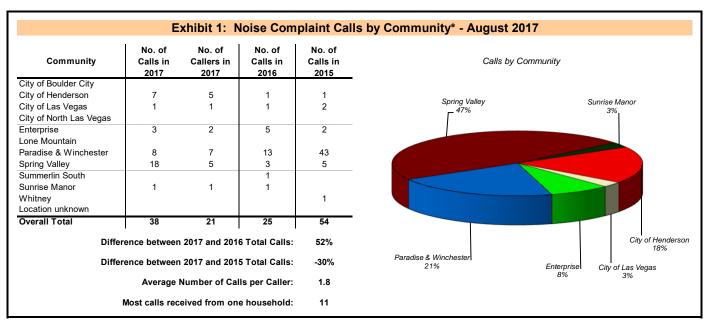


^{**} Overall Total: Note that operation type and runway use counts are estimated by Harris Corp. EnvironmentalVue Noise and Monitoring Operations system based on radar data. Due to limitations of radar data, information for aircraft weighing less than 75,000 lbs is inexact.

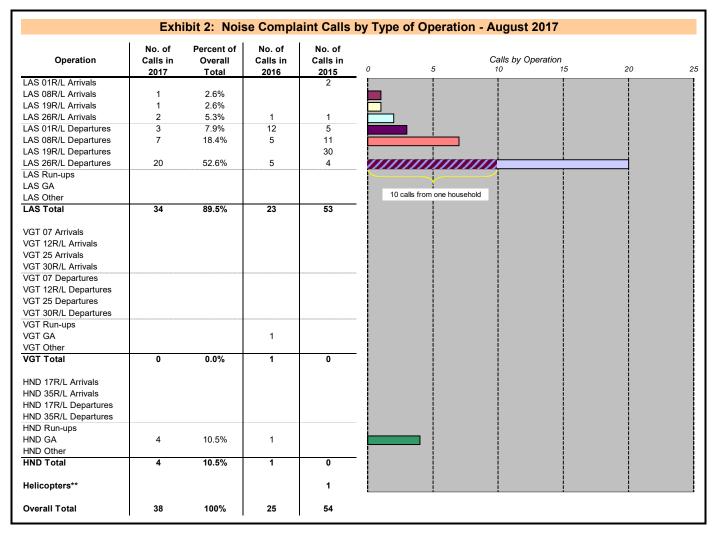




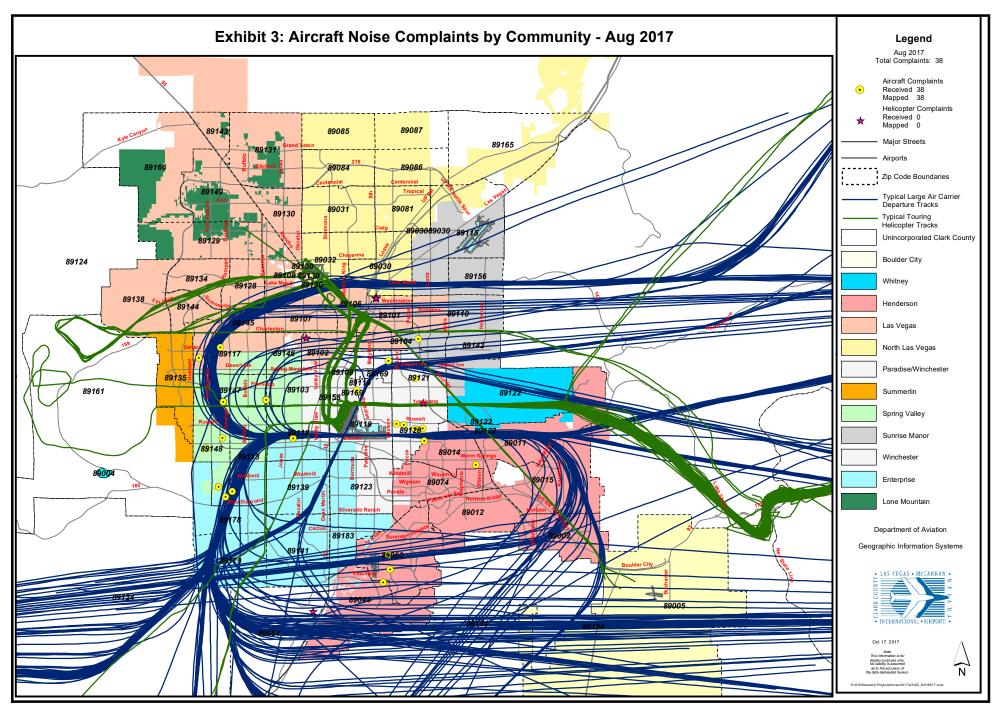
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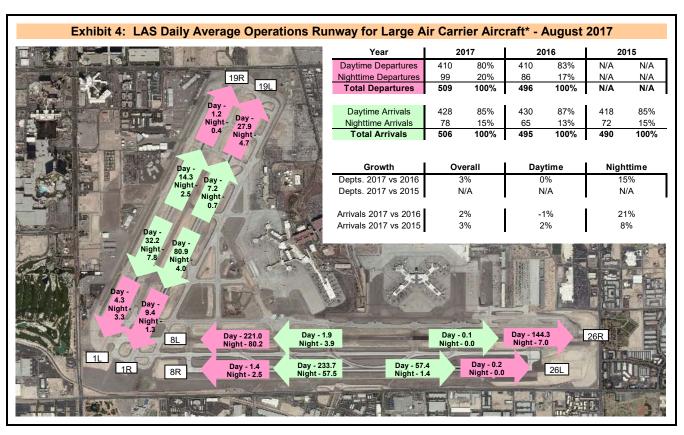


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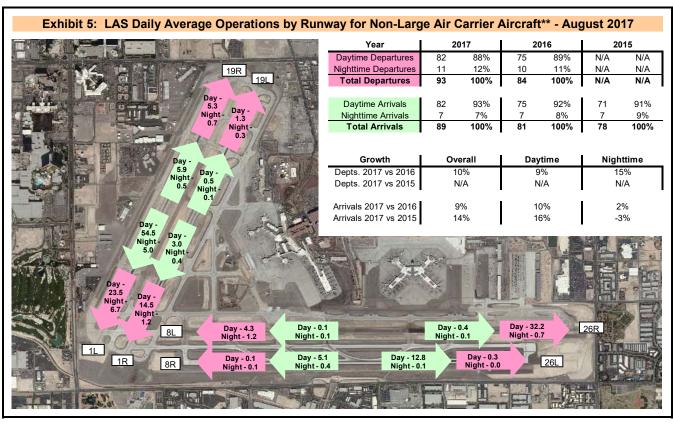


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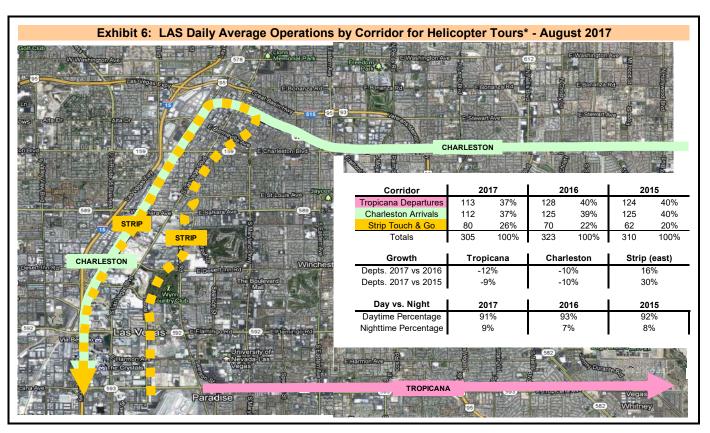


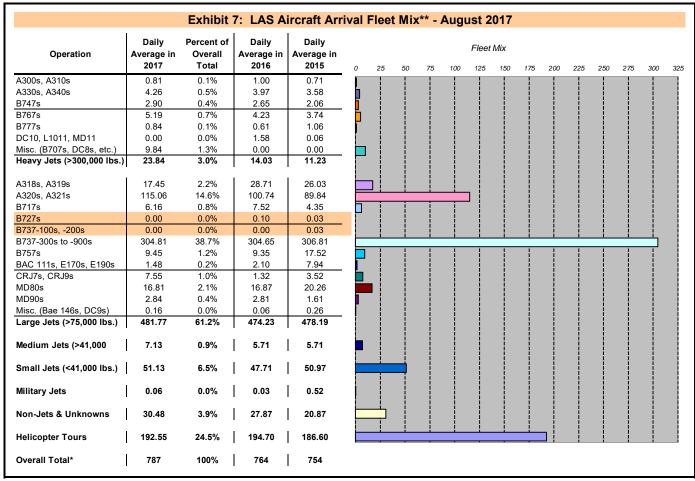


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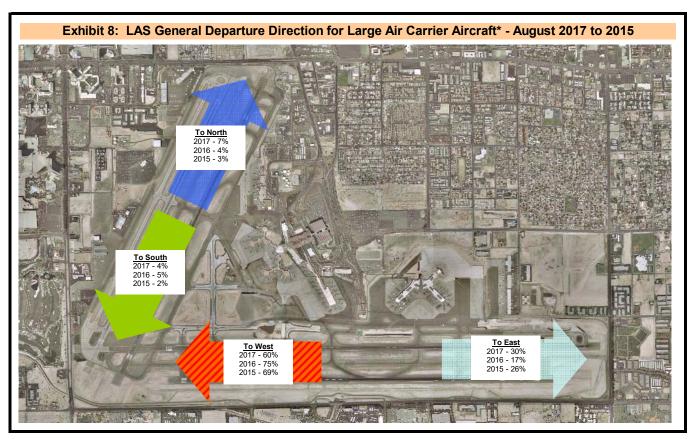


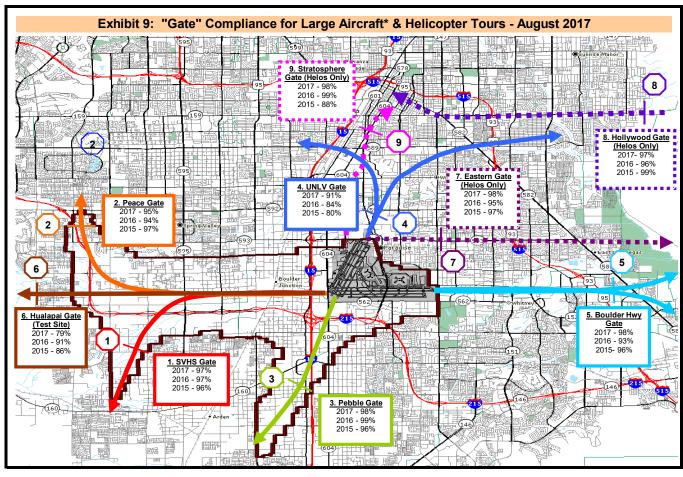
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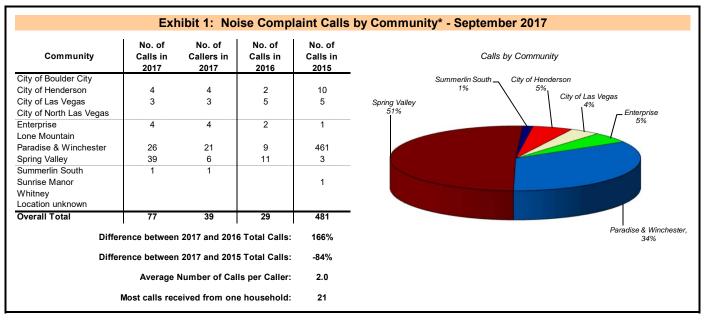


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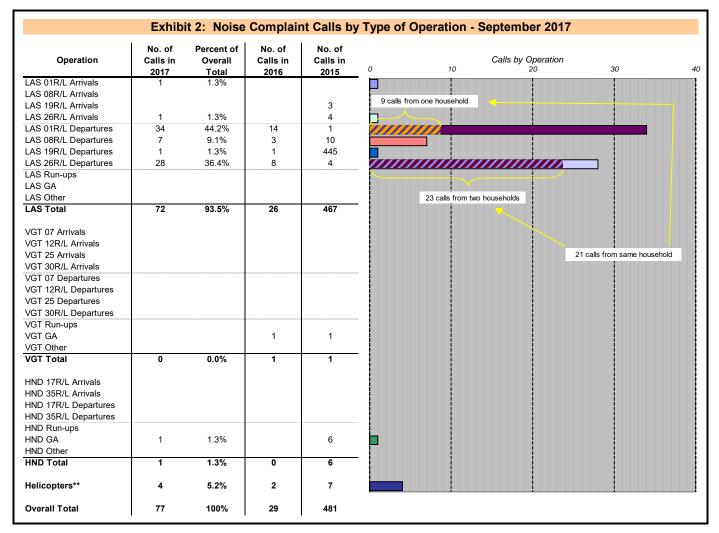




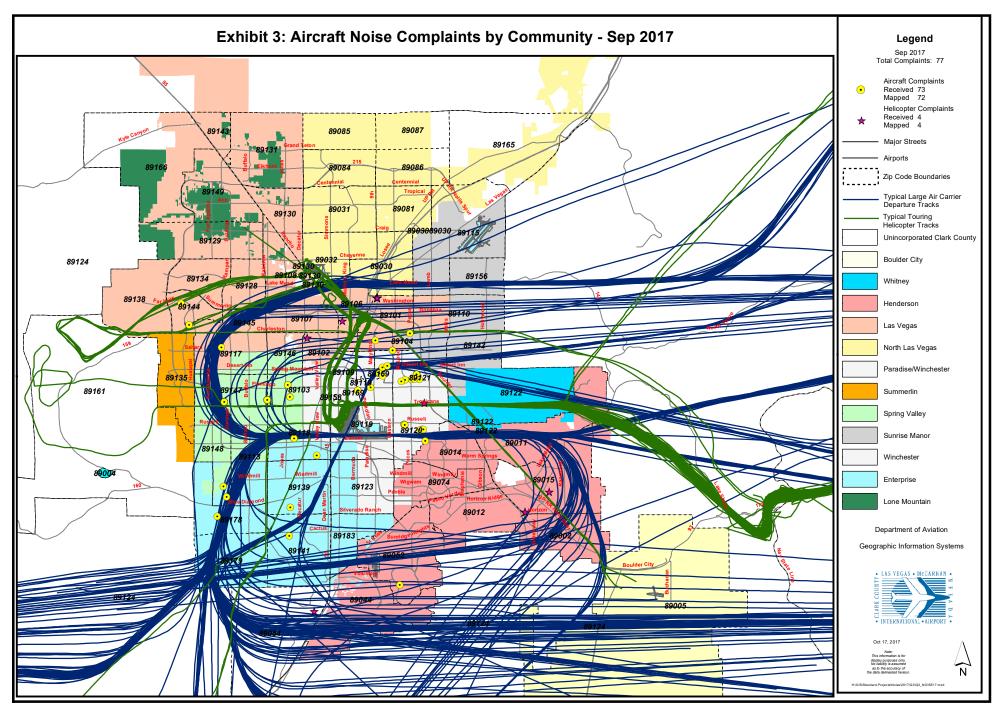
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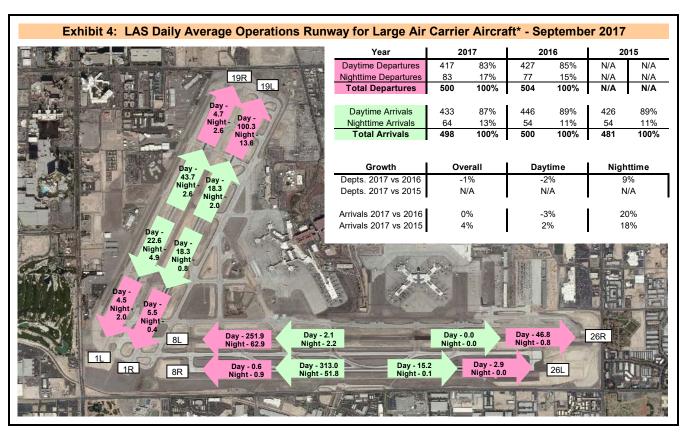
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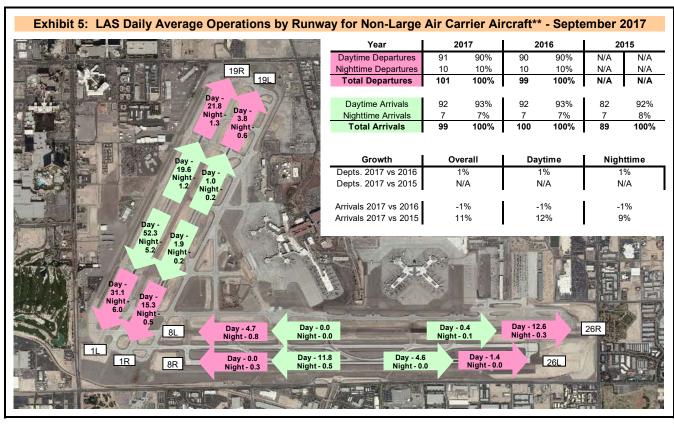
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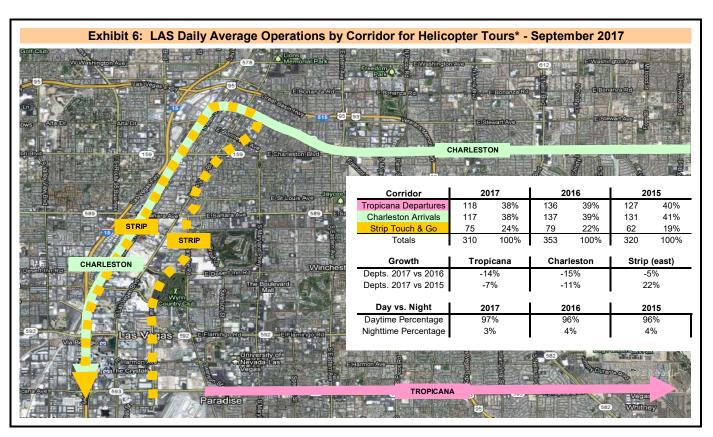
2017 Noise Complaint Report

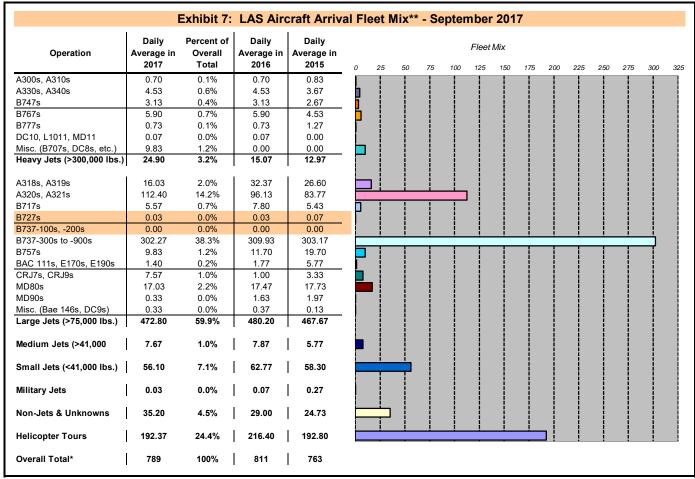


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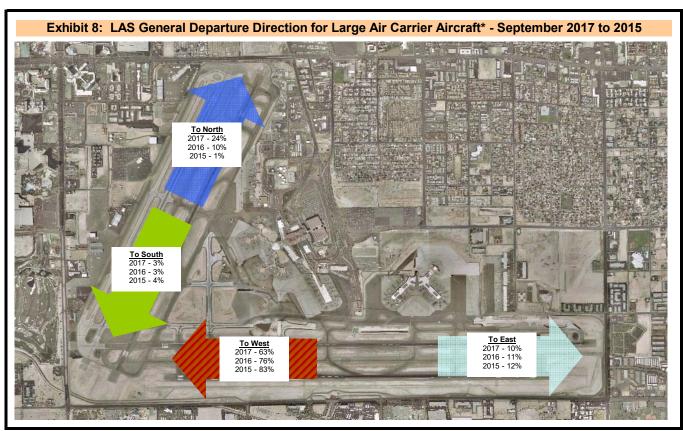


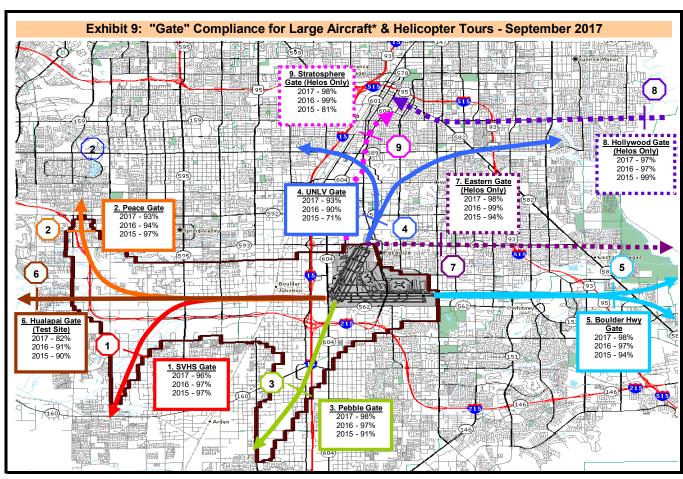
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