



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Aviation
Administration**

Western-Pacific Region
Office of the Regional Administrator

P.O. Box 92007
Los Angeles, CA 90009-2007

JUN 05 2013

The Honorable Keith D. Curry
Mayor of Newport Beach
City Hall
P.O. Box 1768
Newport Beach, CA 92658-8915

OFFICE OF
THE CITY CLERK
CITY OF NEWPORT BEACH

2013 JUN 10 AM 10:44

RECEIVED

Dear Mayor Curry:

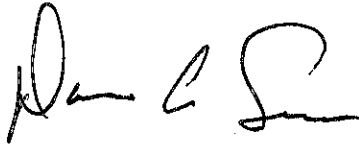
Thank you for your letter dated April 22, 2013, proposing development of a Required Navigation Performance (RNP) departure procedure for the John Wayne Airport, Orange County, CA.

We carefully reviewed your request and the "John Wayne Airport Departure Feasibility Assessment prepared by Naverus, Inc. for the City of Newport Beach." We appreciate the potential benefits of the proposed RNP departure in mitigating noise. As identified in the assessment, there are a number of challenges involved in developing the proposed procedure. These challenges include, but are not limited to, the following: the proposed procedure does not meet current criteria for departure procedure design, the standards for charting do not yet exist, and the process for authorizing the use of an RNP departure is still evolving. These challenges need to be resolved before we can consider procedure development and implementation.

We have discussed the proposal with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Headquarters Performance Based Navigation (PBN) Policy and Support Group. The FAA has developed a prototype RNP departure procedure for demonstration and evaluation at Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport (ATL). The FAA plans to begin assessment of the ATL procedure in October, 2013. Following a period of operational assessment to confirm design standards and appropriate levels of safety, the FAA would be receptive to considering other suitable sites for RNP departure procedure development. We may be able to advise further on this request sometime in mid-to-late 2014.

Thank you for this opportunity to answer your inquiry. If you need further help, please contact me or Mr. Dale Bouffiou, Deputy Regional Administrator, at (310) 725-3550.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David C. Suomi". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "David" being the most prominent.

David C. Suomi
Acting Regional Administrator