



CITY OF NEWPORT BEACH

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October 14, 2025

Mayor

Joe Stapleton

Mayor Pro Tem

Lauren Kleiman

Council Members

Michelle Barto

Noah Blom

Robyn Grant

Sara J. Weber

Erik Kenneth Weigand

Orange County Board of Supervisors
400 W. Civic Center Drive
Santa Ana, CA 92701

Subject: John Wayne Airport Capacity Allocations for 2026 Plan Year

Chair Chaffee and Members of the Board of Supervisors,

On behalf of the City of Newport Beach, I would like to express our sincere gratitude for your continued partnership and for the opportunity to comment on the John Wayne Airport capacity allocation recommendations for the 2026 plan year.

The City understands that the recommendations are currently based on a Million Annual Passenger (MAP) count of 11.8 million and include authorizing the Airport Director to allocate additional supplemental Seat Capacity to Commercial Air Carriers during the 2026 Plan Year. This additional capacity could reflect an increase in the MAP to 12.2 or 12.5 million, if certain operating and noise parameters are met. We appreciate that this would only occur if it is determined that such allocations can be made without jeopardy to the Million Annual Passenger Limitation of the 1985 Settlement Agreement and the Phase 2 Commercial Airline Access Plan and Regulation.

The City also understands that the County will conduct a thorough analysis of the 2025 Annual Noise Report and that this information will be released for public and City review once it is available. This step is crucial and greatly appreciated, as it will allow the signatories to the 1985 Settlement Agreement, including the City of Newport Beach, to perform their own analyses before any supplemental allocations are implemented. This process ensures transparency and allows for a comprehensive assessment of any potential impacts on our community.

Thank you again for your consideration and for the opportunity to collaborate on this important matter. We look forward to continuing to work together to protect the quality of life for all residents who are affected by airport operations.

Sincerely,

Joe Stapleton
Mayor