December 8, 2005

TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of the Long Beach City Council

RE: Long Beach Airport EIR

I support the construction of permanent terminal facilities at the Long Beach Airport, as long as such changes support the current permitted commercial flights set by ordinance (41 commercial air carrier and 25-commuter air carrier flights).

The current permanent facilities at the Long Beach Airport were designed to accommodate only fifteen airline flights and the last permanent addition was done more than twenty years ago.

Temporary Facilities Hurt Our City. Temporary facilities which are currently in place show visitors a bad impression of our great city. They also increase pollution because of the use of temporary diesel generators and insufficient parking. Other temporary facilities include tents, trailers, and mobile office structures are inconvenient and do not adequately provide the level of facilities needed for the traveling public and the citizens of Long Beach. Because of the temporary facilities in place and the lack of adequate services provided for travelers, the Long Beach Airport does not reflect and promote the image of California's fifth largest city.

Over 16 months of community input established the foundation for the recent draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) that concludes:

- "Neither the Proposed Project [102,850 square feet, 14 jet parking spots] nor any of the project alternatives would add passengers or flights to the airport." (Section 5-3)

- "The Proposed Project is able to meet all of the project objectives..."
(Section 1.13)

- "The Proposed Project is the environmentally superior alternative."
(Section 1.13)

The 102,850 total square footage proposal is both adequate to meet the passenger service demands and, according to the EIR, it is the environmentally superior alternative.

Sincerely,

Larry Rice
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