

Communication from Public

Name: Concerned Westchester resident
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Comments for Public Posting: The Neighborhood Council of Westchester Playa filed a community impact statement requesting an airport impact exemption from ED 1. https://clrep.lacity.org/onlinedocs/2023/23-0623_cis_05-13-2025.pdf Well over 1,300 ED 1 units are in the pipeline for areas dangerously close to LAX. The areas where these projects are planned is within the noise contour of LAX. Over 4,000 Westchester and Playa Del Rey homes were taken by eminent domain because they were in the same noise contour of LAX and it was not safe for people to live there because of the noise from jets. This area also has dangerously high levels of particulate matter from the jets that fly nearly directly over these proposed projects as they approach the runway for landing. These units are all within the "airport impact zone" of LAX and most of them are in the "transitional surface area" of the runway. Most of these proposed units are also very close to the "runway protection zone." Aside from air and noise pollution, there is a very real danger of airplanes coming in for emergency landing and having unexpected crash landings. There have been recent events in Fullerton, in one of which a plane crashed into a warehouse near the airport runway and a number of people were killed. The Boeing jet in the Air India crash in India this week crashed into a hospital. Here's a CityWatchLA column that includes citations to publications about the health effects of living so close to the airport: <https://www.citywatchla.com/neighborhood-politics/30109-the-unintended-consequences-of-ed-1-harming-the-very-ones-it-is-supposed-to-help> Here are links to studies on air pollution near LAX: <https://today.usc.edu/research-by-keck-school-of-medicine-of-usc-scientists-raises-new-concerns-about-air-pollution-impacts-at-los-angeles-international-airport/> <https://abc7.com/lax-air-pollution-respiratory-illness-inequities-los-angeles/11174361/#~:text=That%20study%2C%20found%20that%20planes%20fly%20over%20when%20they%20land> <https://keck.usc.edu/news/airport-pollution-linked-to-acute-health-effects-among-people-with-asthma-in-los-angeles/> https://cfpub.epa.gov/near_abstracts/index.cfm?fuseaction=display_files&fileID=14503 <https://pmc.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/articles/PMC4215878/> <https://abc7.com/lax-air-pollution-respiratory-illness-inequities-los-angeles/11174361/> Here's a link to an FAA Circular about "incompatible land uses" near airports. High density housing is listed as such. Even medium density is a problem. This circular also discusses the obligation of local agencies to work with the FAA on planning matters. I believe this circular also covers the availability of the use of eminent domain by the FAA if it comes to the attention of the FAA that a land use is incompatible. https://www.faa.gov/document.library/media/Advisory_Circular/150_5190_4b_Land_Use_Compatibility.pdf A local resident started a petition to ask for an ED 1 exemption so close to LAX. The petition has almost 1,200 signatures: https://www.change.org/p/no-more-rvs-shelters-concentrated-in-westchester?recruiter=1105576177&recruited_by_id=4304a050-a5b9-11ea-a5f8-43c29965d0d2 Our country has an ugly history of housing people of racial minority and people of low income in toxic areas. This area should be exempted from the streamlined provisions of ED 1 to ensure safety of people who will live there and to comply with principles of environmental justice. ED 1 is intended to help people, and not harm them. The land is cheap there, however, so it is a developers' dream and good for the "bottom line." Unless this area so close to the airport with proven negative health impacts is exempted, the city is basically abdicating to developers its responsibilities to protect the people. This area is becoming what appears to be a containment zone for people of low income because of the inexpensive land. Our councilwoman explained to us that developers are deciding where these projects will go. This is why an exemption is necessary. This chart shows the breakdown of units in CD 11. You will see the most of them are in Westchester. All of them are in toxic areas where you would not live and you would not want your family to live. https://public.tableau.com/app/profile/westchester.resident/viz/ED1_in_CD11_full/Dashboard1281 Our community has asked Councilwoman Park to file a motion to exempt this area so close to LAX because of the proven negative health impacts. This is no place to house people of low income.