

Communication from Public

Name: Bruce Hernandez
Date Submitted: 02/07/2024 02:06 PM
Council File No: 24-0125
Comments for Public Posting: In Support of Bonseph Helinet, Trade, Travel and Tourism Committee February 8, 2024 Special Committee Meeting, Agenda Item 3, Council File No. 24-0125

Bruce Hernandez

7th February 2024

City Council

City of Los Angeles

200 N Spring St.

Los Angeles, CA 90012

In Support of Bonseph Helinet, Trade, Travel and Tourism Committee

February 8, 2024 Special Committee Meeting, Agenda Item 3, Council File

No. 24-0125

Dear, Honorable Councilmembers:

My name is Bruce Hernandez, I am a Helicopter Mechanic at Helinet Aviation. I've been in this industry for 2 years, and worked here at Helinet nearly a year.

I am writing to you today to express the urgent need for the construction of new hangars/buildings for Helinet Aviation. As you are aware, our current hangars/buildings are facing significant challenges that are hindering our operations and compromising the well-being of our fellow employees. I implore you to consider the following points as we seek your support for this vital initiative.

The existing hangars/buildings have been plagued by persistent water leaks, causing damage to our equipment and compromising the safety of our operations. The integrity of our aircraft is paramount, and these leaks not only pose a threat to the equipment but also create an unsafe working environment for our fellow dedicated employees.

Furthermore, the doors of the hangars have become increasingly unstable, posing a risk to both employees and the aircraft as they are opened and closed. This instability not only threatens the security of our assets but also creates an atmosphere of uncertainty and concern among our staff.

It is essential to acknowledge the impact of our work environment on the morale and productivity of the employees. A new, well-equipped hangar will

not only ensure the safety and security of our aircraft but also provide our fellow employees with a positive and conducive work environment. By investing in a new hangar, we are investing in the well-being and efficiency of our team, fostering a sense of pride and dedication that will undoubtedly reflect in the quality of our services to save lives!

Our people are at the heart of the business, and I firmly believe that a new hangar will not only address the current challenges we face but also lay the foundation for a brighter and more prosperous future for the business to save more lives and our community.

I sincerely hope that you will consider our proposal with the utmost care and urgency. Your support in this matter is crucial, and I am confident that together, we can embark on this transformative journey that will benefit our employees and our community as a whole.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Warm regards,

Bruce Hernandez, Helinet Aviation Helicopter Mechanic

Communication from Public

Name: Sahak Krbashian
Date Submitted: 02/07/2024 02:14 PM
Council File No: 24-0125
Comments for Public Posting: In Support of Bonseph Helinet, Trade, Travel and Tourism Committee February 8, 2024 Special Committee Meeting, Agenda Item 3, Council File No. 24-0125

February 7, 2024

VIA EMAIL

City Council
City of Los Angeles
200 N Spring St
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: In Support of Bonseph Helinet, Trade, Travel and Tourism Committee February 8, 2024 Special Committee Meeting, Agenda Item 3, Council File No. 24-0125

Honorable Councilmembers:

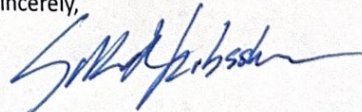
My name is Sahak Krbashian. I am one of several Helicopter Maintenance Technicians at Helinet. I write this letter in **unequivocal support** of the Bonseph Helinet lease at 16303 Waterman Drive at the Van Nuys Airport.

I began working for Helinet last year, but have worked at Van Nuys Airport for several years prior. What sets Helinet apart from other aviation companies is their dedication and commitment to the wellbeing of its employees and the members of our fine community. Helinet provides aerial support for Childrens' Hospital Los Angeles via the Alan Purwin Emergency Transport Program. This program performs more than 2,200 transports per year. The number of children and families impacted by this program over the years is countless and priceless.

Helinet also plays a major role in supporting aerial media gathering and news coverage for the community and local news stations. Through its many years of operation, Helinet has become a significant historical fixture in our great city.

While all of this is made possible by Helinet, it comes at a risk to the safety and well-being of its employees. This new facility will enable Helinet to continue serving Los Angeles, by providing safer working conditions for personnel. During every rainy season, the roofs begin to leak, creating a safety hazard for anyone working within the hangars. During the summer time, there's no way to control the temperatures and the heat level rises, creating yet another safety hazard for employees performing heavy manual labor. These are basic necessities and expectations of anyone who goes to work to earn a living to support their families. Employees need a newer, larger space with the necessary safety precautions to be able to continue providing these invaluable services.

Sincerely,



Sahak Krbashian
Helicopter Maintenance Technician
Helinet Aviation Services

Communication from Public

Name: Suzanne Gutierrez

Date Submitted: 02/07/2024 02:25 PM

Council File No: 24-0125

Comments for Public Posting: Bonseph contract 24-0125 must be rejected in its entirety. The City of LA should do their due diligence and not be allowing ANY new developments/projects that do not include the critically needed modernization upgrades. Otherwise you are putting the cart before the horse and putting the many surrounding community in harm's way.

Communication from Public

Name: Darren Prock

Date Submitted: 02/07/2024 02:36 PM

Council File No: 24-0125

Comments for Public Posting: • In Support of Bonseph Helinet, Trade, Travel and Tourism Committee February 8, 2024 Special Committee Meeting, Agenda Item 3, Council File No. 24-0125

February 7, 2024

VIA EMAIL

City Council
City of Los Angeles
200 N Spring St.
Los Angeles, CA 90012

**Re: In Support of Bonseph Helinet, Trade, Travel and Tourism Committee February 8,
2024 Special Committee Meeting, Agenda Item 3, Council File No. 24-0125**

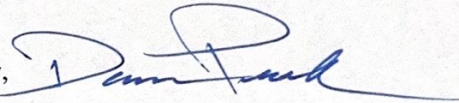
Honorable Councilmembers:

My name is Darren Prock. I am a mechanic for Helinet. I've been working here for 4 months.

I write this letter in **unequivocal support** of the Bonseph Helinet lease at 16303 Waterman Drive at the Van Nuys Airport.

Helinet is a great to work, I plan on becoming the lead mechanic here shortly. This company is a small family. I can see this hanger is very old. The shop is always cold and when it rains it leaks water all over the place. I'm told they are trying to build a new hanger facility. I would like to see this happen one day. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,



Darren Prock

dprock@helinet.com

Communication from Public

Name: Greater Toluca Lake Neighborhood Council - GTLNC CIS posted by (resident) Karen

Date Submitted: 02/07/2024 08:17 AM

Council File No: 24-0125

Comments for Public Posting: Please see next page. Public Record shows that the Greater Toluca Lake Neighborhood Council (GTLNC - CD2) joins the chorus of legislative bodies in San Fernando Valley expressing concern over development deals approved at VNY that failed to ensure capital investment dollars were used to modernize the space and upgrade the airport in the City's best interest. Bonseph Helinet LLC is yet another egregious project that was designed in the best interest of the foreign investment company, and not that of the City or its citizens or the region. Communities have watched as Bonseph, Curt Castagna, and Helinet et al all used Helinet's operations as a shameless way to exploit children and medical flights. Communities have complained they saw the transparent action as a means to distract from the real issue, which is the Bonseph Helinet proposal FAILS to include critical modernization components to address the toxic APU ground emissions from the jets that will be introduced to the property. They also FAIL to highlight that Helinet already exists and operates on the property, and will continue to exist and operate on the property after the ill-fated proposal is REJECTED. Should Helinet leave the property, it would be their CHOICE. Thank you, Karen (SFV resident)

Greater Toluca Lake Neighborhood Council ("GTLNC") Community Impact Statement
File via CIS portal to Council Files [CF 23-1338](#) and [CF 23-1339](#)

**Unanimously approved at GTLNC General Board Meeting
on Tuesday, January 16th, 2024
VOTE: 10 / 0 / 0**

Position: Support

GTLNC supports [CF 23-1338](#) (Padilla, Raman. Van Nuys Airport [VNY] / VNY Vision Study / Community Engagement Strategies) and [CF 23-1339](#) (Padilla, Raman. Van Nuys Airport Specific Plan / Citizens Advisory Committee / Forensic Audit / Economic Study / Noise Mitigation / Community Benefit Program) and calls for greater transparency and community engagement in the Van Nuys Airport Plan and Vision Study process.

Background: GTLNC is aware of an increased exposure to Van Nuys Airport (VNY) jet charter traffic, one of the busiest general aviation airports in the nation, over its airspace which exasperates the burden already felt from BUR departures over our area. **Despite densely populated residential areas existing prior to VNY's redevelopment over the past 20 years, no mitigation policy measures were created by Los Angeles World Airports (LAWA) to mandate such considerations.** GTLNC requests that L.A. City Council instruct Los Angeles City Planning Department, with LAWA, and in consultation with Council District 6 as Committee Chair responsible for the formation and/or operation of the Van Nuys Airport Specific Plan Citizens Advisory Committee, to convene the necessary Citizens Advisory Committee meetings to provide input during all phases of the development process of the Van Nuys Airport Specific Plan and its relevant studies; to include at least one local resident / stakeholder from, but not limited to, Council Districts 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6; and enable Council District office staff participation. This will help PROTECT valley residents and everyone near VNY. We need L.A. City Council to keep LAWA in check. Toxic fumes pour out of VNY and are getting worse. LAWA must be accountable and transparent. They can't grow at the expense of the lives and health of residents.

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Communication from Public

Name: Brandon Ortiz

Date Submitted: 02/07/2024 02:39 PM

Council File No: 24-0125

Comments for Public Posting: • In Support of Bonseph Helinet, Trade, Travel and Tourism Committee February 8, 2024 Special Committee Meeting, Agenda Item 3, Council File No. 24-0125

City Council
City of Los Angeles
200 N. Spring St.
Los Angeles, CA 90012

**Re: In Support of Bonseph Helinet, Trade, Travel and Tourism
Committee February 8, 2024 Special Committee Meeting, Agenda Item 3,
Council File No. 24-0125**

Honorable Council Members:

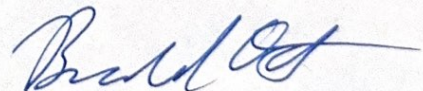
My name is Brandon Ortiz. I am a Helicopter Mechanic at Helinet. Before Helinet I worked on Jets and Fixed wings aircrafts.

I'm writing this letter in unequivocal support of the Bonseph Helinet lease at 16303 Waterman at Van Nuys Airport.

I am proud to say that I am an employee of Helinet. The missions that mean the most to the Purwin family, our life saving missions, mean the most to me as well. It is very exciting to be able to go home at the end of the day knowing that we played a part in saving lives. Helinet not only makes the employees feel like they are family, but my kids feel the same way.

What I am looking forward to in the future is a bigger facility that reflects Helinet as a proud successful organization. Our Maintenance building door is blowing off on windy days. Our hangers have no air conditioning, which is awful working inside and outside of the aircraft. With no environmental control in the hanger, it's hard to work inside, it causes; stress, fatigue, lack of awareness, it's part of the dirty dozen. Since we do not have enough hangar space, it is awful for the maintenance team has to work on the ramp.

Best Regards ,
Brandon Ortiz



Communication from Public

Name: kristina body
Date Submitted: 02/07/2024 02:59 PM
Council File No: 24-0125
Comments for Public Posting: Please see attached PDF letter

February 7, 2024

VIA EMAIL

City Council
City of Los Angeles
200 N. Spring St.
Los Angeles, CA 90012

**Re: In Support of Bonseph Helinet, Trade, Travel and Tourism Committee
February 8, 2024 Special Committee Meeting, Agenda Item 3, Council File No. 24-0125**

Honorable Councilmembers:

My name is Kristina Body and I have been an employee of Helinet Aviation for over 7 years. I moved to the San Fernando Valley in 1998, and I'm grateful to work here locally at the Van Nuys airport after working in downtown Los Angeles for over 15 years.

I am writing this letter in support of the Bonseph Helinet Lease at 16303 Waterman Drive at the Van Nuys Airport.

I came to Helinet as a "Temp" employee and was thrilled to be asked to stay on as a full-time employee. As I learned of the life-saving missions and all the services Helinet provides, I became incredibly proud to be part of a team that truly cares about our community and the people in it.

I was excited to hear of the possibility of the facilities being improved and upgraded for the health and safety of the employees and its visitors. We all try to do our best here to deal with the failing building such as leaks, decrepit walls and stairs, bad plumbing etc., but these are health hazards for everyone here at these facilities, and I'm afraid it's just a matter of time before someone is hurt or seriously injured.

Thank you for taking the time to read my letter.

Sincerely,

Kristina Body
Office Administrator
Helinet Aviation Services

Communication from Public

Name: Elijah Smith

Date Submitted: 02/07/2024 03:46 PM

Council File No: 24-0125

Comments for Public Posting: In Support of Bonseph Helinet, Trade, Travel and Tourism Committee February 8, 2024 Special Committee Meeting, Agenda Item 3, Council File No. 24-0125 Attached is my personal letter in support of Bonseph Helinet. Unfortunately due to a previous engagement I am not able to attend the council meeting in person, therefore I'm sending a letter.

Elijah Smith
(916) 276-1589
esmith@helinet.com

February 7, 2024

City Council

City of Los Angeles
200 N Spring St.
Los Angeles, CA 90012

**Re: In Support of Bonseph Helinet, Trade, Travel and Tourism Committee February 8, 2024
Special Committee Meeting, Agenda Item 3, Council File No. 24-0125**

Honorable Councilmembers:

My name is Elijah Smith. I am a helicopter air ambulance pilot at Helinet Aviation and have been employed with them for almost 7 years. I am a resident of the city of Los Angeles and live in the Baldwin Hills neighborhood.

I write this letter in strong support of the Bonseph Helinet lease at 16303 Waterman Dr, Van Nuys, CA 91406.

I am very fulfilled knowing that I am part of a team that is responsible for saving lives. However, the Helinet family has endured poor facility working conditions for far too long. Some examples include:

- Old plumbing causing frequent sewer drain backups.
- Roof leaks in most office spaces including the pilot training room, which makes the ongoing training that we pilots do, cumbersome to say the least.
- Poor ventilation. The aircraft ramp is right outside some office spaces, the exhaust from our aircraft travels inside through the current dilapidated windows and doors. This is a health hazard for our staff..
- The maintenance hangar is open air and not climate controlled, creating a huge burden for the mechanics in terms of health risks and reduction in efficiency.

Many more issues with the facility could be listed, but I urge you to come visit our facilities *in person* to see for yourself our working conditions before you cast your vote. By not allowing the upgrade to our facility, the Councilmembers would be doing a disservice to Los Angeles as we at Helinet would not be able to save as many lives.

I understand that there are those in the community who believe if this were approved that jet traffic would be increased. They are misinformed. Helinet owns no jets.

Sincerely,



Helicopter Air Ambulance Pilot
Helinet Aviation Services

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 02/07/2024 03:55 PM

Council File No: 24-0125

Comments for Public Posting: Helinet project.

February 7, 2024

VIA EMAIL

City Council
City of Los Angeles
200 N Spring St.
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: In Support of Bonseph Helinet, Trade, Travel and Tourism Committee February 8, 2024 Special Committee Meeting, Agenda Item 3, Council File No. 24-0125

My name is Hilda Dubon. I am the HR director at Helinet. Since joining Helinet, my life has been profoundly influenced, not only in my professional endeavors but also in my personal journey. The leadership team's dedication and expertise have exposed me to a culture of excellence and innovation, continually pushing me to aim higher. The collaborative atmosphere fosters growth and learning, allowing me to refine my skills and make meaningful contributions to our shared mission.

From the moment I joined Helinet, I was amazed by the dedication and passion of my colleagues. Our shared commitment to excellence and the noble goal of making a difference in people's lives has been inspiring. Through our collective efforts, we have been able to uphold the highest standards and integrity.

However, amidst our collective successes, I am compelled to address a pressing concern regarding the safety of our current building at the airport. Despite our best efforts to maintain it, the infrastructure is showing signs of wear and tear that cannot be ignored, from structural deficiencies to safety concerns. As someone deeply invested in the well-being of our team members and the community we serve, I cannot in good conscience overlook these issues.

Sincerely,

Hilda Dubon-Barroso

Hilda Dubon-Barroso

Human Resources Director
Helinet Aviation Services

Communication from Public

Name: Comments of the Van Nuys Airport Association

Date Submitted: 02/07/2024 11:53 AM

Council File No: 24-0125

Comments for Public Posting: Comments of the Van Nuys Airport Association - See Attached

February 5, 2024

Hydee Feldstein Soto, Esq.
Los Angeles City Attorney
200 North Main Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012
hydee.feldstein.soto@lacity.org

RE: Proposed Van Nuys Airport Specific Plan

Dear Ms. Soto:

I respectfully submit this letter on behalf of the Van Nuys Airport Association (“VNAA”). The VNAA represents the interests of tenants and users of the Van Nuys Airport (“VNY”), who collectively are interested in ensuring the continued prosperity and utility of the airport, as well as the important economic, public safety and other services that it provides to the Los Angeles area. As you know, VNY is administered by Los Angeles World Airports (“LAWA”), a department of the City.

Two members of the City Council, Nithya Raman (District 4) and Imelda Padilla (District 6) have introduced a motion (no. 23-1339) instructing the Department of City Planning to develop a Specific Plan for the development of VNY. While not expressly stated, the motion is intended to advance an effort to impose both a short-term moratorium and long-term restrictions on aeronautical projects at the airport, in response to demands from a relatively small – yet vocal – group of airports neighbors who previously have demanded the restriction of flight operations at VNY, by either direct or indirect means.

Relatedly, both Members have communicated to stakeholders, including neighbors and members of VNAA, of their intent to oppose any development leases that may be pending before the City Council to the extent those leases relate to aeronautical uses at VNY. Apparently, this policy will apply until a Specific Plan is in place. However, Council Member Padilla also has instructed LAWA to continue to publish non-aeronautical RFPs, without any delay premised on the pendency of a new Specific Plan.¹

A Specific Plan that impedes and discriminates against aeronautical uses, as well as any formal or informal effort to impose moratoria on the development of aeronautical facilities at VNY, *is inconsistent with both federal statutes and obligations that the City has assumed pursuant to agreements with the federal government.*

Van Nuys Airport was acquired by the City from the federal government in 1949, pursuant to a surplus property deed, which imposes conditions on the operation of the airport – including that the property “be used for airport purposes for the use and benefit of the public, on reasonable terms and without unjust discrimination.” These requirements are *perpetual* in duration. Similarly, the City for decades has accepted grants from the FAA via its Airport Improvement Program (“AIP”), which impose similar long-term obligations on the City’s stewardship of VNY.

¹ Transparency is also a concern for VNAA, including that these matters may be on the agenda for a February 8 meeting of the Trade, Travel and Tourism Subcommittee – but despite the requirements of the Brown Act, neither the meeting nor an agenda for that meeting has been publicly noticed.

In interpreting airports' obligations, the FAA has been emphatic that they may not impose arbitrary burdens and/or delays on aeronautical development. "Pursuing lease terms, plans, or managerial processes, that unnecessarily limit the airport's aeronautical utility by restricting development is inconsistent with the City's Federal obligations. It is unreasonable for an airport operator to refuse to develop a Federally obligated airport in response to aeronautical demand, as the airport was conveyed for this very purpose and Federal grant funds have been expended for the purpose of enhancing the aeronautical utility of the airport." See Grayson v. DeKalb County, Georgia, FAA Docket No. 16-05-13, Director's Determination, at 13-14 (February 1, 2006). The current proposal for a Specific Plan appears to be directly at odds with that guidance.

Moreover, all publicly owned airports in the United States are subject to the requirements of the Airport Noise and Capacity Act ("ANCA"), which was adopted by Congress in 1990 to prevent piecemeal local restrictions on the use of airports from disrupting the national airspace system. The statute prohibits, absent a detailed study process and approval by the FAA, both direct and indirect access restrictions. See, e.g., 14 C.F.R. § 161.5; *Millard Refrigerated Services, Inc. v. FAA*, 98 F.3d 1361, n.4 (D.C.Cir. 1996). In this case, the current proposal for a Specific Plan appears to be an impermissible attempt to accomplish by indirect means what the City cannot accomplish directly – i.e., discouraging flights by preventing development – since it should be undisputed that only the FAA has the authority to regulate the use of airspace.

The VNAA has been and continues to be interested in working with the City to ensure that the value of the airport is understood and utilized, as well as to assist with the development and implementation of voluntary measures that can minimize its impact on neighbors. But the City should understand that the proposal now at issue is misguided and may have severe negative consequences. If the City is in violation of its obligations, not only may the FAA suspend its eligibility for AIP funding – not limited to grants for VNY, but also for Los Angeles International Airport ("LAX") – but further may take other actions, up to and including the reversion of VNY to federal government ownership. Stakeholders at the airport also will be able to request remedies, in an FAA administrative proceeding or in court.

We appreciate your attention to these matters. If I or the VNAA can be of assistance in further explicating these issues, we certainly can be available to engage further.

Sincerely,



Jol A. Silversmith

cc: Paul Krekorian - Council President, City of Los Angeles
Imelda Padilla – Council Member, District 6, City of Los Angeles
Hugo Soto-Martinez – Council Member, District 13, City of Los Angeles
Tim McOsler – Council Member, District 15, City of Los Angeles
Brian Ostler - General Counsel, LAWAQ
Mark McClardy – Director, FAA Office of Airports, Western Pacific Region
Joe Manges – Division Counsel, FAA Office of Chief Counsel

Communication from Public

Name: Sean Moretz

Date Submitted: 02/07/2024 12:03 PM

Council File No: 24-0125

Comments for Public Posting: Letter attached regarding the Bonseph Helinet lease at 16303 Waterman Drive at the Van Nuys Airport.

February 7, 2024

VIA EMAIL

City Council
City of Los Angeles
200 N Spring St.
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: In Support of Bonseph Helinet, Trade, Travel and Tourism Committee February 8, 2024 Special Committee Meeting, Agenda Item 3, Council File No. 24-0125

Honorable Councilmembers:

My name is Sean Moretz. I am the Chief Pilot of Helinet Aviation.

I write this letter in support of the Bonseph Helinet lease at 16303 Waterman Drive at the Van Nuys Airport.

I am very proud to be a part of the Helinet group. Whether it being a part of an organ donor flight, or transporting children to receive care. I can say that I have never had such a sense of purpose than I have with this group.

I have been in aviation for almost 30 years. Throughout the United States and multiple countries. I can say with confidence that the facility on Waterman Drive requires change.

These changes will increase the safety of our flight operations and that is why I am writing this letter. Having maintenance crews working outside in the middle of summer. Not having adequate hangar space for our aircraft. Leaking roofs and flooding hallways. These are some examples of the hurdles we face.

I invite any of you to please come by the Helinet facility to observe in person the issues at hand.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sean C Moretz', written in a cursive style.

Sean C Moretz
Chief Pilot
Helinet Aviation Services

Communication from Public

Name: Marcel Melanson

Date Submitted: 02/07/2024 12:37 PM

Council File No: 24-0125

Comments for Public Posting: I am writing to express my enthusiastic support for the proposed construction of a new facility for the Boseph Helinet Lease at Van Nuys Airport 16303 Waterman Drive.

February 6, 2024

VIA EMAIL

City Council
City of Los Angeles
200 N Spring St.
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: In Support of Bonseph Helinet, Trade, Travel and Tourism Committee February 8, 2024, Special Committee Meeting, Agenda Item 3, Council File No. 24-0125

Honorable Councilmembers:

My name is Marcel Melanson an employee (Camera operator) for Helinet Aviation.

I am writing to express my enthusiastic support for the proposed construction of a new facility for the Boseph Helinet Lease at Van Nuys Airport 16303 Waterman Drive.

. As a Helinet employee and a staunch advocate for progress and innovation, I believe that this initiative holds tremendous potential to benefit our community, our airport, and the broader aviation industry.

Helinet Aviation has long been a beacon of excellence in the aviation sector, offering premium helicopter services, aerial cinematography, emergency medical transport, and law enforcement support. The company's commitment to safety, innovation, and exceptional service has earned it a well-deserved reputation as a leader in the field of vertical aviation.

Our current building is 50years old. In its current configuration and state, it has been challenging to meet the many diverse missions that Helinet supports. For example, Helinet staffs 24-hour personnel to readily respond to life saving organ transplant & Children's Hospital Air ambulance missions. The pilots, dispatchers, and crew do not have adequate sleeping or kitchen facilities on site. The original build did not have these needs or requirements therefore we have had to make do with the current conditions. The existing makeshift kitchen is in our main hanger where we park the helicopters. Our future building plans will support these needs with proper facilities.

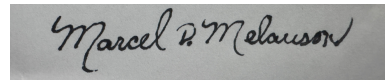
As a camera operator at Helinet I can participate in the important information provided by our news gathering missions. One of the highlights of my day is at the beginning or end of these missions we can meet and converse with the many members of the community that visit the Van Nuys airport observation area adjacent to our building. Aviation enthusiast young and old frequent the area from all over the world. A part of the proposed plan will be to also update this viewing area. This observation area has been a proven destination to stimulate the minds of the youth. I have spoken to many pilots that have told stories of their experience as children that sparked the dream for their career. This important cornerstone of the community can use an update to be enjoyed for years to come.

Furthermore, the construction of a new facility for Helinet at Van Nuys Airport will have positive ripple effects throughout the community. As a responsible corporate citizen, Helinet is committed to giving back and making a positive impact on the lives of others. Through community outreach programs, educational initiatives, and charitable endeavors, Helinet will continue to contribute to the social, cultural, and economic fabric of our city, enriching the lives of residents and fostering a sense of pride and unity.

The proposed Boseph Helinet lease project has been **approved** by the Board of Airport Commissioners. This project is to update the existing operation at Helinet Aviation. The construction of a new facility for Helinet at Van Nuys Airport represents a significant opportunity to further enhance the airport's capabilities and solidify its position as a premier aviation hub. By providing Helinet with state-of-the-art infrastructure and modern amenities, we can support the company's continued quest for excellence. and enable it to better serve its customers and the community.

In conclusion, I urge you to support the proposed construction of a new facility for Helinet Aviation at Van Nuys Airport. By doing so, we can unlock tremendous opportunities for innovation, and prosperity, while reaffirming Van Nuys Airport's status as a world-class aviation facility and a driving force for progress in our community.

Sincerely,

A rectangular box containing a handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Marcel Melanson".

Marcel Melanson
3102924401
Lead Camera Operator
Helinet Aviation Services

Communication from Public

Name: Morrie Zager
Date Submitted: 02/07/2024 12:55 PM
Council File No: 24-0125
Comments for Public Posting: See attached letter (PDF)

VIA EMAIL

City Council
City of Los Angeles
200 N Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

**Re: In Support of Bonseph Helinet, Trade, Travel and Tourism Committee
February 8, 2024 Special Committee Meeting, Agenda Item 3, Council File No. 24-0125**

Honorable Councilmembers,

My name is Morrie Zager. I am a helicopter pilot employed by Helinet and a resident of the 3rd Council District (Woodland Hills). I have been employed by Helinet for three years following a 34 year career with the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department.

I author this letter to provide my unequivocal support of the Bonseph Helinet lease at 16303 Waterman Drive (located at the Van Nuys Airport).

The most critical missions we at Helinet provide are live-saving in nature (Childrens Hospital air ambulance missions) as well as organ transport missions for various hospitals in and around the City of Los Angeles. We also provide Electronic News Gathering (ENG) services for ABC, Channel 7.

Our current facility is in serious disrepair and does not represent a proud, vitally important, thriving business. My peers have been forced to work in these substandard conditions without air conditioning or the ability to stay warm and dry in the winter due to the hangars and office space leaking whenever it rains. Our employees deserve better and, up until recently, we were all looking forward to a modern, updated facility with all the creature comforts one would expect for such a vital business.

Please consider allowing the transformation of Helinet to move forward.

Sincerely,

Morrie Zager
Helinet Aviation Services

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 02/07/2024 01:45 PM

Council File No: 24-0125

Comments for Public Posting: RE: In Support of Bonseph Helinet, Trade, Travel and Tourism Committee February 8, 2024 Special Committee Meeting, Agenda Item 3, Council File No. 24-0125



February 7, 2024

**Re: In Support of Bonseph Helinet, Trade, Travel and Tourism Committee
February 8, 2024 Special Committee Meeting, Agenda Item 3, Council File No. 24-0125**

Honorable Councilmembers:

My name is Mary Grace Tanega from the accounting department at Helinet Aviation. In February 2022, I began working at Helinet as an intern for billing and coding for patients' emergency transports. In May 2022, I was given a chance to fill the role of Accounts Payable clerk when it became available. My position was promoted to Accounts Payable Specialist in December 2022 as a result of my dedication to the company, the skills and abilities I developed, and my hard work, which our leadership has noticed.

Our team greatly values positive and transparent communication. We always encourage an open line of communication and constructive feedback. More importantly, everyone's opinion is very welcome and respected.

We foster a positive work environment with kind and thoughtful leadership. Teamwork is encouraged across all departments to establish a partnership environment.

We strive for others to succeed. We celebrate each other's success.

We value and respect one another. We approach our interactions with honesty and thoughtfulness. We are appreciated for what we contribute to the company, not for our titles, positions, or education levels.

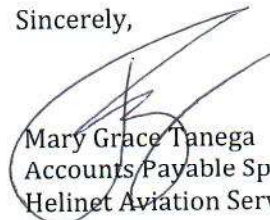
Senior leaders are well-respected by their employees and looked up to as mentors. They provide helpful coaching, reward hard work, and encourage growth.

I enjoy my job at Helinet because it offers a good work-life balance, flexibility, fair pay, top-notch benefits, an open-door policy, room for advancement, and challenging work.

As an employee of Helinet, I find that this company is like a family. There is unity, integrity, and we care for each other. The change we want to achieve is for the benefit of everyone and of our families.

I write this letter in **wholehearted support** of the Bonseph Helinet lease at 16303 Waterman Drive at Van Nuys Airport.

Sincerely,



Mary Grace Tanega
Accounts Payable Specialist
Helinet Aviation Services, LLC

Communication from Public

Name: Valley Industry & Commerce Association

Date Submitted: 02/07/2024 01:45 PM

Council File No: 24-0125

Comments for Public Posting: February 7, 2024 Los Angeles City Council City of Los Angeles 200 N. Spring St. Los Angeles, CA 90012 RE: In Support of Bonseph Helinet, Trade, Travel and Tourism Committee February 8, 2024 Special Committee Meeting, Agenda Item 3, Council File No. 24-0125 Dear Members of the Los Angeles City Council, I am writing on behalf of the Valley Industry and Commerce Association (VICA) to express our strong support for the proposed lease agreement between Los Angeles World Airports (LAWA) and Bonseph Helinet, LLC, pertaining to the redevelopment of land and existing facilities at 16231 Waterman Drive at Van Nuys Airport (VNY). The joint venture between VNY and Bonseph Helinet is not only a substantial investment in the modernization of the site but also a strategic move towards providing enhanced services to critical sectors such as health providers, fire, news media, and more. This initiative aligns seamlessly with Helinet's impressive 35+ years of tenancy at VNY, showcasing a commendable commitment to the community and a longstanding record of reliable service. The proposed \$26 million investment by Bonseph Helinet is pivotal for revitalizing the facilities at 16231 Waterman Drive, which are currently considered obsolete. This redevelopment project, spanning two phases and expected to be completed in 551 days, aims to construct new hangars, office space, and renovate ramp areas while adhering to CALGreen Tier One Requirements, ensuring sustainable infrastructure development. A noteworthy aspect of this project is its potential to generate over 100 high-wage local jobs, each offering an average annual salary of \$87,000. The economic impact is substantial, and we commend Bonseph Helinet for their commitment to collaborating with local technical aviation colleges, providing internships for aspiring aviation professionals. Furthermore, Bonseph Helinet's commitment extends beyond the immediate project. With a commendable track record of providing life-saving services to children's hospitals. Additionally, their continued partnership in supporting local law enforcement ensures ongoing support for public safety services, further demonstrating their dedication to societal welfare. Through these actions, Helinet exemplifies a commitment to community well-being. However, it is crucial to acknowledge the challenges surrounding the current state of the existing facilities,

including significant deterioration, and pressing maintenance issues. The Valley Industry & Commerce Association • 16600 Sherman Way, Suite 170 Van Nuys, CA 91406 • phone: 818.817.0545 • fax: 818.907.7934 • www.vica.com proposed lease becomes even more imperative in addressing these challenges, providing an opportunity to move to a larger and newer facility that is indoors. This move would not only resolve immediate maintenance concerns but also provide workers with the proper space to excel in their roles and offer pilots enhanced opportunities to carry out their vital work. In conclusion, VICA urges the Los Angeles City Council to support the proposed lease between LAWA and Bonseph Helinet. This partnership represents a transformative step towards sustainable development practices, economic growth, and community engagement. By doing so, the Council will contribute to the betterment of VNY, the local community, and the broader aviation industry. We appreciate your attention to this matter and trust that you will consider the long-term benefits that the Bonseph Helinet project brings to the City of Los Angeles. Thank you for your time and consideration.



February 7, 2024

Los Angeles City Council
City of Los Angeles
200 N. Spring St.
Los Angeles, CA 90012

RE: In Support of Bonseph Helinet, Trade, Travel and Tourism Committee February 8, 2024 Special Committee Meeting, Agenda Item 3, Council File No. 24-0125

Dear Members of the Los Angeles City Council,

I am writing on behalf of the Valley Industry and Commerce Association (VICA) to express our strong support for the proposed lease agreement between Los Angeles World Airports (LAWA) and Bonseph Helinet, LLC, pertaining to the redevelopment of land and existing facilities at 16231 Waterman Drive at Van Nuys Airport (VNY).

The joint venture between VNY and Bonseph Helinet is not only a substantial investment in the modernization of the site but also a strategic move towards providing enhanced services to critical sectors such as health providers, fire, news media, and more. This initiative aligns seamlessly with Helinet's impressive 35+ years of tenancy at VNY, showcasing a commendable commitment to the community and a longstanding record of reliable service.

The proposed \$26 million investment by Bonseph Helinet is pivotal for revitalizing the facilities at 16231 Waterman Drive, which are currently considered obsolete. This redevelopment project, spanning two phases and expected to be completed in 551 days, aims to construct new hangars, office space, and renovate ramp areas while adhering to CALGreen Tier One Requirements, ensuring sustainable infrastructure development.

A noteworthy aspect of this project is its potential to generate over 100 high-wage local jobs, each offering an average annual salary of \$87,000. The economic impact is substantial, and we commend Bonseph Helinet for their commitment to collaborating with local technical aviation colleges, providing internships for aspiring aviation professionals.

Furthermore, Bonseph Helinet's commitment extends beyond the immediate project. With a commendable track record of providing life-saving services to children's hospitals. Additionally, their continued partnership in supporting local law enforcement ensures ongoing support for public safety services, further demonstrating their dedication to societal welfare. Through these actions, Helinet exemplifies a commitment to community well-being.

However, it is crucial to acknowledge the challenges surrounding the current state of the existing facilities, including significant deterioration, and pressing maintenance issues. The

proposed lease becomes even more imperative in addressing these challenges, providing an opportunity to move to a larger and newer facility that is indoors. This move would not only resolve immediate maintenance concerns but also provide workers with the proper space to excel in their roles and offer pilots enhanced opportunities to carry out their vital work.

In conclusion, VICA urges the Los Angeles City Council to support the proposed lease between LAWA and Bonseph Helinet. This partnership represents a transformative step towards sustainable development practices, economic growth, and community engagement. By doing so, the Council will contribute to the betterment of VNY, the local community, and the broader aviation industry.

We appreciate your attention to this matter and trust that you will consider the long-term benefits that the Bonseph Helinet project brings to the City of Los Angeles.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Stuart Waldman', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Stuart Waldman
VICA President

Communication from Public

Name: David Zagnoli

Date Submitted: 02/07/2024 01:48 PM

Council File No: 24-0125

Comments for Public Posting: Dear Honorable Councilmembers: My name is David Zagnoli and was born and raised in Van Nuys. I've been working at Van Nuys Airport for the past 40 years. Particularly in the field of aircraft maintenance and management. I write to support the proposed Bonseph Helinet lease at the Van Nuys Airport. Bonseph Helinet is committed to modernizing and improving the Van Nuys airport for customers, residents, and the larger community, including:

- Support for health services. Bonseph Helinet will provide important public health services through Helinet's delivery of 24/7, 365/day aviation operations services to Children's Hospital at no cost to patients, as well as medical missions on behalf of UCLA, USC, Cedars-Sinai, UCSD, and UC Riverside.
- Support for public safety. The proposed lease will facilitate Helinet's partnership with firefighters, law enforcement, and news media.
- o Jobs. Bonseph Helinet will support 100, high-wage local jobs with an average annual income of \$87,000.
- o Educational partnerships. Bonseph Helinet will support partnerships with local technical aviation colleges to provide internships and other job training opportunities across different business lines for students seeking careers in aviation.
- o Investment. Bonseph Helinet will invest over \$20 million to modernize the property, including new rotary-wing and fixed-wing hangar space, renovated ramp areas, terminal/office/shop space, and landscaping, hardscaping, sidewalks, and parking.
- Creating a community space. Bonseph Helinet will provide much needed renovations to the VNY Observation Area which provides enrichment opportunities for children and other community members.

I am excited about the prospect of this new project at the Van Nuys Airport and urge the City Council to approve it.

Communication from Public

Name: Daniel Sanchez

Date Submitted: 02/07/2024 01:56 PM

Council File No: 24-0125

Comments for Public Posting: Dear Honorable Councilmembers: I write to support the proposed Bonseph Helinet lease at the Van Nuys Airport. Bonseph Helinet is committed to modernizing and improving the Van Nuys airport for customers, residents, and the larger community, including:

- Support for health services. Bonseph Helinet will provide important public health services through Helinet's delivery of 24/7, 365/day aviation operations services to Children's Hospital at no cost to patients, as well as medical missions on behalf of UCLA, USC, Cedars-Sinai, UCSD, and UC Riverside.
- Support for public safety. The proposed lease will facilitate Helinet's partnership with firefighters, law enforcement, and news media.
- Jobs. Bonseph Helinet will support 100, high-wage local jobs with an average annual income of \$87,000.
- Educational partnerships. Bonseph Helinet will support partnerships with local technical aviation colleges to provide internships and other job training opportunities across different business lines for students seeking careers in aviation.
- Investment. Bonseph Helinet will invest over \$20 million to modernize the property, including new rotary-wing and fixed-wing hangar space, renovated ramp areas, terminal/office/shop space, and landscaping, hardscaping, sidewalks, and parking.
- Creating a community space. Bonseph Helinet will provide much needed renovations to the VNY Observation Area which provides enrichment opportunities for children and other community members.

I am excited about the prospect of this new project at the Van Nuys Airport and urge the City Council to approve it.

Communication from Public

Name: Nereida Cazares
Date Submitted: 02/07/2024 02:04 PM
Council File No: 24-0125
Comments for Public Posting: In Support of Bonseph Helinet, Trade, Travel and Tourism Committee February 8, 2024 Special Committee Meeting, Agenda Item 3, Council File No. 24-0125

February 7, 2024

VIA EMAIL

City Council
City of Los Angeles
200 N Spring St.
Los Angeles, CA 90012

**Re: In Support of Bonseph Helinet, Trade, Travel and Tourism Committee February 8, 2024
Special Committee Meeting, Agenda Item 3, Council File No. 24-0125**

Honorable Councilmembers:

My name is Nereida Cazares. I am a Records Administrator for our Maintenance Department at Helinet.

I write this letter in full support of the Bonseph Helinet lease at 16303 Waterman Drive at Van Nuys Airport.

Growing up near Van Nuys Airport, I always found myself captivated by the sight of airplanes and helicopters soaring through the sky. Little did I know that this fascination would lead me to my current job. Today I have the privilege to work for a company dedicated to life-saving missions. The realization that I am a part of a team that provides organ transport and facilitates the transport of children in need fills me with a profound sense of purpose.

Our existing hangers and buildings have served us well for many years, but the wear and tear of time has taken a toll on their functionality. Our facility currently needs major repairs to create a safe work environment. The maintenance hangar is not spacious enough to provide a clearance space to move around from one hanger office to another. The structural integrity of these old buildings is compromised, resulting in leaks, inadequate restrooms and safety hazards that pose a threat to the well-being of all the employees at Helinet.

Our ability to carry out our life-saving missions is directly impacted by the condition of our facilities. Upgrading our infrastructure will allow us to optimize our operations, improve response times and enhance the overall effectiveness of our services. By approving us for the redevelopment, our new well-equipped facility will empower us to continue making a meaningful difference in the lives of individuals and families in our community who rely on our support and care during times of crisis. We are hopeful that you will stand with us in this important endeavor.

Sincerely,

Nereida Cazares

Nereida Cazares
Records Administrator
Helinet Aviation Services

Communication from Public

Name: Ty Evans

Date Submitted: 02/07/2024 02:05 PM

Council File No: 24-0125

Comments for Public Posting: In Support of Bonseph Helinet, Trade, Travel and Tourism Committee February 8, 2024 Special Committee Meeting, Agenda Item 3, Council File No. 24-0125

February 7, 2024

VIA EMAIL

City Council
City of Los Angeles
200 N Spring St.
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: In Support of Bonseph Helinet, Trade, Travel and Tourism Committee February 8, 2024 Special Committee Meeting, Agenda Item 3, Council File No. 24-0125

Honorable Councilmembers:

My name is Ty Evans. I am the Director of Production at Helinet. I am a father, husband and home owner within walking distance from the Van Nuys Airport. I am reaching out today in support of the Bonseph Helinet lease at 16303 Waterman Drive at the Van Nuys Airport.

I have been involved with Helinet for over a decade. A decade of saving lives, supporting families and bringing income into a community. I often look up into the sky and see the Children's Hospital helicopter flying by and know the impact that it is having. Helinet saves lives.

I am currently writing this letter in a 52 year old building that has rain water dripping from the ceilings, rats in the walls, and a land lord that refuses to fix any of these issues.

I look forward to the day that I can focus on my job and not spend my time on stacking sand bags so that our office does not leak or putting down pans to catch water from a leaking roof. We are not asking for expansion. We are asking for a safe and clean working environment.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ty Evans', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Ty Evans
Director of Production
Helinet Aviation Services

Please see sample images below:

