

Communication from Public

Name: Tom Norton

Date Submitted: 02/08/2024 06:06 AM

Council File No: 24-0125

Comments for Public Posting: Letter in support of Bonseph Helinet improvement.

VIA EMAIL

February 7, 2024

Tom Norton
President
Helinet Aviation Services, LLC
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Van Nuys, CA 91406
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Hon. Traci Park
Hon. Hugo Soto-Martinez
Hon. Tim McOsker
Trade Travel & Tourism Committee
c/o Conrad Rodriguez, Legislative Assistant
Los Angeles City Council
200 N. Spring St., Rm. 1010
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Email: conrad.rodriguez@lacity.org

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

Honorable Councilmembers:

I would like to express my unwavering support for Agenda Item #3, Bonseph-Helinet Van Nuys airport lease. Helinet aviation has based operations at the Van Nuys Airport (VNY) for 37 years. Throughout that time, we have devoted incalculable resources serving the greater Los Angeles area with helicopter transportation services. Most notably, our charitable donations to Children's Hospital Los Angeles (CHLA). Each year, Helinet conducts in excess of 350 CHLA flights transporting critically ill children, exceeding 11,000 transports to date.



In addition to performing the CHLA mission, Helinet is fully committed and engaged in air and ground transportation services supporting several local area hospital organ transplant teams and conducts nearly 1,000 lifesaving flights per year.



These flights require incredibly detailed planning and precise execution to ensure patients have the greatest chance of success.

Organ Longevity

Heart and Lungs	4 - 6 hours
Liver	Up to 12 hours
Kidneys	Up to 36 hours

The ability to offer some of the world’s best transplant care attracts world-class surgeons and patients seeking top tier care. Helinet is proud to be part of the infrastructure that makes Los Angeles a highly desirable destination.

Helinet’s facility is outdated, grossly inadequate, in poor condition, and in some areas, downright unsafe. Air Center entered into the facility lease with LAWA over fifty two years ago and has failed to make even the most minimal investments in property upkeep.

LAWA LOS ANGELES WORLD AIRPORTS		Report to the BOARD OF AIRPORT COMMISSIONERS	
Approver:	<u>Dave Jones</u> Dave Jones, Deputy Executive Director Commercial Development	Meeting Date	10/6/2022
Reviewer:	<u>Brian C. Ostler</u> Brian C. Ostler, City Attorney	Needs Council Approval:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y
	<u>Justin Erbacci</u> Justin Erbacci, Chief Executive Officer	Reviewed for/By	Date
		Finance	5/23/2022
		CEBA	5/20/2022
		Procurement	6/20/2022
		Guest Experience	5/20/2022
		Strategic Planning	5/18/2022

January 12, 1972 - Board Resolution No. 6814 (Lease No. LAA-1188) The Board of Airport Commissioners (Board) approved an assignment to Air Center Aviation, Inc. of Avemco Corporation, Lease No. LAA-1188 at VNY.



We have experienced countless leaks, damage to our expensive electronic equipment, and displaced individuals from their offices on countless occasions.



Rodent Infestation



You all have the chance to do the right thing here, please exercise strong leadership and support the Bonseph Helinet lease.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tom Norton".

Tom Norton
President, Helinet Aviation Services

Communication from Public

Name: Sal Echeverria

Date Submitted: 02/08/2024 08:29 AM

Council File No: 24-0125

Comments for Public Posting: My name is Dr. Sal Echeverria and I live in the upper Bel Air neighborhood near Mulholand Drive. I am asking the TTT committee to pass Motion 23-1339 AS IS, WITHOUT AMENDMENT. I am also asking that the ill-fated Bonseph-Helinet proposal to be rejected with no contractual rights granted. The City cannot approve any more developments that do NOT include mitigation measures to reduce the toxic fumes harming us from VNY. When my family and I purchased our home in this neighborhood it never occurred to us that we would have constant airplanes flying over our home. I grew up near LAX and that was the norm. But that was expected living near LAX. I never thought I would be hearing and seeing airplanes again after moving to this neighborhood in 2015. Please help us.

Communication from Public

Name: Eriva

Date Submitted: 02/08/2024 08:51 AM

Council File No: 24-0125

Comments for Public Posting: My name is Erica and I live in Bel Air Ridge. I am asking the TTT committee to pass Motion 23-1339 AS IS, WITHOUT AMENDMENT. I am also asking that the ill-fated Bonseph-Helinet proposal to be rejected with no contractual rights granted. The City can not approve any more developments that do NOT include mitigation measures to reduce the toxic fumes harming us from VNY.

Communication from Public

Name: Shannon Bach

Date Submitted: 02/08/2024 08:55 AM

Council File No: 24-0125

Comments for Public Posting: My name is Shannon and I live in Sherman Oaks. I am asking the TTT committee to pass Motion 23-1339 AS IS, WITHOUT AMENDMENT. I am also asking that the ill-fated Bonseph-Helinet proposal to be rejected with no contractual rights granted. The City can not approve any more developments that do NOT include mitigation measures to reduce the toxic fumes harming us from VNY. The impact of being over a flight pattern has taken a toll emotionally as well as physically. Thank you for your time. Sincerely, Shannon Bachsihan

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 02/08/2024 09:08 AM

Council File No: 24-0125

Comments for Public Posting: My name is Raymond Zimmer and I live in Bel Air Ridge. I am asking the TTT committee to pass Motion 23-1339 AS IS, WITHOUT AMENDMENT. I am also asking that the ill-fated Bonseph-Helinet proposal to be rejected with no contractual rights granted. The City can not approve any more developments that do NOT include mitigation measures to reduce the toxic fumes harming us from VNY. I have lived in this area since 2015 and the increasing noise and fume pollution from planes flying overhead has been deeply concerning and puts my two small children at risk for health detriments in the future. I am begging you to please protect our neighborhood and do the right thing for the community. Thank you.