

Communication from Public

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Comments for Public Posting: My name is Alicia Avery and I am a Lake Balboa resident and current Citizens Advisory Council member representing CD6 on the Citizens Advisory Council (CAC). I am here to express my full and unequivocal support for Motion 25-1514 and to thank Councilmembers Nithya Raman and Imelda Padilla, as well as Councilmember Bob Blumenfield, for bringing this matter forward with integrity, transparency and respect for the role of the City Council and the communities most impacted by VNY operations. The CAC was created for a very specific and important purpose: to serve as a voice for the communities impacted by airport operations and to provide informed recommendations to LAWA, BOAC, the Mayor's Office, and the City Council. The CAC is not meant to be managed, reshaped or selectively altered by LAWA at will. Per the CAC bylaws, LAWA's role is administrative—not directive, not political and certainly not punitive. Yet that distinction has been increasingly blurred and most recently crossed. Jacob Haik, the VNY Manager, along with LAWA, took it upon themselves to conduct what was described as an “audit” of CAC members. This audit was conducted without transparency, without notice to the CAC and without any opportunity for discussion, clarification or due process. Most troubling, LAWA sent letters—behind closed doors—to appointing authorities requesting the removal of 4 CAC members. These actions were taken without clear authority under the CAC bylaws or any codified resolution and without Council direction. The CAC was not informed in advance. The CAC was not consulted. The CAC did not request this action. And when questions were raised afterward, no concrete or verifiable information was ever provided to substantiate the findings of this audit. This is not transparency. This is unilateral action. Even more concerning is the fact that this so-called audit was selectively applied. Council District appointees were scrutinized and removed, while Mayor's appointees and Board of Airport Commissioners appointees were not subject to the same review or standards. This unequal application of rules directly impacted Council District representation and raises serious questions about fairness, motive and bias. If residency and eligibility were truly the concern, then why were only Council appointees targeted? Why were other appointing authorities exempt? And why was the

CAC—whose very purpose is to represent impacted communities—excluded entirely from the conversation? As someone who currently sits on the CAC, I can say with confidence that this incident is not isolated. There has been a consistent pattern of overreach by LAWA and a clear double standard in how CAC members are treated—one that increasingly favors airport operations and institutional control over the voices of the impacted community. This undermines the foundational purpose of the CAC and erodes public trust. The CAC was never intended to be a rubber stamp for LAWA. It was created to elevate community concerns, not silence them. The actions taken by LAWA, and subsequently approved by the BOAC without meaningful questioning or verification, represent a failure of oversight. Approving a resolution that alters Council District representation —without codification, without Council review and without consistent application—sets a dangerous precedent. That is why Motion 25-1514 is not only appropriate, but necessary. This motion rightly affirms that the City Council must have the opportunity to review and consider rules governing the composition of a body that is largely made up of Council appointees. It also correctly points out that while BOAC may reference prior resolutions as “precedent,” these changes are not actually codified in the CAC bylaws—leaving governance fragmented, inconsistent, and vulnerable to selective interpretation. The request for LAWA to prepare a report outlining how the City Council can consider changes to the CAC’s makeup restores accountability to where it belongs. Likewise, the directive to compile, codify, and publicly post a single comprehensive set of bylaws is long overdue. Transparency cannot exist when multiple versions of governing documents are scattered across time and agencies. Codified bylaws protect everyone: the City, the CAC, appointing authorities, and most importantly, the communities we are meant to serve. Supporting this motion is about ensuring that any changes to the CAC are made openly, fairly, consistently, and with proper oversight—not through unilateral action taken behind closed doors. I stand firmly behind Councilmembers Nithya Raman and Imelda Padilla and thank them for bringing this issue forward and for defending the principles of transparency, equity, and community representation. To the full City Council: I respectfully urge you to support Motion 25-1514 and reaffirm that the voices of impacted communities must be protected, respected, and meaningfully included in decision-making.