

Santa Monica Airport2Park Foundation



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August 17, 2016

Santa Monica City Council  
1685 Main Street, Room 209  
Santa Monica, CA 90401  
E-mail: [council@smgov.net](mailto:council@smgov.net)

Dear Mayor and City Council Members,

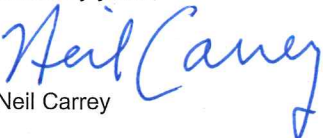
On behalf of the board of Santa Monica Airport2Park Foundation please let me express our unanimous support for the motion before you on August 23rd to formally declare the Council's intent to close the Santa Monica Airport to aviation use as soon as that is legally permitted. The declaration will clearly show Council's unwavering support for mitigating and eliminating the many negative impacts that SMO currently has on the surrounding community and environment, and transitioning the land over to park and other recreational uses that benefit then entire community, as mandated by Measure LC passed overwhelmingly by the electorate in November 2014.

The declaration also makes clear to federal courts that the issue of the City's right to control use of the land it owns is indeed 'ripe'. With the recent exhaustion of the FAA's Part-16 appeals process regarding the grant assurances, that matter will presumably now move to federal court, joining the existing case which was itself delayed largely for lack of 'ripeness'. We hope and trust that with this question resolved, the federal courts will now address both cases on the merits and find in favor of the City.

Since the passage of Measure LC and defeat of the aviation lobby's Measure D in the last general election, progress towards realizing the dream of LC has been very positive. We are encouraged to see that the first 12 acres next to the existing Airport park has been freed up and is well down the path to becoming Santa Monica's second largest park. The Foundation would like to express our thanks for the Council's unanimous and ongoing support in fast tracking the development of this park.

This is a historic time for the City of Santa Monica, we stand on the brink of creating a 'great park' of up to 180 acres on the west side. Such a park will transform the surrounding area to the benefit of all, and will create a lasting legacy for our children and their children to enjoy for decades to come. The formal declaration that you will make on August 23rd is a key milestone for creating that larger legacy.

Sincerely yours,

  
Neil Carrey

President: Santa Monica Airport2Park Foundation

The Santa Monica Airport2Park Foundation is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. All contributions are tax deductible. For more information, go to: [airport2park.org](http://airport2park.org), [Facebook.com/airport2park](https://www.facebook.com/airport2park), or Twitter @airport2park