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April 30, 2015

The Honorable Michael P. Huerta
Administrator
Federal Aviation Administration
800 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20591

Dear Administrator Huerta:

I write regarding an ongoing concern on the part of many of my constituents who have been affected by increased noise from modified flight paths around Phoenix Sky Harbor Airport.

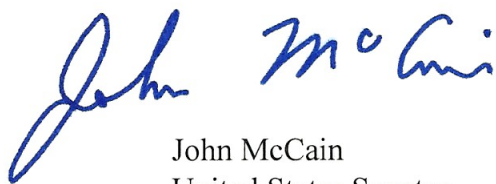
Since September 18, 2014, new flight patterns for departure routes out of Sky Harbor Airport have led to a drastic increase in noise complaints to the airport. Since that time, the affected cities, including Phoenix, Mesa and Scottsdale, representatives from Sky Harbor Airport, and those in the community impacted by this noise have shared their stories with me and the serious concerns they have about the impact of these flight changes on their daily lives as well as the level of engagement they were afforded with the FAA prior to the implementation of those changes.

I have conveyed to you the concerns of my constituents for the past several months. In your letter to Phoenix City Manager Ed Zuercher on January 22, 2015, you indicated that, while the FAA could not revert back to the prior flight patterns, you were committed to exploring possible adjustments to the new procedures. I understand that since that time, your administration has considered possible adjustments through the formation of a Phoenix Performance Based Navigation Working Group. While I appreciate the collaboration that has taken place to date, I understand the discussions have so far failed to yield agreement on the way ahead.

As the FAA, together with city representatives, the airport, and the community, consider next steps concerning these adjustments and to avoid costly litigation, there needs to be robust cooperation with stakeholders in Arizona and all affected communities to identify long-term solutions. I urge you to renew discussions and remain committed to reaching a workable solution that balances the needs of the residents of this community and the airport with the important policy goal of modernizing and improving the safety of our National Airspace System. I

appreciate your attention to this important matter, as appropriate and within all existing rules, regulations and ethical guidelines.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "John McCain". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "J" and a distinct "McCain" ending.

John McCain
United States Senator