

# **MEDIA ADVISORY**

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

November 30, 2017

### **Historic Neighborhoods Join to Propose Resolution to FAA Flight Path Lawsuit**

(Phoenix, AZ) - Historic Neighborhoods; Story Preservation Association, Willo Neighborhood Association, Encanto-Palmcroft Historic Preservation Association and Roosevelt Action Association announce that they, along with the City of Phoenix and the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), have entered into a Memorandum Regarding Implementation of the August 29, 2017 U.S. Court of Appeals Order vacating the September 18, 2014 flight paths instituted at Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport and remanding them to the FAA.

The Memorandum provides for a two-step process for reverting the RNAV (area navigation) western departure routes that were the subject of the Petitioners' legal action against the FAA as closely as possible to the historic routes that were in use prior to September 18, 2014.

- Step One: Create temporary western departure procedures that approximate pre-September 18, 2014. This will be done by the FAA with support from the City and will engage the community as part of the process. These procedures will be handled manually by the Phoenix Airport Traffic Control Tower and are planned to be in effect starting in April, 2018.
- Step Two: Replace the Step One temporary western departure procedures with satellite-based procedures for RNAV (area navigation). The FAA will consider community feedback regarding these and other procedures throughout the Phoenix area as part of the outreach process.

According to the City of Phoenix release: "The FAA has said an outright canceling of the September 2014 procedures would increase airport delays and compromise safety. As a result, all sides negotiated a plan that would mitigate noise, without the above concerns. The agreement is dependent upon the Court granting a joint petition filed by all parties, as well as conducting certain safety and environmental reviews for the proposed plan."

"If the Court approves the Petition for Rehearing filed today, the above steps would begin, with the first anticipated community meetings, in February 2018. The documents are available on [skyharbor.com/flightpaths](http://skyharbor.com/flightpaths)"

The Historic Neighborhoods support this agreement as the best available means for returning the western departure flight paths to their historic routes as expeditiously as possible.

Legal Counsel Terry Goddard / Matthew Adams of Dentons US LLP: "We're pleased to support the Historic Neighborhoods' efforts to resolve noise impacts and ensure prompt implementation of the Court's order."

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