

MAXINE WATERS

MEMBER OF CONGRESS  
43RD DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

COMMITTEE:  
FINANCIAL SERVICES  
CHAIRWOMAN

Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515-0535

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September 14, 2021

Board of Airport Commissioners (BOAC)  
Los Angeles World Airports (LAWA)  
1 World Way  
Los Angeles, California 90045

VIA WEBSITE: <https://online.lawa.org/boac>

Dear Commissioners:

I write to express my concerns regarding the Los Angeles International Airport (LAX) Airfield and Terminal Modernization Project (ATMP). While I support efforts to enhance airfield and terminal safety and improve the passenger experience at LAX, I continue to oppose any attempt to expand the capacity of the airport.

I am proud to represent the congressional district that includes LAX, as well as the diverse communities of Westchester, Playa del Rey, Inglewood, Lennox, Del Aire, and Hawthorne, which surround the airport. Throughout my career, I have always been committed to balancing the needs of the airport with the needs of the surrounding communities. As we all know, LAX is an important economic engine and a job creator for my district and the entire Southern California region, but it is also responsible for a significant amount of noise, air pollution, and traffic congestion for everyone who lives nearby.

I am especially concerned about the ATMP's proposal to increase the number of gates at LAX. The proposed ATMP would develop a new Terminal 9 with 12 to 18 new gates and a new Concourse 0 with 6 to 9 new gates, for a total of up to 27 new gates. I realize that the ATMP would also eliminate 15 of the 18 West Remote Gates and replace them with the newly created gates. However, this would still result in the addition of a net total of up to 12 new gates. An increase in LAX capacity of this magnitude would facilitate a significant increase in the number of planes being accommodated by LAX and a corresponding increase in landings and departures, harmful emissions, traffic congestion, and noise for my constituents and all who live and work in the surrounding communities.

I, therefore, oppose any increase in the total number of gates at LAX. I also oppose the development of new gates – and the bifurcation of existing gates – for any purpose other than to replace gates that are being eliminated. I respectfully request that the Board of Airport Commissioners (BOAC) amend the ATMP to ensure that there is no net increase in the total number of gates at LAX and conduct a thorough analysis of the environmental impacts of the project.

I thank you for considering my comments, and I appreciate your efforts to ensure the safety of the flying public, mitigate the harmful impacts of airport operations, and balance the needs of LAX with the needs of neighboring communities. I look forward to continuing to work with you whenever I can to support the needs of the airport and to make certain that LAX continues to create good jobs and encourage people around the world to come to Southern California for business and for pleasure.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Maxine Waters". The signature is written in black ink and is centered on the page.

Maxine Waters  
Member of Congress