

County of Santa Clara

Roads & Airports Department

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To: Airports Commission

Submitted by: Ken Betts
Assistant Director, County Airports

Date: April 19, 2022

Subject: First Quarter 2022 (January, February, March) Noise Report

There were ten (10) noise referrals for the first quarter of 2022 (attachment 1).

There were five (5) referrals received during the quarter that were related to operations at Reid-Hillview Airport (RHV), and no referrals for operations at San Martin Airport (E16). There were also five (5) referrals pertaining to operations not directly associated with operations at the two County Airports.

In summary, there were 41,305 total aircraft operations (takeoffs and landings) during the first quarter at the two County airports, with an average of one referral for every 6,833 operations at Reid-Hillview Airport.

	RHV		E16	
	Ops.	(Daily Avg.)	Ops.	(Daily Avg.)
Jan	11,270	(364)	4,119	(133)
Feb	12,607	(450)	3,357	(120)
Mar	13,687	(442)	3,021	(97)
Total	37,564	(418)	10,497	(117)

Quarterly Noise Referrals

Airport	Date Time	Nature of Complaint	Action Taken
RHV	1/10/2022 11:28:00 AM	Mr. B from East San Jose left a message on the County Airports noise referral voicemail. Mr. B stated that there was a departure from RHV Airport post 10:00 pm.	Airport staff reviewed ATC radio transmissions and radar data for the evening of Monday, Jan 10. A Beechcraft conducted a straight-out departure at the time specified by the caller. The caller did not reference an aircraft operation contrary to County or Federal rules and regulations. No further action was taken.
RHV	1/16/2022 11:05:00 PM	Mr. B from East San Jose left four (4) messages on the County Airports noise referral voicemail. Mr. B stated that there were departures from RHV Airport post 10:00 pm.	Airport staff reviewed ATC radio transmissions and radar data for the evening of Sunday, January 16. An RV-10 aircraft conducted three takeoffs at the times specified by the caller. The caller did not reference an aircraft operation contrary to County or Federal rules and regulations. No further action was taken.
RHV	1/19/2022 10:30:00 PM	Mr. B from East San Jose left three (3) messages on the County Airports noise referral voicemail. Mr. B stated that there were departures from RHV Airport post 10:00 pm.	Airport staff reviewed ATC radio transmissions and radar data for the evening of Wednesday, January 19. There were two departures by two separate aircraft at the times specified by the caller. The caller did not reference an aircraft operation contrary to County or Federal rules and regulations. No further action was taken.
RHV	1/26/2022 10:05:00 PM	Mr. B from East San Jose left a message on the County Airports noise referral voicemail. Mr. B stated that there was a departure from RHV Airport post 10:00 pm.	Airport staff reviewed ATC radio transmissions and radar data for the evening of Wednesday, January 26. A Cessna 172 aircraft conducted a straight-out departure at the time specified by the caller. The caller did not reference an aircraft operation contrary to County or Federal rules and regulations. No further action was taken.
Other	2/6/2022 12:50:00 PM	Ms. G from Morgan Hill sent an email to the County Airports noise office. Ms. G stated that a single engined, high-wing aircraft flew over her residence and downtown Morgan Hill at extremely low altitude.	Airport staff reviewed radar data for the early afternoon of Sunday, February 6. A Cessna 172 aircraft flew in a zig-zag pattern over the caller's residence at altitudes ranging from 800 to 1,200 feet. Airport staff left a phone message with Ms. G regarding the aircraft over flight.
Other	2/11/2022 3:07:00 PM	Ms. G from Morgan Hill sent an email to the County Airports noise office. Ms. G stated that numerous helicopters and other random flights were taking place over her residence. Ms. G included attached images of flights tracks and aircraft photos believed to be those of the aircraft flying over her residence over a period of several weeks.	Airport staff reviewed the data provided by Ms. G. Numerous flight tracks consistent with the data provided, as well as reviews of available radar data confirmed the over flights. Airport staff left a message with Ms. G regarding the operations in question.
Other	2/26/2022 9:30:00 AM	Ms. W from Morgan Hill left a message on the County Airports noise office voicemail. Ms. W stated that a helicopter was flying at low altitudes in the vicinity of her residence, and that this activity has been ongoing for two weeks or more.	Airport staff reviewed radar data for Saturday, February 26 and determined that a Bell 407 helicopter was conducting operations in support of PG&E power line maintenance. Airport staff spoke with Ms. W the following Monday morning and described the nature of the helicopter activities in question.
RHV	3/1/2022 9:18:00 PM	Ms. W from East San Jose sent an email to the County Airport noise office. Ms. W stated that a very loud aircraft flew over her residence. Ms. W added that she "...used Apple Watch to read that it was 70 decibels." Ms. W also stated they are getting more and more planes from RHV since the FAA changed the flight paths. She also included a copy of a flight track and aircraft registration information.	Airport staff reviewed radar data for the evening of Tuesday, March 1. A flight track consistent with the resident's data was observed at the time and location provided. Airport staff replied to Ms. W's email and provided them with direct contact information.
Other	3/25/2022 1:10:00 PM	Mr. M from Los Gatos sent an email to the County Airports noise office. Mr. M stated that a Cessna 206 aircraft was flying over his residence in an up-and-down pattern.	Airport staff reviewed radar data for the early afternoon of Friday, March 25. A north-south flight track consistent with aerial survey work was observed at the time and location specified by Mr. M. The aircraft was operating at 2,200-feet. The caller did not reference an aircraft operation contrary to County or Federal rules and regulations. No further action was taken.

Quarterly Noise Referrals

Airport	Date Time	Nature of Complaint	Action Taken
Other	3/29/2022 3:00:00 PM	Mr. M from Los Gatos sent an email to the County Airports noise office. Mr. M. stated that the same Cessna aircraft from a previous occasion was passing over his residence multiple times and was very loud.	Airport staff reviewed radar data for the afternoon of Tuesday, March 29. A Cessna 206 aircraft was conducting aerial survey operations at an altitude of approximately 2,000-feet. Airport staff spoke with Mr. M on the following day and discussed the nature of the flight in question.