



103799

DATE: December 1, 2020
TO: Airports Commission
FROM: Harry Freitas, Director, Roads and Airports
SUBJECT: County Airports Quarterly Noise Report

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Receive Third Quarter 2020 Quarterly Noise Report from the Roads and Airports Department, Airports Division.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

There is no fiscal impact to the General Fund or the Airport Enterprise Fund.

CONTRACT HISTORY

None.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

The Airports Commission has requested that the County Airports Quarterly Noise Report be agendized for the Commissions review on a quarterly basis.

CHILD IMPACT

The recommended action will have no/neutral impact on children and youth.

SENIOR IMPACT

The recommended action will have no/neutral impact on seniors.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

The recommended action will have no/neutral sustainability implications.

BACKGROUND

Staff documents all complaints, and where possible establishes communications with the complainant to secure additional information or to answer specific questions regarding aircraft operations. When sufficient information is available, staff will contact an aircraft operator to determine if the aircraft was operated outside of normal flight procedures or if corrective action is warranted.

During the third quarter of 2020, which covers the months of July, August and September there were thirty-eight referrals for Reid-Hillview Airport, and no referral for San Martin Airport. Three referrals were for operations not associated with either Reid-Hillview or San Martin Airports. One complainant accounted for all but four of the referrals related to activity at Reid-Hillview airport with seventy-five individual phone calls¹.

There were 39,403 operations (takeoffs and landings) during the quarter at Reid-Hillview, which equates to one referral for every 1,037 operations. There were 6,290 operations at San Martin Airport.

	RHV		E16 ²	
	Ops.	Daily Avg.	Ops.	Daily Avg.
Jul	17,014	548	2,236	75
Aug	12,615	407	2,232	72
Sep	9,774	326	1,822	61
Total	24,464	427	6,290	69

ATTACHMENTS:

- Q3 Referrals(PDF)

¹ Multiple calls in one day from one caller are counted as one referral.

² Estimated using recorded E16 Unicom radio calls.

Quarterly Noise Referrals

Airport	Date Time	Nature of Complaint	Action Taken
Other	7/2/2020 9:27:00 AM	Mr. M from the Cambrian area of San Jose sent an email to the County Airports noise office. Mr. M listed thirteen (13) GA aircraft over flights of the Cambrian area that occurred between the 2nd and the 30th of July.	Airport staff reviewed several of the over flights noted by Mr. M. All aircraft appeared to be operated at or well above 1,000-ft AGL, and most of the aircraft flew over the area within a 1-mile radius of the emailer's residence. No further action was taken.
RHV	7/2/2020 10:16:00 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 Thursday, July 2. A Cessna aircraft conducted a right-downwind arrival 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	7/4/2020 10:20:00 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 Saturday, July 4. A Cessna aircraft conducted a right-downwind 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	7/5/2020 10:35:00 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 Sunday, July 5. A Grumman aircraft conducted a right-downwind arrival 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	7/7/2020 9:10:00 AM	Mr. W from East San Jose left a message on the County Airports noise referral voicemail. Mr. W stated that a white and orange aircraft flew at low altitude over his residence.	Airport staff reviewed ATC radio transmissions and radar data for the morning of Tuesday, July 7. There were several aircraft in the RHV traffic pattern at the time specified by the caller. The radar data indicated that aircraft flying the left-hand traffic pattern were operating at or above normal traffic pattern altitude. The caller did not reference an aircraft operation contrary to County or Federal rules and regulations. No further action was taken.
RHV	7/7/2020 10:14:00 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 Tuesday, July 7. A Diamond-Star aircraft conducted a right-downwind arrival 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	7/8/2020 11:43:00 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, July 8. A Cessna aircraft conducted a straight-in arrival to Runway 31-Right, however this aircraft arrival was ten minutes after the referral and did not fly over the caller's residence. No further action was taken.
RHV	7/9/2020 10:20:00 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 Thursday, July 9. A Piper aircraft departed RHV 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	7/10/2020 11:42:00 PM	Mr. B from East San Jose left two (2) 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 Friday, July 10. A Cessna aircraft conducted a missed approach and subsequent landing 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	7/13/2020 10:52:00 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 Monday, July 13. A Cessna aircraft conducted a right-downwind arrival 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.

Quarterly Noise Referrals

Airport	Date Time	Nature of Complaint	Action Taken
RHV	7/14/2020 10:18:00 PM	Mr. B from East San Jose left eight (8) 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 Tuesday, July 14. Two separate Cessna aircraft conducted multiple departures and arrivals during the time period 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	7/15/2020 10:48:00 PM	Mr. B from East San Jose left five (5) 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, July 15. Two separate Cessna aircraft conducted multiple takeoffs and landings during the time period 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	7/16/2020 10:02:00 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 Thursday, July 16. A Sportstar LSA aircraft conducted a right-downwind 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	7/19/2020 10:45:00 AM	Mr. W from East San Jose left a message on the County Airports noise referral voicemail. Mr. W stated that a white low-wing aircraft flew over his residence while on a left-downwind arrival.	Airport staff reviewed ATC radio transmissions and radar data for the morning of Sunday, July 19. A unknown type of aircraft was flying practice pattern work at the time specified by the caller. The aircraft's traffic pattern altitude appeared normal for the location given 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	7/19/2020 12:55:00 PM	Mr. W from San Martin left a message on the County Airports noise office voice mail. Mr. W stated that a low and loud aircraft was circling his residence.	Airport staff reviewed ATC radio transmissions and radar data for the early afternoon of Sunday, July 19. There were several aircraft operating in the E16 traffic pattern at the time specified by the caller. There were no aircraft visible on radar circling in the vicinity of the caller's residence, which is located approximately 1-mile due east of the airport. Airport staff left a message for Mr. W in Monday morning, July 20.
RHV	7/19/2020 10:22:00 PM	Mr. B from East San Jose left seven (7) 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, July 19. There were numerous departures and arrivals by several aircraft during the time period specified by the caller. At least two of the aircraft from local FBO's were performing traffic pattern work during this time. The caller did not reference an aircraft operation contrary to County or Federal rules and regulations. No further action was taken.
RHV	7/23/2020 10:08:00 PM	Mr. B from East San Jose left two (2) 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 Thursday, July 23. There were several departures and arrivals by multiple aircraft during the time period 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	7/27/2020 10:03:00 PM	Mr. B from East San Jose left six (6) 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 Monday, July 27. There were multiple takeoffs and landings by several aircraft during the time period specified by the caller. One locally operated aircraft conducted at least five takeoffs during this time. The caller did not reference an aircraft operation contrary to County or Federal rules and regulations. No further action was taken.
RHV	7/28/2020 10:02:00 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 Tuesday, July 28. A single Cessna 172 aircraft conducted a 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.

Quarterly Noise Referrals

Airport	Date Time	Nature of Complaint	Action Taken
RHV	7/28/2020 11:38:00 PM	Mr. B from East San Jose left two (2) 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 Tuesday, July 28. A Cessna aircraft conducted two 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	7/29/2020 10:45:00 PM	Mr. B from East San Jose left two (2) 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, July 29. Two separate Cessna aircraft conducted an arrival and departure 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	7/30/2020 10:50:00 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 Thursday, July 30. A Cessna 172 conducted a right-downwind arrival 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	8/6/2020 10:01:00 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 Thursday, August 6. A Cessna 172 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	8/8/2020 11:10:00 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 Saturday, August 8. A Cessna aircraft conducted a right-downwind 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	8/9/2020 10:01:00 PM	Mr. B from East San Jose left seven (7) 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, August 9. There were numerous takeoffs and landings by multiple aircraft during the time period 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	8/22/2020 10:35:00 PM	Mr. B from East San Jose left two (2) 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 Saturday, August 22. A single Cessna aircraft conducted two 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	8/25/2020 7:08:00 PM	Mr. W from East San Jose left a message on the County Airports noise referral voicemail. Mr. W stated that a white high-wing aircraft was flying in the RHV traffic pattern.	Airport staff reviewed ATC radio transmissions and radar data for the evening of Tuesday, August 25. An aircraft was flying practice takeoffs and landings in the left-hand traffic pattern at the time specified by the caller. The aircraft appeared to be flying at or near normal pattern altitude at the caller's location, which is located west of the end of the runway under the traffic pattern. The caller did not reference an aircraft operation contrary to County or Federal rules and regulations. No further action was taken.
RHV	8/26/2020 11:16:00 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, August 26. A Cessna aircraft conducted at least three takeoffs and landings during the time period 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	8/29/2020 10:55:00 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 Saturday, August 29. A Cessna 172 aircraft conducted multiple takeoffs and landings during the time period 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.

Quarterly Noise Referrals

Airport	Date Time	Nature of Complaint	Action Taken
RHV	9/3/2020 10:02:00 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 Thursday, September 3. A Cessna aircraft conducted a right-downwind arrival 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	9/5/2020 10:19:00 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 Saturday, September 5. A Cessna 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.
RHV	9/8/2020	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 midnight on Monday, September 8. There were no aircraft operations recorded on ATC radio or radar at the time specified by the caller. No further action was taken.
RHV	9/8/2020 5:00:00 AM	Mr. G from the Cassell neighborhood area of East San Jose sent an email to the County Airports. Mr. G stated that multiple aircraft were flying over his residence at all times of the day. Mr. G added that many of the aircraft appeared to be flying at low altitudes. He also added that at approximately 5:00 am a helicopter flew over his residence.	Airport staff investigated Mr. G's concerns regarding aircraft operations over the Cassell neighborhood area. His residence is located approximately 3/4 of a mile off the end of the 31 Runways at RHV. A preliminary review of available radar data indicated that aircraft departing RHV airport to the north were flying normal traffic patterns at appropriate altitudes in the areas of concern. Airport Management responded to Mr. M's email regarding the proximity of the Cassell neighborhood to RHV Airport, as well as the typical traffic patterns and altitudes that could be expected in that area. The helicopter noted by Mr. M was a Bell 430 Life Flight helicopter inbound to the Regional Medical Center from the south.
RHV	9/11/2020 11:40:00 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 Friday, September 11. There were no ATC radio recordings or flight tracks in the RHV area at the time specified by the caller. No further action was taken.
RHV	9/16/2020 11:47:00 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, September 16. A Cessna aircraft conducted a right-downwind 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	9/17/2020 10:50:00 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 Thursday, September 17. A Cessna aircraft conducted a right-downwind 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	9/18/2020 12:15:00 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 early morning of Sunday, October 18. A single Cessna aircraft conducted a right-downwind arrival 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	9/18/2020 11:23:00 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 Friday, September 18. An unknown Cessna aircraft conducted a 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.

Quarterly Noise Referrals

Airport	Date Time	Nature of Complaint	Action Taken
Other	9/23/2020 6:10:00 PM	Mr. M from Los Gatos sent an email to the County Airports noise office. Mr. M stated that a Bellanca aircraft flew over his residence at 1,100-feet.	Airport staff reviewed available radar data for the afternoon of Wednesday, September 23. An aircraft passed within 1/4-mile of the caller's residence at 1,300 feet enroute to RHV airport. The caller has been informed on previous occasions the County does not have regulatory authority regarding operations such as this, and that they should contact the FAA if they wish to pursue the matter further. No further action was taken.
RHV	9/23/2020 11:05:00 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, September 23. A Cessna aircraft conducted a right-downwind arrival 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	9/28/2020 10:40:00 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 Monday, September 28. A single Cessna aircraft conducted a takeoff 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.