

County of Santa Clara

Roads & Airports Department

Airports Division
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To: HLUET Committee

Submitted by: Scott Riddle
Assistant Director, County Airports

Date: September 8, 2023

Subject: Second Quarter 2023 (April, May and June) Noise Report

There were twelve (12) noise referrals for the above referenced quarter. (attachment 1).

There was one (1) referral for operations not directly associated with the County Airports. There were eleven (11) referrals during the quarter pertaining to operations at Reid-Hillview Airport (RHV).

In summary, there were 55,271 total aircraft operations (takeoffs and landings) during the quarter at the two County airports, and twelve (12) referrals for all operations during that time period.

	RHV		E16	
	Ops.	(Daily Avg.)	Ops.	(Daily Avg.)
April	14,704	(474)	2,052	(68)
May	14,216	(459)	4,080	(132)
June	15,027	(485)	5,192	(173)
Total	43,947	(483)	11,324	(123)

Quarterly Noise Referrals

Airport	Date Time	Nature of Complaint	Action Taken
RHV	4/5/2023 2:04:00 PM	Mr. W from East San Jose left a message on the County Airports noise office voicemail. Mr. W stated that a white high-wing aircraft was flying low over his residence while in the RHV traffic pattern.	Airport staff reviewed radar data for the early afternoon of Wednesday, April 5. Two separate Cessna aircraft were conducting practice pattern work at the time specified by the caller. Both aircraft appeared to be operating at correct altitudes in the vicinity of the caller's residence. No further action was taken.
RHV	4/17/2023 10:20:00 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.	Staff reviewed the flight track and found the flight as described by Mr. P. The aircraft was inbound and descending for landing at RHV. At the time of observation, the aircraft was one mile from the runway. Staff described to Mr. P. that aircraft landing are not expected to maintain 1,100 feet in the traffic pattern and that based on his description of the events, there was nothing out of the ordinary. After reviewing the flight track data, staff noted nothing was observed out of the ordinary. No further action is required. A call was placed to Mr. P. to inform him.
RHV	4/17/2023 10:20:00 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 radar data for the evening of Monday, April 17. A Cessna 172 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	4/20/2023 10:11:00 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 radar data for the evening of Thursday, April 20 a single Cessna 172 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	4/21/2023 11:45:00 PM	Mrs. V emailed staff regarding a small aircraft flying circles over their Home Gate neighborhood across the street from the airport. This occurred between the hours of 11:45pm and 12:45pm on 4/21,4/23 and 4/25. Complainant expressed concern the flight seems to violate the local airport noise ordinances and referenced the County Airports website for Noise Standards. The flight has created vibrations that have disturbed or woken the family.	The complainant did not reference an aircraft operation contrary to County or Federal rules and regulations. Staff emailed the complainant with details on the flights in the area and explained the Airport guidance regarding noise to the flying community. No further action was taken.
RHV	5/9/2023 10:00:00 PM	Mr. W emailed County Airports related to reporting flights after 10pm local time and concerns about "lots of flights after 10pm."	The complaint did not reference an aircraft operation contrary to County or Federal rules and regulations. Airport Staff responded to Mr. W with an email explaining the investigation and no further action was taken.
RHV	5/15/2023 12:04:00 AM	Mr. P. called to make a complaint of an aircraft overflying his home at 600 feet. Mr. P. had reviewed the noise abatement procedures on the County Airports website and believed that the procedures required aircraft to be at 1,100 feet over his house.	Staff reviewed the flight track and found the flight as described by Mr. P. The aircraft was inbound and descending for landing at RHV. At the time of observation, the aircraft was one mile from the runway. Staff described to Mr. P. that aircraft landing are not expected to maintain 1,100 feet in the traffic pattern and that based on his description of the events, there was nothing out of the ordinary. After reviewing the flight track data, staff noted nothing was observed out of the ordinary. No further action is required. A call was placed to Mr. P. to inform him.
RHV	5/19/2023 10:13:00 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 radar data for the evening of Friday, May 19. There were no recorded flight tracks from GA aircraft in the vicinity of the caller's residence during the time period specified.
Other	5/20/2023 8:19:00 AM	Ms. L from San Martin stated that a powered parachute was flying very low in the vicinity of her residence on California Avenue in San Martin.	The type of aircraft involved in this type of incident (powered parachute) is not equipped with a transponder of ADSB, and as such there are no recorded flight tracks to enable further investigation.

Quarterly Noise Referrals

Airport	Date Time	Nature of Complaint	Action Taken
RHV	5/22/2023 10:36:00 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.	The caller did not reference an aircraft operation contrary to County or Federal rules and regulations. No further action was taken.
RHV	5/24/2023 5:30:00 PM	Mr. L reported touch and go's still flying after 7pm He referenced the County Website saying it says no touch an go activity after 7pm.	Staff spoke with Mr. L and explained the website states "No touch and go operations between 9:00 P.M. and 7:00 A.M. Local Time". Mr. L asked when the change happened and staff explained this policy has been in place for a number of years.
RHV	5/24/2023 5:30:00 PM		
RHV	6/12/2023 4:52:00 PM	Mr. S emailed the Noise email with several complaints related to continuous flying over his home and provided audio and video evidence of twelve (12) planes flying over his home during the day. He further expressed frustration this occurred "24/7".	Airport staff reviewed the area the complainant lives in and found the home is on the downwind leg for 31R/13L and the area is subject to normal pattern work on a regular basis. The caller did not reference an aircraft operation contrary to County or Federal rules and regulations. No further action was taken.