

SFO RT Members,

We are contacting you regarding Item 5 on the June 2nd SFO RT meeting "Provide Direction to Staff on Expanding Roundtable Membership". Given the time limitations on public comments, we felt that it would be best to send you supplemental information in advance given the importance of the topic.

As shown in the meeting packet, Palo Alto requested membership multiple times because of the SFO aircraft noise impacts on its residents. NextGen aggravated the problem: as Bert Ganoung said, NextGen was the perfect storm for Palo Alto. The City is now the merge point of 3 SFO arrival procedures representing roughly 60% of SFO arrivals; SFO noise monitoring has shown an average of 270 SFO flights per day over Palo Alto in late 2018. In a nutshell, Palo Alto is highly impacted by SFO.

The SFO RT was established 40 years ago to address community concerns due to SFO operations and has shown membership adaptability since its start. In 1997, the RT expanded its membership from 11 to 19 cities by adding 8 cities that are not adjacent to the airport.

We fully understand the SFO RT concerns about increasing the number of members. The RT is concerned about losing its strategic focus, expanding its scope, and facing manageability issues. **We believe that these legitimate concerns can be addressed by adopting a few, simple eligibility criteria that would expand membership by 2 cities at most.**

#### **Suggested Next Steps**

In response to the 6 options listed by the Roundtable Coordinator on [p 35-36 of the packet](#), we propose 2 modified options in priority order:

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- **Modified Option 4:**
- If the RT adopts a few, simple eligibility criteria at the meeting, then direct staff to draft amendments to the MOU and Bylaws.
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  - As shown in previous amendment drafts
  - (such as on page 81), changes would be minimal --e.g. one additional sentence in the MOU and in the Bylaws. The drafted amendments would then be reviewed and voted on at the next RT meeting in August.
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- **Modified Option 3:**
- Create an Ad Hoc Subcommittee to meet **once**
- to discuss membership eligibility criteria and make recommendations to the RT for the August meeting.
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  - We urge the RT to consider making the
  - Ad Hoc Subcommittee meeting public for community engagement and transparency purposes. The RT is not required to do that but hopefully may want to do it.
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- This meeting should not suspend other
- work as it would be a one-time only meeting.
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- Yes to balanced geographical representation
- (must include adjacent/non-adjacent cities; must include geographic mix of west, east, north, and south).
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**Additional notes**

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- Option 5 pursues a regional approach
- to potentially address impacts from multiple airports. Cities who are seeking SFO RT membership are not asking for membership in a future regional RT or a regional coordination of multiple bodies. These cities are asking for SFO RT membership because of SFO
- impacts.
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- We have responded to other important
- items in the Roundtable Coordinator memo in the enclosed attachment.
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The SFO RT can adapt its membership criteria again to reflect the NextGen reality without jeopardizing its work. If the City of Palo Alto were to become eligible, we firmly believe that it would bring knowledge, dedication, and sustained efforts to address aviation impacts in support of the SFO RT plans. Incidentally, were the SCSC RT to resume its activities in the future, the SFO RT could benefit from having Palo Alto in both RTs as it would greatly facilitate information exchange between the two bodies.

Thank you for reading this supplemental information. Feel free to contact us for any additional information or questions you may have.

Regards,

Darlene and Marie-Jo

Attachment: Public Responses to Roundtable Coordinator Memo in June 2021 Meeting Packet.pdf