

Air Traffic Noise Working Group Final Report

September 4, 2018

Background

- ❖ Airplane noise complaints to the City increased significantly in early spring 2017
- ❖ Air Traffic Noise Working Group Formed
 - Council memo January 8, 2018
 - First meeting January 31, 2018
 - Initially 10 members and 2 alternates
 - ✓ Residents and subject matter experts

Key Objectives

1. Define and prioritize remedies we seek; identify where authority/control resides.
2. Acquire technical information and flight data that supports our case.
3. Establish a working dialogue with the Federal Aviation Administration, the airlines, Long Beach Airport and other parties who can help to effect change. Seek voluntary cooperation through collaboration.
4. If necessary, activate a letter writing/email campaign to enlist community involvement.
5. If necessary, assess the feasibility of legal action.
6. Conduct a community meeting within 90 days.
7. Provide the community with on-going updates via the city's website.

Objectives: All Met

Objective	Status
✓ Define and prioritize remedies we seek; identify where authority/control resides	Higher altitudes and modified ground tracks. FAA, airport controllers, individual airlines and pilots.
✓ Acquire technical information and flight data that supports our case.	Have captured real-time data, obtained data from both LGB and SNA plus some 3 rd party historical data.
✓ Establish a working dialogue with the Federal Aviation Administration, the airlines, Long Beach Airport and other parties who can help to effect change. Seek voluntary cooperation through collaboration.	Have held numerous meeting with airports, airlines, elected officials and even FAA personnel. Have also met with other city groups (both elected and citizen-led) to determine their situation and look for commonality.
✓ If necessary, activate a letter writing/email campaign to enlist community involvement.	Created the "StopTheJetNoise.com" website and began a petition signing campaign resulting in over 1,100 signatures.
✓ If necessary, assess the feasibility of legal action.	Investigated legal activity around the country and consulted with local aviation attorneys.
✓ Conduct a community meeting within 90 days.	Held community workshop on June 13, 2018 and had over 200 people in attendance.
✓ Provide the community with on-going updates via the city's website.	The City website contains updated information and points to the "StopTheJetNoise.com" website.

Members

- ❖ Jim Baker
- ❖ Connie Betz
- ❖ Michael Bourgeault
- ❖ Phil Burtis
- ❖ Scott Combest
- ❖ John Erskine
- ❖ Chris Kunze
- ❖ Christine Monheim
- ❖ Jeff Morin
- ❖ Ed Mountford
- ❖ Dave Porter
- ❖ Lloyd Sargeant
- ❖ Gordon Smith
- ❖ Mario Tabernig
- ❖ Council Member Brenden
- ❖ Council Member Delgleize
- ❖ City Staff Antonia Graham
- ❖ City Intern Alyssa Palma

Member Profiles

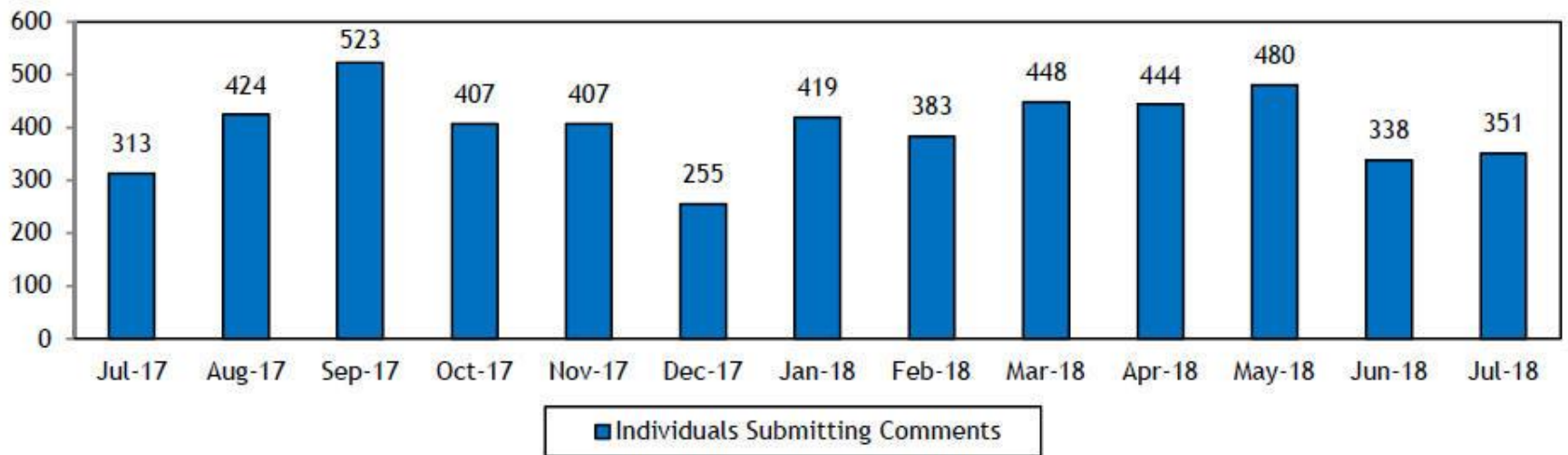
- ❖ Concerned and affected residents
- ❖ Current commercial jet pilot
- ❖ Retired airport manager
- ❖ Retired pilot
- ❖ Aerospace engineers
- ❖ IT developers
- ❖ Attorneys
- ❖ Business executives

Current Noise Complaints from LAX

Individuals Submitting Noise Comments

351

Monthly Comparison



Current Noise Complaints from LGB

Complaints by Zip Code ¹		
Zip Code	Complaints	Units
90248	1	1
90278	1	1
90712	1	1
90713	7	1
90720	1	1
90740	29	2
90755	1	1
90802	1	1
90804	10	2
90805	40	2
90806	1	1
90807	101	47
90808	31	27
90814	1	1
90815	3	2
92612	47	1
92626	732	3
92646	3	3
92647	147	5
92648	2,025	21
92649	532	17
92870	1	1
Not Reported	14	13
Grand Total	3,730	155

AIRPORT NOISE VIOLATIONS						
LGB Current Month & Calendar Year-To-Date Statistics						
May 2018						
May				CY-T-D 2018		
Air Carrier Noise Violations	2018	2017	Change	2018	2017	Change
American/Mesa Airlines	0	0		5	2	150.0%
Delta/SkyWest Airlines	0	2	-200.0%	4	3	33.3%
FedEx	0	0		0	0	
JetBlue Airways	25	16	56.3%	124	94	31.9%
Southwest Airlines	0	0		0	3	-300.0%
UPS	0	0		0	0	
Subtotal	25	18	38.9%	133	102	30.4%
Commuter Noise Violations	2018	2017	Change	2018	2017	Change
American/SkyWest Airlines	0	0		0	0	
Delta/SkyWest Airlines	0	0		0	0	
Subtotal	0	0		0	0	
Non-Commercial Noise Violations	2018	2017	Change	2018	2017	Change
All GA, Charter & Other	13	12	8.3%	57	77	-26.0%
TOTAL	38	30	26.7%	190	179	6.1%
Monetary Fines		2018	2017	2018	2017	
Airport Surcharges		\$7,900	\$2,100	\$31,200	\$11,200	
Consent Decree		\$120,000	\$78,000	\$558,000	\$468,000	
TOTAL		\$127,900	\$80,100	\$589,200	\$479,200	

The Recommendation

❖ Whereas

- This is a long term and complicated issue;
- The City needs to have a voice in the process;
- The collaborative approach is currently making progress;

❖ We hereby recommend Council establish the Jet Noise Commission (JNC)

Jet Noise Commission

❖ Mission

To monitor the impact of commercial jet noise on the quality of life in Huntington Beach and advise the City Council and City Attorney on issues and proposed remedies.

❖ Structure

- Two Council Liaisons
- Seven at-large members
 - ✓ Huntington Beach resident volunteers
 - ✓ Selected by the Liaisons subject to Council approval

Jet Noise Commission

(cont'd)

❖ Responsibilities

- To conduct business in the proper manner for a City Commission.
- To identify and propose remedies that could lead to reductions of jet noise over the City.
- To advise City Council and City Attorney on the status of jet noise issues and proposed remedies.
- To monitor FAA developments that could further reduce the quality of life in the City.
- To monitor legislative and legal developments both locally and nationally that could be useful in pursuing remedies.

❖ Scope

- Limited to the commercial jet traffic.

**How Did We Get to This
Recommendation?**

ATNWWG Action Plan

- ❖ Identify the issues
- ❖ Consensus on priority
- ❖ Investigate causes
- ❖ Identify potential remediation pathways

Identify the Issues

- ❖ Nestled between 3 airports
 - Los Angeles (LAX)
 - Orange County/John Wayne (SNA)
 - Long Beach (LGB)
- ❖ Multiple types of air traffic
 - Commercial passenger planes
 - Private planes
 - Cargo planes
 - Military planes
 - Other

The Consensus on Issues

- ❖ Focus on commercial passenger jets
 - Arrivals are the biggest impact
 - Each airport presents a different problem
 - ✓ May imply different solutions
- ❖ Goal is rerouted paths and increased altitudes



Investigation

- ❖ What caused the change?
- ❖ How did it get approved?
- ❖ How are the residents affected?

The Change by the FAA

❖ NextGen

- Satellite-based system of air traffic management
- Not one technology, but many technologies and procedures

❖ Goals

- Increase the safety, efficiency, capacity, predictability, and resiliency of American aviation
- Note that noise abatement isn't one of the goals

❖ Rollout in SoCal Metroplex

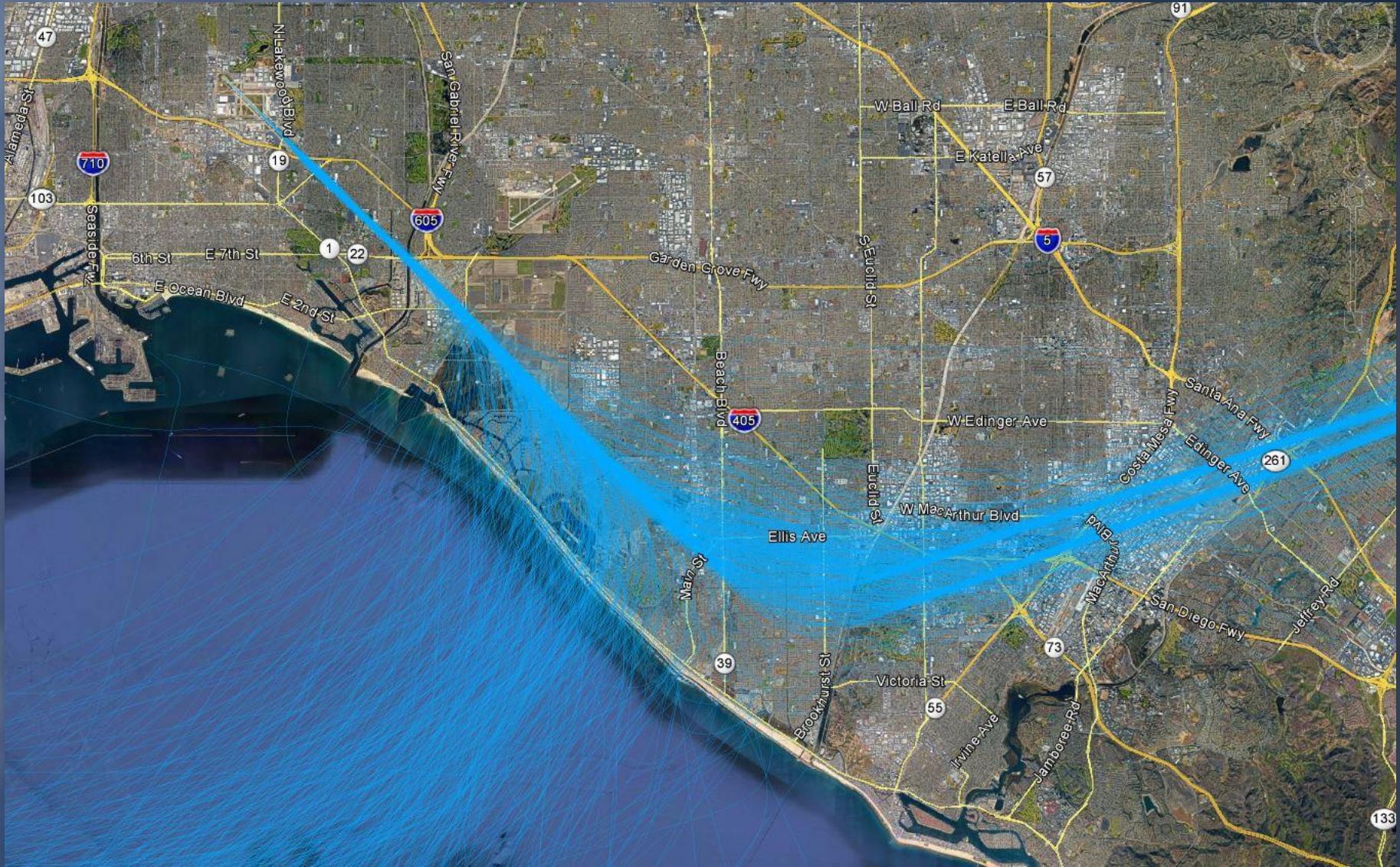
- Spring 2017

NextGen Resulted In:

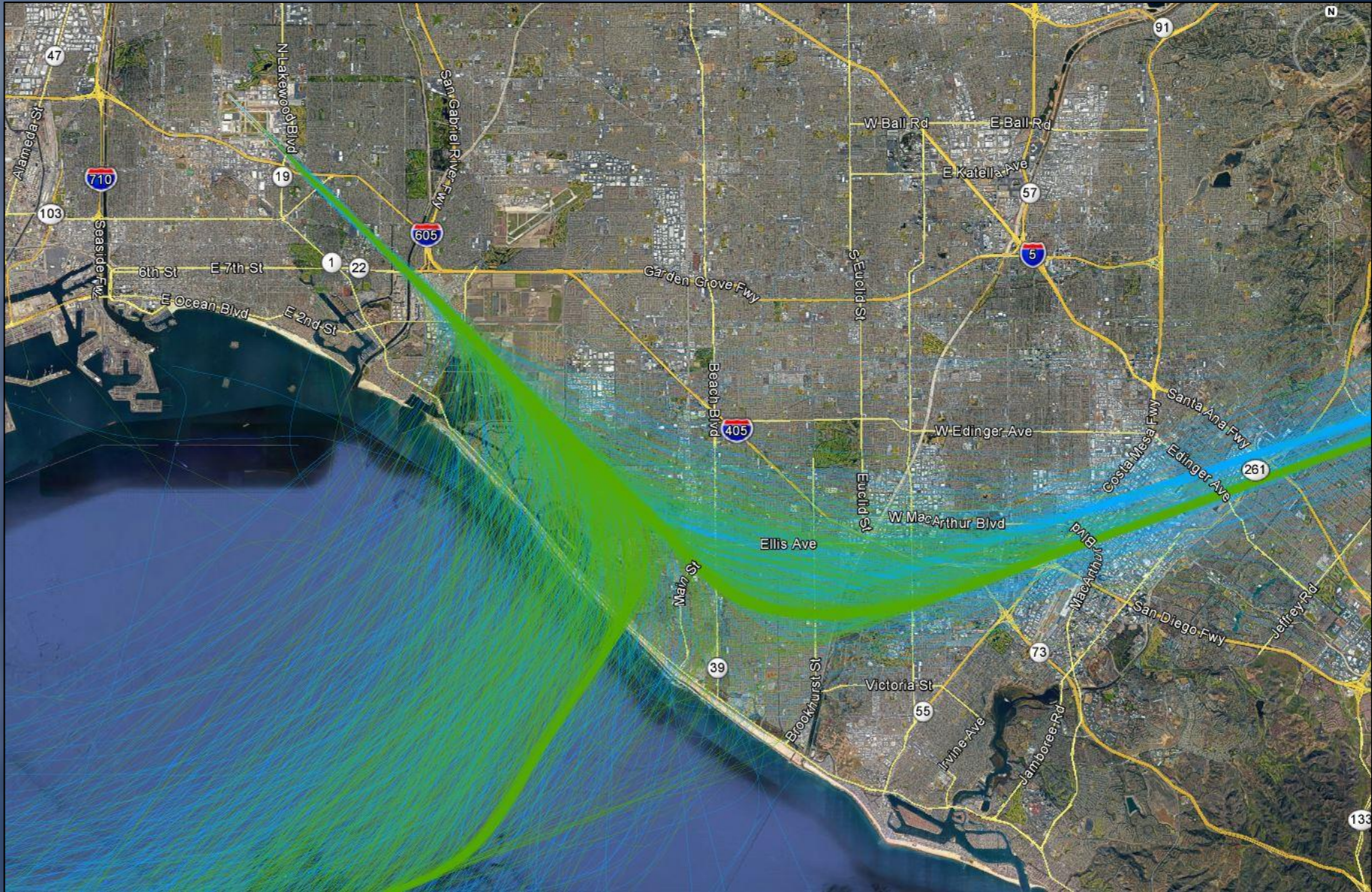
❖ Two significant impacts:

- Rerouting flight paths
 - ✓ Planes over us now that were not before
- Compressing flight path corridors
 - ✓ 6 mile corridor shrinks to ½ mile corridor

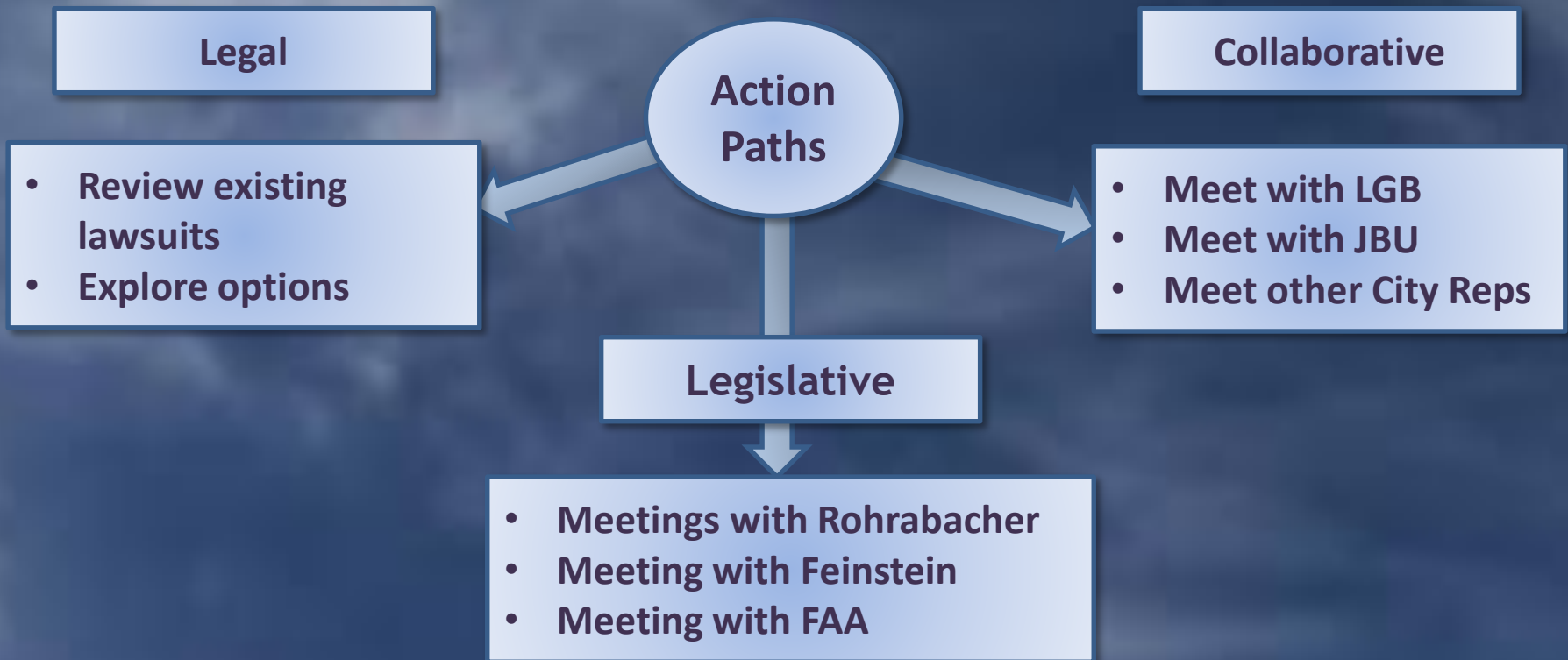
LGB Arrivals: Aug 2016



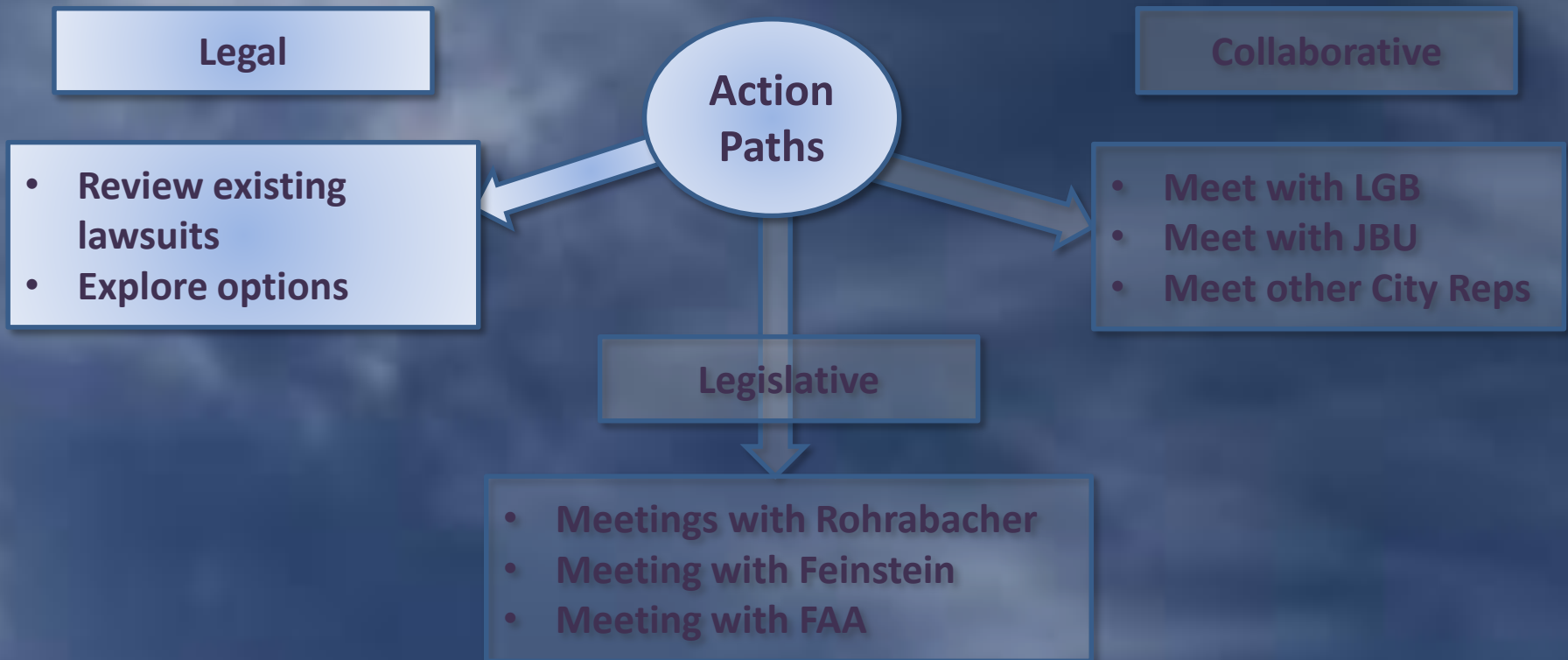
LGB Arrivals: Aug 2017



Pathways to Remediation



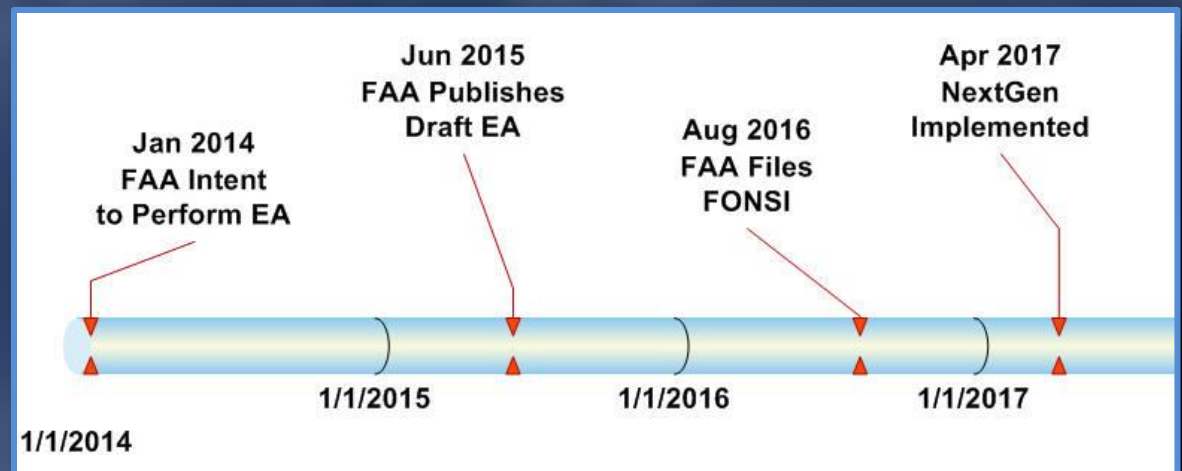
Pathways to Remediation



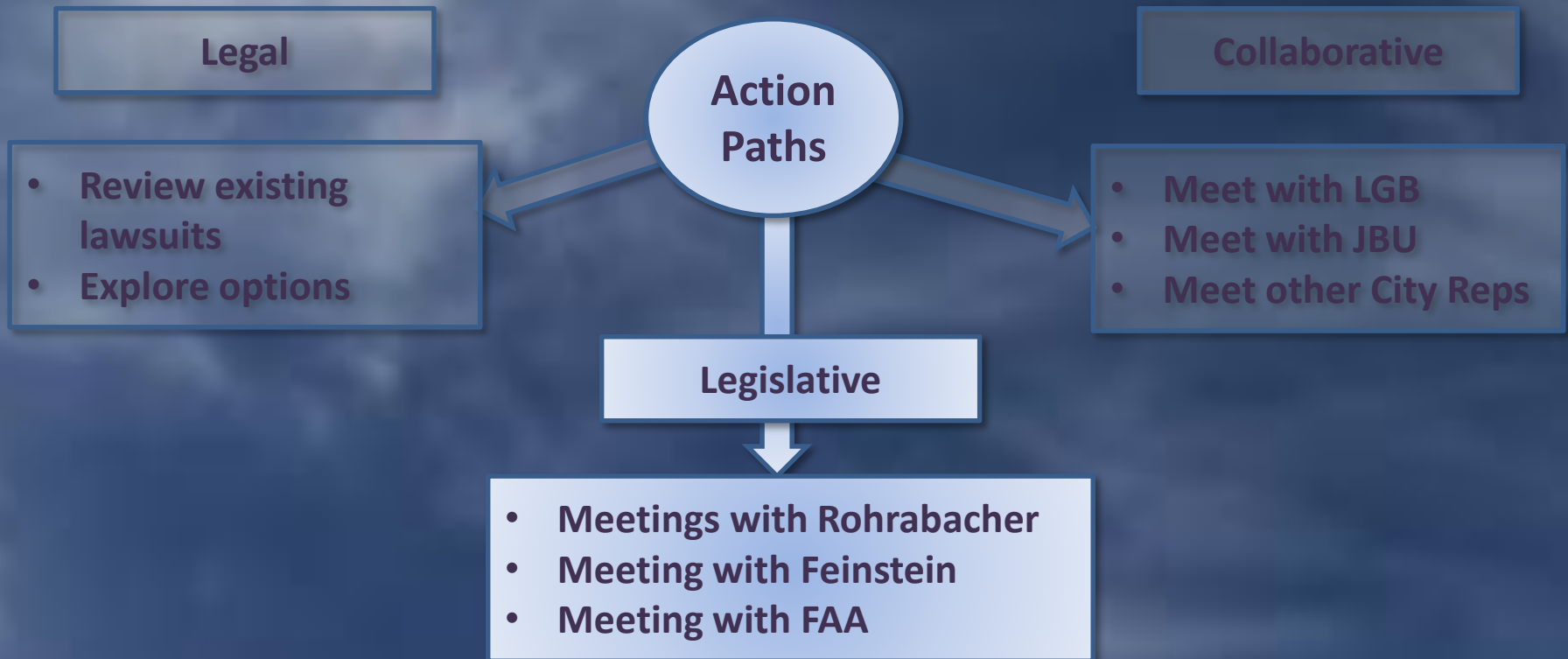
The Environmental Assessment

❖ FAA Timelines

- EA announced in January 2014
- Draft EA released June 2015
 - ✓ Announcement in local papers
 - ✓ Provided 30-day comment period
- Comment period extended twice; total 90 days
 - ✓ 33 public briefings
- FONSI issued Aug 2016
 - ✓ 60 day response filing deadline



Pathways to Remediation



Legislative Actions

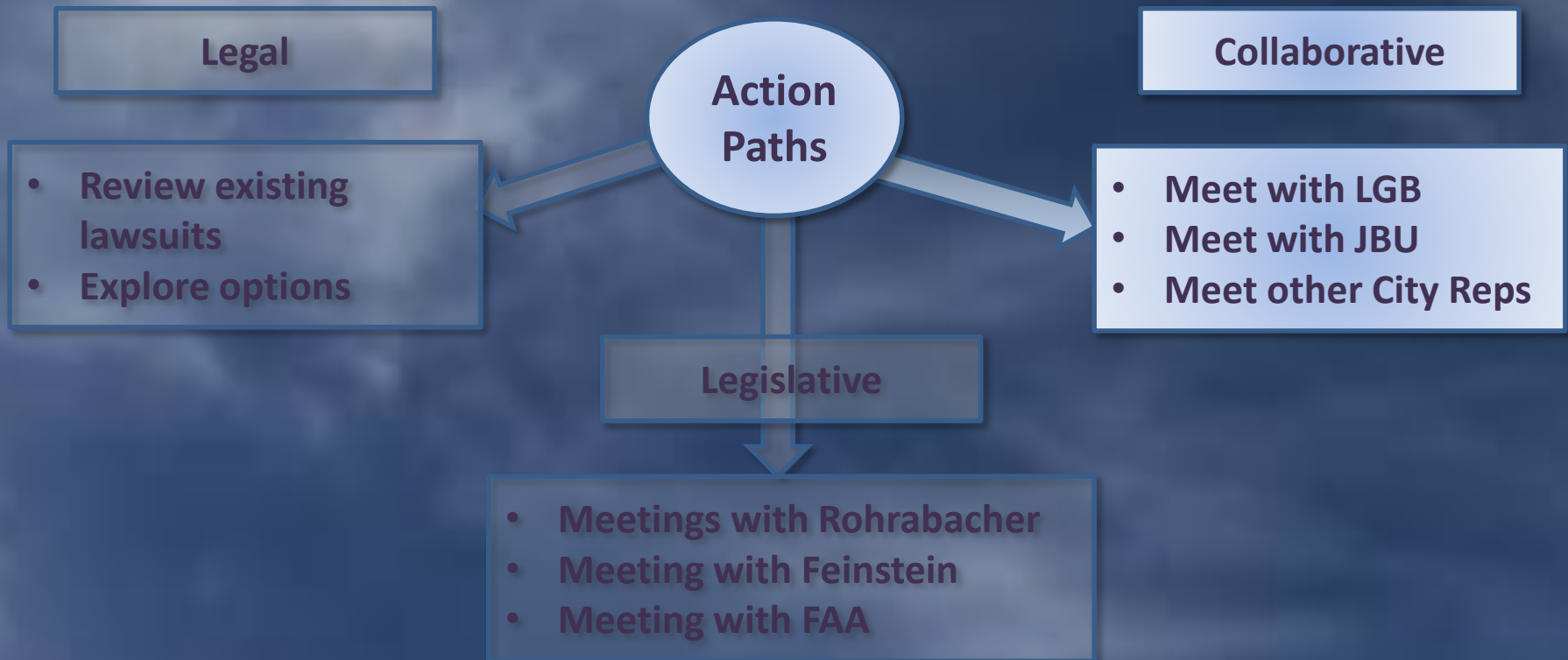
❖ Met with Congressman Rohrabacher

- Drafted letters to the FAA and Jet Blue CEO
- FAA re-authorization bill every 5 years
 - ✓ Introduced 4 amendments
 - ✓ Unfortunately bill adopted without amendments
- Introduced HR 6558 the “NO NOISE” Bill
 - ✓ Currently in committee

❖ Met with Senator Feinstein’s Staff

- Drafted letter to the FAA
- Senate has their version FAA re-authorization bill

Pathways to Remediation



Collaborative Actions

❖ Several Meetings

- Long Beach airport noise personnel
- John Wayne airport noise personnel
- Jet Blue & Southwest Chief Pilots

❖ Met with FAA NextGen Program Manager

- Indicated the FAA could consider local solutions

Summary

- ❖ Formed a working group to investigate the noise issue
 - ✓ Investigated legal aspects
 - ✓ Investigated legislative aspects
 - ✓ Initiated collaborative discussions
- ❖ Recommend a Jet Noise Commission
 - ✓ Continue to track & push for resolution

