I submitted comments to the airport planning committee regarding environmental impacts and received the following response: "While NEPA and CEQA analyses are an essential part of the planning process, we are not yet at that point in the project schedule. City and airport leadership haven't yet selected a final direction for consideration. Once they choose their preferred "alternative," the team will conduct the environmental analyses and release them to the public."

I am concerned that environmental impacts are not part of the initial analyses as required by the FAA to be included for consideration to select a preferred alternative. Decision makers should have information on the environmental impacts on all identified alternatives when selecting a preferred alternative.

I experience the impacts on a regular basis. When at the EOS gym near the airport, there are times when the smell of jet engine exhaust is heavy in the surrounding area. I urge you to advise the airport committee to consider environmental impacts of all submitted alternatives so a more informed decision can be made.

References:

FAA Order 1050.1, Environmental Impacts: Policies and Procedures FAA's agency-wide NEPA procedures:

It is essential to conduct an environmental impact assessment (EIA) **before starting any airport development or expansion**. An EIA is a systematic process that identifies, evaluates, and mitigates the potential environmental effects of a proposed project.

Emissions from aircraft and ground vehicles, as well as from power use in buildings, all contributing to climate change and local air quality issues. Noise from aircraft for local residents. Potential to damage local wildlife and habitats and water courses.

Primary environmental issues associated with the operation of airports are GHG emissions, noise pollution, land utilization, waste, and congestion.

Thank you for your consideration,

Scott Connelly

Palm Springs