A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF ALUM ROCK UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT SUPPORTING THE CLOSURE AND REPURPOSING OF REID-HILLVIEW AIRPORT

Resolution #17-20/21

WHEREAS, the Alum Rock Union School District (ARUSD) desires to provide a physically and emotionally safe school environment that allows all students access and opportunities to the district's academic and educational support programs, services, and activities;

WHEREAS, Having dangerous activities, such as an active airport, immediately adjacent to a school site or in close proximity to several other school sites, runs counter to the aforementioned goal;

WHEREAS, Reid's Hillview Airport started as a small 60 acre one runway airport which was then expanded to 180 acres after the County purchased the airport in the early 1960s;

WHEREAS, the Reid-Hillview Airport lies within the territorial jurisdiction of the ARUSD and is immediately adjacent to the ARUSD's Donald J. Meyer Elementary School;

WHEREAS, Donald J. Meyer Elementary School was already built and in place when the County finalized the airport's expansion;

WHEREAS, East San Jose educational leaders warned of the dangers and hazards of building an airport near schools that had been built or were already designated to be built. Then East Side Union High School District Superintendent Frank Fiscalini was quoted in the San Jose News arguing, "before the planning commission that an expanded airport would be a hazard to children in adjacent schools…and that flight patterns would bring planes close to existing and planned schools.";

WHEREAS, the City Planning Director and Planning commission expressed their opposition to the Reid Hillview Airport expansion;

WHEREAS, the community was robbed of 10 acres of parkland and access to a section of Cunningham Ave when the road was closed for airport expansion;

WHEREAS, of the four zip codes in San Jose that were identified as having Blood Lead Levels (BLLs) at and above 4.5 micrograms per deciliter, for children less than age 6, the limit the federal government deems safe, three were located in around the flight path of Reid Hillview Airport;

WHEREAS, it is common to see the FAA and National Transportation Safety Board investigating accidents in and around Reid-Hillview Airport, some just a few feet from our schools and at times onto the homes residents or locations where our residents shop;

WHEREAS, continued activity at Reid-Hillview Airport threatens the health and safety of the children of Alum Rock;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the ARUSD Board stands firmly in support of the measures that the County of Santa Clara has undertaken to repurpose the airport lands;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that, in light of the continuing health and safety risks posed by the Reid-Hillview Airport, the ARUSD Board, in no uncertain terms, seeks the prompt closure of Reid-Hillview Airport at a date no later than when federal grant obligations have been satisfied.

Ayes_____ Noes_____ Absent_____ Abstain_____

Board of Trustees:

Ernesto Bejarano, President _____

Corina Herrera-Loera, Vice President _____

Andrés Quintero, Clerk _____

Linda Chavez, Member _____

Dolores Marquez-Frausto, Member _____

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing resolution was duly and regularly introduced, passed, and adopted by the members of the Board of Trustees of the Alum Rock Union Elementary School District at a public meeting of said Board held on November 12, 2020.

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Hilaria Bauer, Ph.D., Superintendent Date