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### **C4FA Declares Victory for Carlsbad Residents' Control of Palomar Airport Expansion**

Judge rules that the City of Carlsbad must approve all changes to Palomar Airport per the City's 1978 Annexation Agreement with the County and improve the inadequate noise monitoring. All approvals ordered to be set aside.

Carlsbad, CA/March 3, 2019 — In a victory for the residents of Carlsbad, non-profit community organization, [Citizens for a Friendly Airport \(C4FA\)](http://c4fa.org), prevailed in a legal battle with the County of San Diego over the control of the future of McClellan-Palomar Airport. The judge [ruled](#) in agreement with C4FA's lawsuit, saying based on the County's annexation agreement with the City of Carlsbad in 1978, the County must abide by the City of Carlsbad's Conditional Use Permit (CUP) process before any changes may be instituted at the airport. The County had claimed they were legally immune from the City process and that the County plans pre-empted any City of Carlsbad restrictions or oversight. The judge also found that the Plan's noise monitoring "study area and methodology were inadequate." The [second ruling](#) stated that all approvals for the 2018 McClellan-Palomar Airport Master Plan Update must be set aside.

"The judge's ruling states: the [County voluntarily and intentionally relinquished its immunities with regards to the airport](#)," commented Hope Nelson, C4FA President. "The County agreed to give the City of Carlsbad final say on the airport in exchange for annexing the airport into the City in 1978. This is a huge victory for the residents of Carlsbad and many North County communities. The City of Carlsbad, not the County, will now determine whether or not, or if so, how, the airport expands. We anticipate that the Carlsbad City Council will be consistent with and adhere to the [Airport Resolutions](#) passed in 2019." Ms. Nelson added, "C4FA will be asking the County Board of Supervisors to refrain from further legal action on this issue, accept the Court's invalidation of the McClellan-Palomar Airport Master Plan Update, adopt the CA Public Utilities Commission definition of Airport Expansion, and commit to retaining the airport's current B-II Design Classification. In addition, the Court ruled that the County must revamp how they measure the impact of airport noise on the community. As we've all known for years, the current methods are woefully lacking."

"The County tried to unilaterally ignore an agreement made with the City of Carlsbad when the City agreed to annex the Airport. The County has also been ignoring residential noise complaints for years. The court ruled that the County simply cannot do that. The residents of Carlsbad prevailed in this decision," stated Cory Briggs, Attorney representing Citizens for a Friendly Airport.

#### **About Citizens for a Friendly Airport**

Citizens for a Friendly Airport is a non-partisan, all-volunteer, non-profit enterprise organized to educate Carlsbad and surrounding communities about important McClellan-Palomar Airport issues impacting the character and quality of life in North County. C4FA is dedicated to bringing transparency to the airport planning processes; advocate on behalf of environmental issues; respect the rights and history of the Carlsbad community; and to ensure a safe, functional, and fiscally sound McClellan-Palomar Airport. ###