STATEMENT BY ADAM SCHIFF

Statement for the Congressional Record

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure's Subcommittee on Aviation March 17, 2022 hearing: "Aviation Noise: Measuring Progress in Addressing Community Concerns"

Madame Speaker, I rise today to applaud the leadership of the Hollywood Burbank Airport, the Southern San Fernando Valley Airplane Noise Task Force, and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee on Aviation for their efforts to listen to communities and find and enact solutions to alleviate the impacts of aviation noise across our nation.

Like many communities, my constituents live with a disruptive amount of aviation noise — which has steadily increased in recent years. My district is home to some of the most unique cultural and entertainment sites in Southern California, as well as the Hollywood Burbank Airport. I have been committed to community-led efforts to mitigate disruptive airplane and helicopter noise for communities living along flight paths near these attractions.

My colleagues and I have exhaustively studied these issues and have diligently listened to community input. Aircraft noise continues to pose a threat to quality of life issues for many of our constituents. I have supported and championed legislation to allow airports to impose community-driven recommendations for noise control, such as nighttime curfews that would allow residents to sleep peacefully. In March 2019, I joined Representative Brad Sherman, Senator Dianne Feinstein, and now-Vice President Kamala Harris in formally asking the FAA to lead community roundtables to address noise issues. Community engagement programming is the most appropriate path forward in addressing mitigation strategies. Communities have asked for the FAA to establish and sustain effective methods to measure, track, and investigate aircraft noise, aircraft noise complaints, and the environmental impact of aircraft noise and noise pollution.

I applaud the work and legislative recommendations from my constituents and community organizations, such as the Los Angeles Area Helicopter Noise Coalition (LAAHNC). Our communities should not have to face the burden of bothersome aviation noise. Their experiences are concerning and we cannot continue to ignore this issue. Urgent action must be taken. I will continue to work together with affected communities, the Hollywood Burbank Airport, the FAA, and the U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO) to achieve meaningful relief for San Fernando Valley. Thank you, and I urge the Committee and my fellow Members of Congress to work on solutions to this problem that put our communities first.