

ATTACHMENT 1

Option 1: Open the West-Side Fly Field with Modifications

- a. Proposed open hours for the fly field are recommended as:
 - i. Annually, October thru March, or the 6 months of the year outside of bird nesting season.
 - ii. Three days a week, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. with option of scheduling Saturday events in coordination with other park activities.
 - iii. The City reserves the right to close the field at any time.
 - iv. There must be an on-site monitor at all times the field is open, by either City staff or designated HSS individual, with reporting and tracking of use and any infractions.
- b. Flight parameters would be modified to reduce noise, size, and speed of planes, and drone use.
 - i. Standards used at other fly fields and by the AMA for this hobby would be referenced for final rules.
 - ii. Consultation with natural resource experts (avian) and cultural resource experts (Native Americans) will be done when determining acceptable noise levels.
 - iii. Consideration of proximity of schools, residences, and protected species.
 - iv. Only permit plane types that meet the agreed upon standards.
- c. To addresses concerns of environmental impacts:
 - i. The fly field will be closed during bird nesting and migratory periods (March to September).
 - ii. An authorized (permitted) biologist and City staff ONLY will be allowed to gather equipment that is downed in protected habitats. No trespassing into vernal pools is permissible by any other individual, under any circumstances. The flyer is to report the incident to designated staff (TBD) and schedule the retrieval when staff/biologist is available to do so. Anyone entering a vernal pool or otherwise posted protected area will have his or her flying permit revoked.
- d. Flying field supporting documents will be revised to reflect all modifications before re-opening the fly field to permitted flyers. Staff estimates preparation of new supporting documents and the permitting process will take approximately six to eight months depending on the scope of changes. The documents needing revision include:
 - i. The City and Harbor Soaring Society Agreement
 - ii. Fly Field Rules
 - iii. Safety procedures
 - iv. Permit Instructions and Process to Issue Permits
 - v. Potential adjustments to the Municipal Code
- e. Modifications to enforcement of regulations governing flying activity would include:

- i. Having an on-site monitor at all times the field is open, by either City staff or designated HSS individual, for non-compliance and public / environmental incidences.
 - ii. Encouragement of user group to “self-police” against non-compliant behavior.
 - iii. The proposed open hours for the fly field are limited.
 - iv. Enforcement and site incidences will be recorded and reviewed regularly. If adverse impacts continue to be observed, the City reserves the right to further modify or limit the use accordingly.

- f. The Harbor Soaring Society must resolve the following before entering into a new enforceable agreement with the City:
 - i. Verification of the Club’s tax status as a California non-profit organization and insurance certification. (The Parks, Arts, and Community Services Commission requested at their May 27, 2021 meeting that non-profit partners be registered as a 501c 3 organization. The City Attorney’s office has expressed concerns regarding entering into an agreement without clarification of the status.
 - ii. Verification of the Club’s agreements, requirements, and transactions with both the AMA and the FAA / Santa Ana Airport. These documents will remain on file with the City at all times and HSS will automatically update the files when document changes occur.
 - iii. In the new HSS/City Agreement, it should be a requirement that HSS agree to provide more opportunity for public education and engagement.

- g. Sea and Sage Audubon bird surveys will be continued and comparisons made between fly field closure counts (during COVID 19 conditions) and counts under these new modified open conditions.