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**Hope Nelson (760) 804-1945  
c4fa.info@gmail.com**

## **Citizens for a Friendly Airport Files Lawsuit Against County of San Diego**

Due to a lack of transparency in the planning process and deficient environmental studies, c4fa filed suit to protect North County residents

**Carlsbad, CA / November 29, 2018** — [Citizens for a Friendly Airport \(c4fa\)](http://c4fa.org) a non-profit 501(c)4 organization, has filed suit in the Superior Court of the State of California County of San Diego-Central Division, against the County of San Diego. The subject of this lawsuit is known as the McClellan-Palomar Airport Master Plan Update which was based on the Final Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR) for the project and was approved by the County Board of Supervisors (BOS) on October 10, 2018. The suit alleges that certain actions and approvals related to the project violated California environmental and other laws.

“The approved Updated McClellan-Palomar Airport Master Plan appears to be nothing more than an attempt by the County of San Diego to turn McClellan-Palomar Airport into a large regional airport to offload capacity from San Diego International Airport – an objective that was hidden from the public during the entire planning process,” states Hope Nelson, spokesperson for c4fa. “In fact, she adds, [“comments made by three BOS members](#) at the October 10<sup>th</sup> meeting clearly demonstrate this intention. Therefore, after great consideration, because of a lack of transparency in the planning process and deficient environmental studies, Citizens for a Friendly Airport (c4fa) was forced to file this lawsuit to protect the residents of North San Diego County.”

For more than a year, on behalf of North County residents, Citizens for a Friendly Airport attempted to work with the County to clarify the purpose and need for the proposed airport expansion. Over 1100 comments were submitted to the County by the public during the first issue of the draft PEIR. More comments were submitted during the second partial re-issue of the document. Comments were also submitted by c4fa members and were extensive. Despite these efforts, and with continued lack of transparency, on October 10, 2018, the McClellan-Palomar Airport Master Plan and PEIR were passed by the County Board of Supervisors.

Against their own County Staff recommendations, the BOS voted unanimously 4-0 (Supervisor Gaspar recused) to pass the largest and most aggressive airport expansion option presented. Citizens for a Friendly Airport opposes the project and challenges the County for its violation of CEQA and other laws. C4fa is represented by Cory Briggs of Briggs Law Corporation.

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. ###