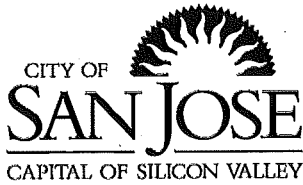


SENT TO COUNCIL:

Distributed on:  
NOV 27 2012  
City Manager's Office



# Memorandum

**TO:** HONORABLE MAYOR  
AND CITY COUNCIL

**FROM:** William F. Sherry, A.A.E.

**SUBJECT:** STATUS OF AIRLINE ONE ENGINE-  
INOPERATIVE (OEI) ISSUES

**DATE:** November 26, 2012

Approved

Date

11/27/12

## INFORMATION

At its meeting of November 6, 2012, Council discussed zoning ordinance amendments for building heights in the vicinity of Mineta San Jose International Airport. At that meeting, Council directed staff to:

1. Update information on airline one engine inoperative (OEI) procedures over Downtown; and
2. Check with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) on potential federal policy or regulatory changes regarding the OEI issue.

On airline OEI procedures used for south departures over Downtown, staff information as of 2008, showed that three of our then-incumbent airlines adopted a westerly turn procedure toward the Diridon area (OEI "West Corridor") to avoid existing obstructions in the Downtown core, while all the other incumbent airlines utilized standard straight-out procedures over the Downtown core. Staff is now in the process of contacting our current (and new) airlines to update this information and report back to Council. While staff will update our records on airline OEI procedures, it is not anticipated there will be much of a change from the information obtained in 2008.

Staff has also contacted the FAA to ascertain the status of its pilot study of five major airports with OEI issues (Boston, Miami, Washington/National, Las Vegas and Phoenix) and resulting recommendations. The focus of the FAA study was to determine how to best address the need for OEI airspace protection on a national level.

The FAA has confirmed that its pilot study was completed, but not yet available for public release. The FAA is considering issuance of a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) in the *Federal Register* presenting a policy or regulatory proposal on OEI in the spring/summer of 2013. The results of the FAA pilot study would be released as part of the NPRM. The specific

HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

November 26, 2012

**Subject: Status of Airline One Engine-Inoperative Issues**

Page 2

federal policy/regulatory changes will likely be formulated through a rule making committee and could take several years after the issuance of the NPRM.

Based on the FAA's comments, it appears the City will not see federal policy or regulatory guidance on the OEI issue in the near-term future.

/s/

William F. Sherry, A.A.E.

Director of Aviation

For questions please contact Dave Maas at 408-392-3630.