



## Legislation Text

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File #: 23-143, Version: 1

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*Report Prepared by: Frank Quintero, Deputy City Manager, on behalf of Matthew Serratto, Mayor*

**SUBJECT:** Direction Regarding Advanced Air's Request to Change Southern California Flight Service from Los Angeles International Airport to Hawthorne Municipal Airport

### REPORT IN BRIEF

Advanced Air's CEO Levi Stockton submitted a letter requesting that the City of Merced consider allowing the airline to transfer its Southern California flight from Los Angeles International Airport (LAX) to Hawthorne Municipal Airport (HHM). The request was previously heard by Council on December 5, 2022.

### RECOMMENDATION:

**City Council** - Provide staff direction regarding Advanced Air's request to change flight service from Los Angeles International Airport to Hawthorne Municipal Airport.

### ALTERNATIVES

1. Direct staff to prepare a Letter to the Department of Transportation supporting Advanced Air's request; or,
2. Deny; or,
3. Refer to staff for reconsideration of specific items (specific items to be addressed in the motion); or,
4. Continue to a future meeting (date and time to be specified in the motion).

### DISCUSSION

Advanced Air's CEO Levi Stockton submitted a letter requesting flight service from Merced be transitioned from Los Angeles International Airport to Hawthorne Municipal Airport (Attachment 1). According to Mr. Stockton, supply chain constraints, increased fuel and labor costs, and other costs have substantially impacted overall operations.

A report was prepared by Advanced Air providing details regarding the airline's Merced operations including results from a customer survey for review (Attachment 2.)

Advanced Air provides commercial airline from Merced Yosemite Regional Airport to Los Angeles International Airport and Harry Reid/Las Vegas International Airport via the Essential Air Service program which is overseen by the U.S. Department of Transportation. The request from Advanced Air does not affect service to Las Vegas.

Donny Sandusky, Executive Vice President for Advanced Air, spoke before Council at the meeting of Monday, December 5, 2022. Mr. Sandusky answered questions from the City Council and was asked to return to Council with more information regarding the security at Hawthorne Municipal

Airport.

**ATTACHMENTS**

1. Letter from Advanced Airlines dated November 7, 2022
2. Report and Guest Survey Results