



# OAK Airport Expansion Plan Would Expand Pollution, Sickness, Traffic, Noise

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People in Oakland and the East Bay appreciate Oakland airport (OAK) for its convenience and manageable size. Programs to address disproportionate health and environmental impacts on residents of East Oakland are in the works.

But now Oakland and the East Bay are threatened by a so-called “modernization” proposal from the Port of Oakland that is really an unnecessary and environmentally harmful expansion. It does little to address health impacts, greenhouse gas emissions and other pollution, traffic or noise effects.

## The Port Must Go Back to the Drawing Board, Listen to Public Input and Revise Its Plan!

### Details on the Expansion Proposal

The Port released its plan in 2021 and then published a Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) in July 2023. It would increase the number of gates by 55% (16 new gates), pulling in more passengers and traffic. It also calls for extensive new and unnecessary facilities construction. What it does not do is include “mitigation” measures to reduce pollution and health effects, in line with federal and state climate goals.

Public comments filed in October 2023 by citizen groups, government agencies and the City of Alameda, blasted the report, saying it does not meet basic legal and technical requirements.

**“All in all, the Airport expansion project hurts far too many groups, from adjacent East Oakland communities to airport workers and communities under flight paths.”**

*Stop OAK Coalition Comments on the Port’s Draft Environmental Impact Report*

### Harmful Impacts of the Current Plan

- MORE greenhouse gas emissions
- MORE asthma, heart disease and other health effects for the people of East Oakland
- MORE traffic, noise and emissions
- MORE noise over flight path areas in Oakland, Alameda, San Leandro and Berkeley

### Who Would Pay for Expansion and Who Would Benefit?

The Port has not released a budget or a financing plan for this expansion. But it would likely include tax dollars intended for sustainable transportation projects that would reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Southwest Airlines shareholders and construction companies would benefit.

## What Can People in the East Bay Do?

Learn more and sign up for updates at <https://www.stopoakexpansion.org/>

Sign a petition to the Port of Oakland at <https://act.sierraclub.org/actions/SanFranciscoBay?actionId=AR0364986>

Contact the Mayor at [officeofthemayor@oaklandca.gov](mailto:officeofthemayor@oaklandca.gov) and District 4 Council Member Janani Ramachandran at [District4@oaklandca.gov](mailto:District4@oaklandca.gov). Ask them to oppose the expansion plan and push for sustainable alternatives and measures to address harmful health impacts on people in East Oakland.



### What the Experts are Saying

#### Alameda County Health Care Services Agency, Public Health Department

“We recommend that the EIR include a comprehensive analysis of the public health impacts of the Proposed Project, such as a Health Impact Assessment.”

“A “business as usual” approach to this proposed development would lead to burdens on communities that have historically borne the brunt of health, environmental and economic inequity.”

#### Bay Area Air Quality Management District

“Additional information is needed to help the Air District and the public determine if the environmental impacts have been adequately measured, and whether all possible mitigation measures have been included to reduce or eliminate impacts on air quality, the climate and community health.”

#### SEIU United Service Workers West

“This project as it is currently proposed and the DEIR as currently written both fall woefully short of offering adequate redress to OAK’s most vulnerable stakeholders, while doing an excellent job of advancing the business interests of the airport’s most dominant carrier. The Port of Oakland and the City need to do much better.....”

“The airport’s “Modernization” Project turns out to be anything but modern, and the development as proposed would permanently add growth-inducing infrastructure to OAK based on state policies that were outdated even before the DEIR was released.”

#### City of Alameda”

“The absence of an alternatives analysis renders the DEIR legally inadequate.”

“We believe many of the goals of the Project could be achieved without an increase in gates and should be explored further in the Port’s planning and environmental analysis.”