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In reply, please refer to:
SHPO-2013-0861

December 12, 2014

Glen A. Martin, Regional Administrator
Western-Pacific Regional Office
Federal Aviation Administration
P.O. Box 92007
Los Angeles, CA 90009

RE: Federal Aviation Administration
Additional departure and arrival routes at Sky Harbor International Airport for
Global Positioning System equipped aircraft.

Dear Mr. Martin:

The State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) on August, 26, 2013, concurred with the recommendation made by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) that the above referenced undertaking would have no adverse effect on any historical property listed, or eligible to be listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

Since implementation of the revised flight routes, our office has been made aware of considerable concern by residents of local historic districts within the flight path's area of potential effect that the level of noise has become detrimental to the quality of life within these areas. Although we do not question the accuracy of the evaluation FAA submitted to this office, it appears that the experience of residents of these neighborhoods is quite different from what was expected. Our office, which lacks the technical expertise to independently appraise the FAA's evaluation, had no basis for anticipating this result.

Given the concerns raised by the public, the Arizona SHPO requests that the FAA reopen for consideration the question of the new flight path's effect on historic properties. We request that FAA study the effects of the new noise pattern in cooperation with the City of Phoenix, representatives of residents of the affected areas, and any other interested parties appropriate for consultation under the federal historic preservation regulations, 36 CFR Part 800.

If you have any further questions or requests, you may contact me by e-mail at wcollins@azstateparks.gov.

Sincerely,

William S. Collins

William S. Collins, Ph.D.
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer
State Historic Preservation

cc: Michelle Dodds, City of Phoenix Historic Preservation Officer