

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
SAN FRANCISCO



LONDON N. BREED
MAYOR

April 8, 2024

Barbara Leslie
President, Oakland Board of Port Commissioners
30 Water Street
Oakland, CA 94607

RE: Proposed Renaming of Metropolitan Oakland International Airport – OPPOSE

Dear President Leslie,

On behalf of the City and County of San Francisco, I write to oppose the proposed renaming of Metropolitan Oakland International Airport (OAK) to “San Francisco Bay Oakland International Airport,” scheduled for consideration at the April 11, 2024 meeting of the Oakland Board of Port Commissioners.

The San Francisco International Airport (SFO) has operated since 1927 and its name is immediately recognizable to visitors from all over the world. Last year, 50 million passengers walked through its doors and experienced the results of the significant investments we have made to make SFO the airport it is today. The creation of the International Terminal over twenty years ago, along with major upgrades to almost all SFO terminals, attract the level of international and domestic flights that draw Airlines that want to operate and grow at SFO.

Given SFO’s stellar brand standing and associated name recognition in air transportation, this misguided proposal will cause confusion for the public, either through a misunderstanding of physical location or the airport’s relationship to SFO. As a major international gateway, this concern would be compounded when considering an audience of travelers for whom English is not their first language.

We encourage Oakland Airport to follow a similar model to SFO and grow its airport services rather than adding “San Francisco” to its name. Oakland is a great city with a rich history. Many of my friends live there, many of our city workers commute from there, and I always enjoy visiting our neighbor across the bay. It is rich in culture and wonderful people and has its own unique identity. It does not need the name San Francisco as part of its airport to stand out.

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SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 94102-4681
TELEPHONE: (415) 554-6141

I formally oppose Oakland International Airport changing its name in any way that would incorporate "San Francisco" into its airport name.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "London Breed". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke at the beginning.

London N. Breed
Mayor