

OAKLAND COMMUNITY FORUM

Noise News
July 2018

Christian Valdes
Landrum & Brown

FAA Reauthorization

HOUSE PASSES FAA REAUTHORIZATION BILL WITH AT LEAST 10 NOISE AMENDMENTS

By a vote of 393 to 13, the House of Representatives today passed H.R.4, the FAA Reauthorization Act of 2018, a five-year bill that includes a major subtitle on aircraft noise as well as at least 10 amendments addressing noise.

Amendments and Provisions for:

- Study the effect of noise on communities and “consider harm or benefits to businesses”
- Add Seattle to study of regional areas
- Study to cover the relationship between aircraft speed, noise, safety, airport capacity, travel time, and fuel burn
- Protect and continue the FAA’s CLEAN II program
- GAO to study whether air traffic controllers are trained on noise and health impact mitigation. Prevalence of vectoring

FAA Reauthorization

HOUSE PASSES FAA REAUTHORIZATION BILL WITH AT LEAST 10 NOISE AMENDMENTS

By a vote of 393 to 13, the House of Representatives today passed H.R.4, the FAA Reauthorization Act of 2018, a five-year bill that includes a major subtitle on aircraft noise as well as at least 10 amendments addressing noise.

Amendments and Provisions for:

- The FAA pilot study on Stage 2 aircraft
- The FAA to develop a noise research and mitigation strategy
- The FAA to evaluate alternative metrics to DNL 65 and study the use of actual noise measurements

FAA Reauthorization

- Cost benefit analysis of phasing out Stage 3 aircraft
- Study “incremental health impacts”
- Consider RNAV dispersion
- FAA to improve its community involvement
- Possible revision to land use compatibility guidelines
- FAA to lead civil supersonic aircraft certification and policies
- FAA’s Environmental R&D program remains intact

FAA Annoyance Survey

FAA WILL NOT SAY WHEN RESULTS OF ANNOYANCE SURVEY WILL BE OUT

FAA won't say when the results of the Neighborhood Environmental Survey it has been conducting around 20 U.S. airports since 2014 will be released.

The survey results, which will determine if the agency needs to update its 40-year-old aircraft noise policy and the dose/response curve it uses to estimate community annoyance to aircraft noise, were expected in June.

- **FAA has requested more time**

FAA Noise Complaint Portal

FAA AGAIN SEEKS COMMENT ON NOISE COMPLAINT PORTAL

On April 27, the FAA issued its second notice inviting the public to comment on the agency's intention to seek Office of Management and Budget approval to establish an online aircraft noise complaint and inquiry system called the FAA Noise Portal.

- Some comments were received
- Use data to post FAQ's on regional FAA websites
- Duplication of efforts could occur
- FAA will provide airport noise office links

FAA vs Georgetown

GEORGETOWN PLAINTIFFS SEEK REHEARING OF RULING DISMISSING THEIR LAWSUIT

The Citizens Association of Georgetown, neighboring community groups in the historic district of Washington, DC, and Georgetown University are not giving up their legal battle with FAA over a new NextGen flight path out of Reagan National Airport that moved aircraft over them.

At issue in the case, *Citizens Association of Georgetown, et al. v. FAA* (No. 15-1285), is whether actual community involvement – not merely a legal notice of a study in a newspaper – is required before the FAA can move major flight paths as it implements NextGen airspace changes across the country.

DOJ SAYS REHEARING OF GEORGETOWN CASE IS NOT WARRANTED

The U.S. Department of Justice told the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit on June 14 that no grounds exist for reconsidering a ruling by a three-judge panel of the Court dismissing a lawsuit challenging FAA's approval of flight path changes for aircraft departing Reagan National Airport.

FAA at PHX

FAA IMPLEMENTS REPLACEMENT NEXT-GEN DEPARTURE ROUTES

On May 24, the FAA implemented nine replacement Area Navigation (RNAV) Standard Instrument Departure (SID) procedures for aircraft departing west out of Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport.

The new departure procedures, which also apply to aircraft that turn south after departing to the west, are intended to provide relief from aircraft noise by approximating the westerly departure routes in place prior to September 2014 when FAA implemented new NextGen RNAV departure procedures out of Sky Harbor.

- **Step Two: FAA will get feedback from Phoenix area residents**

FAA at Cleveland/Detroit

FAA CONCLUDES METROPLEX PROJECT WILL HAVE NO SIGNIFICANT NOISE IMPACT

Extensive airspace changes to make the Cleveland/Detroit Metroplex airspace more efficient will have no significant environmental impact, including on noise and air quality, FAA concluded in its Final Environmental Assessment of the project issued on June 1.

FAA issued a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) and Record of Decision (ROD) for the project, which will affect two major airports – Detroit Metropolitan Wayne County Airport and Cleveland Hopkins International Airport – and 10 satellite airports in a study area that includes all or parts of 58 counties in four states: Michigan, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia.

- June through September implementation
- Some people may notice new routes
- 60-Day window ends this month

FAA at BWI/DCA

STATE OF MD FILES PETITIONS CHALLENGING FLIGHT PATH CHANGES MADE AT BWI, DCA

On June 26, Maryland Governor Larry Hogan (R) made good on his promise to challenge airspace changes at BWI International and Washington Reagan National airports that have significantly increased noise impact on Maryland residents located under new concentrated NextGen flight paths.

The State of Maryland filed a petition with the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit seeking review of FAA changes to the approach flight path for Runway 19 at Reagan National (DCA) and asserting that FAA had failed to conduct the appropriate environmental review of them.

- Lawsuits were filed beyond 60-day window
- MD seeks supplemental analysis

NEPA Update

CEQ MULLING MAJOR UPDATE OF RULES IMPLEMENTING NEPA

The White House Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) announced June 20 that it is considering embarking on a major update of its implementing regulations for the procedural provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), which was enacted in 1970.

- **CEQ seeks public comment on NEPA**
- **The deadline is this Friday**
- **Should NEPA terms be revised?**
- **Environmental groups fear environmental law will be gutted by Trump administration**

FLIGHT TESTS SHOW NASA TECH REDUCES AIRFRAME LANDING NOISE BY OVER 70%

A series of NASA flight tests has successfully demonstrated technologies that achieve a significant reduction in the noise generated by aircraft and heard by communities near airports.

The Acoustic Research Measurement (ARM) flights, which concluded in May, at NASA's Armstrong Flight Research Center in California, tested technology to address airframe noise, or noise that is produced by non-propulsive parts of the aircraft, during landing. The flights successfully combined several technologies to achieve a greater than 70 percent reduction in airframe noise.

Reaction to Low Sonic Booms

In related news, NASA announced on June 29 that it will use an F/A-18 aircraft flying over Galveston, Texas, in November to produce both loud sonic booms and quieter booms that future supersonic aircraft are expected make.

The flights are being made to determine the public's reaction to the so-called "low-booms" from new-design SSTs. Later tests of public reaction to low-boom SSTs are planned for 2023 with NASA's X-59 QueSST aircraft, which is currently being built by Lockheed Martin.

Heathrow

FLY QUIET, GREEN RANKINGS OUT; NEW NOISE ACTION PLAN BEGINS

On May 15, London Heathrow Airport issued its latest Fly Quiet and Green Program rankings as it released details of a public consultation on its new Noise Action Plan.

Noise Action Plan

As part of Heathrow's commitment to be a global leader in reducing the impact of aircraft noise on local communities, the airport produces a Noise Action Plan every five years setting tough new objectives to further reduce aircraft noise.

SoCal Metroplex

DOJ REMINDS APPEALS COURT IT MUST DEFER TO FAA TECHNICAL DETERMINATIONS IN ROD

The U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit must defer to FAA's technical determinations in its Record of Decision (ROD) approving the Southern California Metroplex Project, including FAA's use of the controversial DNL noise metric to assess significant noise impact, the U.S. Department of Justice asserted in a May 15 brief to the Court.

No Duty to Reduce Aircraft Noise

DOJ also asserted that FAA has no specific statutory duty to reduce aircraft noise when approving new air traffic procedures.

“Vision 100 does not require that every new next-generation air-traffic procedure reduce noise and air pollution,” DOJ told the Court.

Adams County vs DEN

ADAMS COUNTY SUES DENVER OVER NOISE MEASUREMENTS

The Adams County, Colorado, Board of Commissioners filed a lawsuit on July 2 alleging that the City and County of Denver has used insufficient methods to measure violations of noise levels from Denver International Airport agreed to in a 1988 Intergovernmental Agreement that allowed construction of the airport.

- Adams County doesn't believe that DEN is monitoring correctly
- Adams County has received over \$40 million in noise violation payments
- With new aircraft and air traffic technology there are less violations
- Adams County doesn't benefit financially as before

Emissions

Zero Emission Vehicle

NEW FAA REAUTHORIZATION BILL RETAINS ZERO EMISSION VEHICLE, AVGAS PROVISIONS

On April 13, the bi-partisan leadership of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee introduced the FAA Reauthorization Act of 2018 (H.R. 4), a five-year reauthorization of the FAA that retains provisions addressing unleaded avgas and FAA's zero-emission vehicle program included in an earlier FAA reauthorization bill.

- **Pilot program may use AIP grants or PFC revenue for vehicles**

Air Canada Uses Biofuel

AIR CANADA SAVED 160 TONS OF CO2 ON EARTH DAY FLIGHTS

Air Canada saved 160 tons of carbon dioxide on 22 domestic flights on Earth Day, April 22, through an innovative biofuel demonstration project at Toronto-Pearson Airport.

Air Canada is a leading partner in the project – coordinated by Canada's Biojet Supply Chain Initiative (CBSCI) – which is introducing 230,000 liters of sustainable biofuel blended into the Toronto-Pearson's multi-user fuel supply system to show the feasibility of biofuel use in shared fueling systems Canadian airports.

- Air Canada has improved by 43%
- The Toronto-Pearson project is the first of its kind

Electric First Flight

ALL ELECTRIC SUN FLYER 2 FLIGHT TRAINER MAKES ITS FIRST FLIGHT

The first U.S. all electric two-seat flight training aircraft made its maiden test flight at Centennial Airport on April 10.

The flight test program for Bye Aerospace's Sun Flyer 2 aircraft, which began in late March, is now progressing to increased speed, altitude, and endurance capabilities.

- Hourly cost is 10 times lower
- Sun Flyer family will be the first FAA-certified, all-electric airplanes

JetBlue Cuts CO₂

JETBLUE HONORED FOR CUTTING OVER 2 BILLION POUNDS OF CO2

On April 18, Carbonfund.org – a non-profit that provides carbon offsetting and greenhouse gas reduction options to individuals, businesses, and organizations – celebrated 10 years of partnership with JetBlue and honored the airline for reducing more than 2 billion pounds of carbon dioxide emissions.

Drones

Urban Air Mobility

NASA BROADENS PARTNERSHIP WITH UBER ON UAM SYSTEMS

NASA said May 8 that it has signed a second Space Act agreement with Uber Technologies, Inc., to further explore concepts and technologies related to urban air mobility (UAM) to ensure a safe and efficient system for future air transportation in populated areas – and to ensure that the system has acceptable noise levels.

- NASA will use its DFW facility for testing
- DOT selected areas for Integration Program
- Two and a half year data collection period

Urban Air Mobility

[Topics](#)[Missions](#)[Galleries](#)[NASA TV](#)[Follow NASA](#)[Downloads](#)[About](#)[NASA Audiences](#)

Latest

[New NASA X-Plane Construction Begins Now](#)

3 months ago

[NASA Drone Traffic Management Tests Take Off in Reno](#)

a year ago

[NASA Takes Next Step in Green Aviation X-planes Plans](#)

2 years ago

[NASA's Tips for Celebrating National Aviation Day 2016](#)

2 years ago

[Where Is Orville?](#)

2 years ago

[Power of Pink Provides NASA with Pressure Pictures](#)

2 years ago

Related

Taking Air Travel to the Streets, or Just Above Them



An artist's conception of an urban air mobility environment, where air vehicles with a variety of missions and with or without pilots, are able to interact safely and efficiently.
Credits: NASA / Lillian Gipson

Questions?