



Oakland Airport-Community Noise Management Forum Meeting Minutes – April 19, 2023

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1. INTRODUCTIONS

The April 19, 2023 meeting of the Oakland Airport-Community Noise Management Forum (Noise Forum) was called to order at 6:35 p.m. by the Noise Forum’s facilitator, Rhea Hanrahan. Ms. Hanrahan noted that this meeting was a regular meeting and that there was a quorum. Roll was taken.

Noise Forum Members/Alternates Present

Co-Chair Trish Herrera Spencer, Councilmember, Alameda
Matt Pourfarzaneh, Alternate Community Representative, Alameda

Craig Simon, Assistant Director of Aviation, Port of Oakland
Sophie Hahn, Councilmember, Berkeley
James Nelson, Community Representative, Berkeley
Edward Bogue, Community Representative, Hayward
Bart Lounsbury, Community Representative, Oakland
Davis Drisdale, Community Representative, Richmond
Celina Reynes, Councilmember, San Leandro
Benny Lee, Community Representative, San Leandro

Staff Members/Advisors/Officials Present

Matt P. Davis, Airport Operations Manager, Port of Oakland
Jesse Richardson, Airport Noise and Environmental Affairs Supervisor, Port of Oakland
Joan Zatopek, Aviation Planning and Development Manager, Port of Oakland
Anjana Mepani, Associate Environmental Planner, Port of Oakland
Diego Gonzalez, Government Affairs, Port of Oakland
Rhea Hanrahan, Noise Forum Facilitator, HMMH
Tim Middleton, Technical Consultant to the Port, HMMH
Paul Hannah, Airspace Consultant, LEAN Technology Corporation
Christian Valdes, Technical Consultant to the Noise Forum, Landrum & Brown
Brian McGuire, Planner, Alameda

FAA Representatives Present

Faviola Garcia, Acting Western-Pacific Deputy Regional Administrator, FAA
Joe Bert, Operations Support Group, FAA
Tommy Singleton, OAK ATCT Air Traffic Manager, FAA
Brent Rickinsted, OAK ATCT Operations Supervisor, FAA

Ms. Hanrahan reminded everyone that the meeting is being transcribed by a court report. She asked everyone to speak clearly and slowly into their microphones and speak one at a time.

2. ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. NMT 2 Outage (San Leandro Marina)

Jesse Richardson reported that Noise Monitoring Terminal (NMT) 2 is out of service. He explained that the copper wire to the unit was stolen at the beginning of the redevelopment of the San Leandro Marina. Staff is working to remove the hardware from the site and store the unit until construction is substantially complete.

B. New Councilmember, Alameda County

The facilitator announced that Lena Tam from Alameda County is a new elected representative to the Noise Forum. Ms. Hanrahan stated that Ms. Tam sends her regrets to the Noise Forum, but she had a conflict and was hopeful that she would be able to attend the July meeting and introduce herself to the group.

C. New Community Representative, City of Alameda

The facilitator announced that Jay Seaton from the City of Alameda is a new community representative to the Noise Forum. Ms. Hanrahan stated that Mr. Seaton had a conflict for the April meeting but is hopeful that he will be able to attend the July meeting and introduce himself.

D. Fourth Quarter 2022 Noise Abatement Report

Matt Pourfarzaneh asked who is responsible for responding to noise complaints when Mr. Richardson is out of the office. Mr. Richardson said that Matt Davis is available in his absence to answer any noise-related questions from the public. He said that violation letters are handled when he returns from leave. Dr. Pourfarzaneh asked if something could be done to respond to complaints if Mr. Richardson is out of the office for an extended period of time. Mr. Richardson said that staff will look into that.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. January 18, 2023

The facilitator noted that Noise Forum members have received copies of the draft minutes from the January 18, 2023 Noise Forum meeting. She asked if there were any questions or comments. If there were no questions, comments, errors, or omissions the facilitator said she would entertain a motion to approve. Mr. Richardson said that he received a request for a name misspelling. Moved: Trish Herrera Spencer, second: Celina Reynes. Motion passed with the correction of the spelling of the name.

4. ACTION ITEM –PARTIAL TERM COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVE CO-CHAIR

A. Nominations – New Community Representative Co-Chair

The facilitator stated that with the appointment of Mr. Seaton as the City of Alameda community representative, Dr. Pourfarzaneh returns to the alternate representative and therefore cannot hold the co-chair position. She reminded the group that the member voted into this position will serve a partial term until the annual elections are held at the July meeting. Ms. Hanrahan asked for nominees. Ms. Herrera Spencer nominated Benny Lee. Mr. Lee accepted. James Nelson seconded the nomination.

B. Vote – New Community Representative Co-Chair

The facilitator took a vote. Motion passed. Mr. Lee said that he has heavy shoes to fulfill because Walt Jacobs was a mentor. He said it is a pleasure to serve the community and work towards solutions.

5. NEXTGEN SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATE

Ms. Herrera Spencer reported that the subcommittee met on April 12, 2023. The subcommittee decided to request from the Port of Oakland the ability to meet with Paul Hannah with Lean Corporation. She said that the subcommittee thinks that the best path forward would be to have a meeting with Mr. Hannah to see if he could provide assistance and insight regarding

reevaluating WNDSR, HUSSH and TRUKN. She said the subcommittee feels that with his assistance, the FAA may reconsider the requested modifications.

Craig Simon said that he looks forward to seeing a letter from the subcommittee and from the Noise Forum at large requesting those resources be allocated to that subcommittee. He said that staff will continue to do some work in the background.

Ms. Herrera Spencer thanked all that attended the meeting for providing their insight and guidance.

6. PUBLIC COMMENT

The facilitator opened the public comment period with the announcement that this is an opportunity for the public to speak on issues not on the agenda but relevant to airport noise at the Oakland International Airport (OAK). There was no one wanting to submit a public comment.

7. FAA REGIONAL ADMINISTRATOR'S UPDATE

Faviola Garcia, FAA Acting Deputy Regional Administrator for the Western-Pacific Region, introduced herself to the Noise Forum. She assured the Noise Forum members that although this is her first meeting with the Noise Forum, she is very familiar with the issues the Noise Forum is dealing with. She informed the group that the community engagement officers reported to her. She also said that she works closely with the operations support and facilities groups and has attended other public meetings within the Bay Area.

Ms. Garcia announced that Erik Amend, Acting Regional Administrator for the Western-Pacific Region, has moved on. She reported that Raquel Girvin has returned as the Regional Administrator after a year's absence. Ms. Garcia said that as Ms. Girvin gets caught up after her leave, the Noise Forum will see either herself, Ms. Girvin or Carlette Young, Supervisory Senior Advisor, at future Noise Forum meetings. She assured the group that all three are very connected and aware of the Noise Forum's issues and requests.

Ms. Garcia stated there is nothing to report regarding the 2019 letter that was resent to Mr. Amend. She encouraged the group to look at new recommendations for the FAA to consider. She encouraged the Noise Forum to send new resolutions to the FAA instead of resending resolutions that have already been submitted.

Ms. Herrera Spencer said that she is worried that the subcommittee may be wasting their time if the FAA is looking for new resolutions when the WNDSR, HUSSH and TRUKN are still major issues for the communities. She questioned whether working with Mr. Hannah is the correct path forward. Mr. Davis said that even though the subcommittee is looking at the same procedures, they will be looking at them differently by working with Mr. Hannah. Mr. Hannah will be looking at engineering solutions and how the procedures are flown rather than changing the procedure itself. Ms. Garcia said that the subcommittee's efforts may still be effective because the subcommittee will be reviewing the recommendation to determine necessary changes. She stated the FAA will look at the new version of the previous request.

Dr. Pourfarzaneh voiced concern over the lack of continuity with the FAA. He said that one representative of the FAA agrees to one thing and then the next one says something else. Ms. Garcia said that she understands the concern. She said that with herself, Ms. Girvin and Ms. Young, the Noise Forum will have continuity. She also reminded the group that Joe Bert, FAA Operations Support Group, has been attending the meetings for a few years and is very familiar with the issues. Mr. Lee said that he appreciated the FAA's attendance at the Noise Forum meetings; however, his concern is that there has not been any progress on the issues raised since they began attending.

Mr. Davis said that staff will work with the NextGen subcommittee to revisit the report and find ways to reinvigorate the list of requests to the FAA.

8. NOISE OFFICE REPORT

A. Update on Action Items from North Field/South Field Working Group

Mr. Davis and Mr. Richardson gave reports on the action items from the North Field/South Field Research Group meeting held on March 15, 2023. The following items were discussed:

- Add "Pilot Resources" to the top navigation bar on the homepage of the OAK website.
- Research creating a Fly Quiet program like SFO, SNA, etc.
- Provide CLASS with an airport layout plan that shows who occupies what buildings.
- Send the location of NMT 3 to Mr. Seaton.
- Work with CLASS, City of Alameda and OAK staff to create a welcome letter for FBOs.
- Noise office to create fuel slip noise abatement procedure information for the group to review.
- Noise office to work with OAK IT staff to create an option for a hybrid meeting.

B. Update on Action Items from January 18, 2023 Noise Forum Meeting.

Mr. Davis reported that there were no action items from the January meeting.

9. NOISE NEWS UPDATE

Christian Valdez reported on the current news of the aviation and noise industries. The following items were discussed:

- NASA announced that it launched new webpages featuring aeronautics information in Spanish.
- NASA selected four teams of university faculty and students (Boston University, New Mexico University, University of Notre Dame, and Tennessee Technological University) to study challenges facing the future of air travel as part of the agency's university leadership initiative which provides students experience in working on real-world challenges, including minimizing noise from AAM vehicles.
- United Airlines and Archer Aviation unveiled plans to launch the first air-taxi route between Chicago O'Hare and Vertiport Chicago, which are about 15 miles apart, a trip that would take about ten minutes in flight or an hour or more during rush hour traffic. This service is expected to start in 2025.

- Blade Air Mobility announced the first test of a piloted Beta Technologies electric vertical takeoff and landing aircraft in the greater New York area.
- NASA developed an aircraft flight sequencing software called the Collaborative Digital Departure Reroute, which uses machine learning to predict air-traffic conditions based on real-time data. This technology is a sub-project of NASA's air-traffic management project led out of NASA Ames Research in Mountain View.
- Electric aviation is battling a tradeoff dilemma. The more energy efficient an electric aircraft is, the noisier it gets. Researchers at Chalmers University of Technology, Sweden, were able to isolate the noise and develop a propellor design optimization method that paves the way for quiet, efficient, electric aviation.
- A Southwest Airline 737-700 was flown as a first revenue flight with an Aero Design Labs' proprietary drive-reduction kit installed on it. Aero Design Labs uses a computational pool in dynamics software to find air-flow issues. The goal of these kits is to save fuel. Southwest Airlines is currently running a network fuel-savings analysis on five of its 737-700s to measure fuel efficiency.
- Delta Airlines announced that it plans to launch a first-of-its-kind airline-innovation lab to accelerate research design and testing for a more sustainable future air travel. The Delta Sustainable Skies Lab will feature current ongoing work, inspire, innovate industry innovation and technology to reach the airline's goal of net-zero emissions by 2050.
- Gulfstream Aerospace became the business jet industry's first manufacturer to fly on 100-percent sustainable aviation fuel. The flight took place in a Gulfstream G-650 from Gulfstream headquarters in Savannah, Georgia, in partnership with engine supplier Rolls Royce.
- Universal Hydrogen flew the first test flight of a 40-passenger regional airliner, the ATR 72 with zero emissions and a quieter hydrogen fuel-cell power plant. The aircraft took off from Grant County International Airport, and it flew for 15 minutes before returning to the airport. One engine was a conventional engine, and the other was a hydrogen fuel-cell electric motor.

10. CONFIRM NEXT MEETING DATE

The next meeting is scheduled virtually for July 19, 2023.

11. NEW BUSINESS/ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Hanrahan let the group know that on Friday, April 21, 2023, there is going to be a bridge dedication ceremony in honor of Walt Jacobs. She said that this information was received after the agenda was sent out. Walt was a long-standing, very valued member of this Noise Forum, and she wanted to make everyone aware that the dedication ceremony is happening this Friday.

Mr. Lee asked for the actions items that are reviewed by airport staff to be included in the Noise Forum members' packet. Mr. Davis said that staff will work on that.

Mr. Davis announced that Taxiway Whiskey construction is going to be taking place this summer. He said that he wanted to keep members aware that they should start seeing additional

communication from the Port of Oakland regarding construction on Taxiway Whiskey. Taxiway Whiskey is that parallel taxiway to the main air-carrier runway. He said that because the taxiway parallels the main air-carrier runway, there are a lot of potential impacts to aircraft ground movements. He continued that the engineering team has done a great job phasing the project to minimize the operational impacts, but there is no way to completely avoid them. He said that Air Traffic is working with Port of Oakland staff, trying to minimize the amount of time they need to use the South Field or the North Field. There will be times when it is very difficult to get an airplane to the South Field, and they will need to utilize the North Field for certain operations.

Facilitator Hanrahan adjourned the meeting at 8:04 p.m.