

**Appendix A** WELCOME TO THE PLANNING 

# WELCOME TO THE PLANNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE





The City of Phoenix, the Phoenix Aviation Department, and its consultants, Coffman Associates and Brown-Buntin Associates, are pleased to welcome you to the Planning Advisory Committee (PAC) for the update of the F.A.R. Part 150 Noise Compatibility Study. We very much appreciate your interest in this Study. Over the next several months you will be able to make an important contribution to the project. We believe that you, in turn, will find your participation with the committee to be an interesting and profitable experience.

### WHAT IS A NOISE COMPATIBILITY STUDY?

The impact of aircraft noise on airport area residents has been a major environmental issue in the United States for many years. After years of study and demonstration programs, Congress authorized full-scale Federal support for airport noise compatibility programs through the Aviation Safety and Noise Abatement Act of 1979. In response to that Act, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) adopted a Federal Aviation Regulation (F.A.R. Part 150) to set minimum standards for the preparation of such studies.

A Noise Compatibility Program is intended to promote aircraft noise control and land use compatibility. Three things make such a study unique: (1) it is the only comprehensive approach to preventing and reducing airport and community land use conflicts; (2) eligible items in the approved plan may be funded from a special account in the Federal Airport Improvement Program; (3) it is the only



eligible items in the approved plan may be funded from a special account in the Federal Airport Improvement Program; (3) it is the only kind of airport study sponsored by the FAA primarily for the benefit of airport neighbors.

The principal objectives of any Noise Compatibility Program are to:

- Identify the current and projected aircraft noise levels and their impact on the airport environs.
- Propose ways to reduce the impact of aircraft noise through changes in aircraft operations or airport facilities.
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- In undeveloped areas where aircraft noise is projected to remain, encourage future land use which is compatible with the noise, such as agriculture, commercial or industrial.
- In existing residential areas which are expected to remain impacted by noise, determine ways of reducing the adverse impacts of noise.
- Establish procedures for implementing, reviewing, and updating the plan.

### WHY IS THE SKY HARBOR NOISE COMPATIBILITY PROGRAMBEING UPDATED?

The original Noise Compatibility Program was completed in 1989 and recommended several aircraft departure procedures, engine run-up policies, and land use management and mitigation measures. In 1994 the Airport entered into an intergovernmental agreement with the City of Tempe and the FAA to ensure implementation of noise abatement and mitigation objectives. As a result of this agreement, a noise and flight track monitoring system was installed to monitor noise abatement procedures, actions were taken to implement the land use management strategies from the 1989 Noise Compatibility Program, and Phoenix agreed to update the Compatibility Program prior to opening a third parallel runway.

Long range forecasts tend to deviate from actual experience as time passes. This can be especially true of the fluid and dynamic aviation industry. Since the original Noise Compatibility Program was completed important developments have occurred in the national aviation industry and in the Phoenix area including:

- Operations and enplanement growth at Phoenix Sky Harbor.
- Congressional mandate that airlines phase-out their loudest aircraft by the year 2000.
- Construction of a third parallel runway.
- A significant increase in the economy and population in the Phoenix metropolitan area through the 1990s.

The updated Noise Compatibility Plan will evaluate the effects of these changes and determine whether adjustments in airport noise abatement measures and mitigation programs may be necessary.

#### WHAT IS THE ROLE OF THE COMMITTEE?

The PAC will play an important role in the Noise Compatibility Study. We want to benefit from your unique viewpoints, to have access to the people and resources you represent, to work with you in a creative atmosphere, and to gain your support in achieving results. Specifically, your role in the PAC is as follows:

- Sounding Board The consultants need a forum in which to present information, findings, ideas, and recommendations during the course of the study. Everyone involved with the study will benefit from this forum because it allows diverse interests an opportunity to experience the viewpoints, ideas, and concerns of other members directly.
- Linkage to the Community Each of you represent one or more constituent interests -- neighborhood residents, local businesses, public agencies, and aviation users. As a committee member, you can bring together the consultant and the people you represent, you can inform your constituents about the study as it progresses, and you can bring into the committee the views of others.
- Resource An airport noise compatibility study is very

complex; it has an almost unlimited demand for information. Many of you have access to specialized information and can ensure that it is used in the study to its fullest potential.

- Think Tank "Too many cooks spoil the broth" reflects the difficulty committees have in writing a report. On the other hand, "two heads are better than one" tells us that creative thinking is best accomplished by a group of concerned people who represent a diversity of backgrounds and views on a subject. We need all of the creative input we can get. PAC member ideas have literally "made the difference" on other studies of this type across the country.
- Critical Review The study team needs their work scrutinized closely for accuracy, completeness of detail, clarity of thought, and intellectual honesty. We want you to point out any shortcomings in our work and to help us improve on it.
- Implementation A Part 150 Noise Compatibility Plan depends on the actions of many different agencies and organizations for implementation. Each of you has a unique role to play in implementing the plan and demonstrating leadership among your constituent interests. Inform and educate them about the importance of your effort on their behalf and work with them to see that the final plan is carried out.

### WHO IS ON THE COMMITTEE?

have been Many organizations contacted and invited to designate representatives to serve on the Planning Advisory Committee. should know exactly who each of those individuals are by our first PAC meeting. The attached list of invited officials and organizations shows a broad range of interests to be represented -- local businesses and residents, air traffic controllers, pilots, fixed-base operators, national aviation organizations, and local governments and planning officials.

### HOW WILL THE PAC OPERATE?

The PAC will operate as informally as possible -- no rules, no compulsory attendance, and no voting. The meetings will be conducted by the consultant and will be called at various points in the study (approximately four or five) when committee input is especially needed. Ordinarily, meetings will be scheduled with sufficient advance notice to permit you to arrange your schedule.

To keep you informed of the proceedings at the PAC meetings, we will prepare summary minutes and will distribute them after each meeting. These will be particularly helpful if you are unable to attend a meeting.

After each PAC meeting, we will hold a public information workshop so that we may report to the community at large and elicit their views and input. We strongly urge you to represent the PAC

at the evening workshops. The workshops will be organized to maximize the opportunity for two-way communication. At these important meetings, you will have the chance to hear from local citizens and share your views and expertise with them.

In addition, the consultants will make themselves available for small group meetings at private homes, user group meetings, and similar gatherings periodically throughout the study. We hope that some of the PAC members will arrange, or even host, such meetings.

Prior to each PAC meeting, the consultant will distribute working papers to you. These are draft chapters of the Noise Compatibility Study Update, and they will be a focus for discussion at the meetings. In addition, we will provide an outline of the subjects to be covered in the next phase of the project so that you may interject your ideas and concerns and have them addressed in the next working paper.

To help you keep your materials organized, we will give you a study workbook (a three-ring binder with a special cover and tab dividers) to hold working papers, technical information papers, PAC membership lists, meeting notes, and other resource material. Copies of the final reports will also be provided to each committee member at the end of the study.

### WHERE CAN YOU GET MORE INFORMATION?

For specific information about the study, please contact:

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### SEE YOU AT THE MEETINGS!

Once again, welcome to the PAC and thanks for accepting the invitation to participate. We will do everything we can to make sure your participation is a worthwhile and satisfying experience. All users and neighbors of Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport will be better served as a result of these efforts.

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