

AIRCRAFT NOISE ABATEMENT TASK FORCE THIRTEENTH SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT

Since the last report was submitted, the Aircraft Noise Abatement Task Force (Task Force) has met on two separate occasions (July 22 and October 28, 2009). The purpose of this report is to briefly outline initiatives taken by the Task Force and St. Petersburg-Clearwater International Airport (Airport, PIE) to address public concerns regarding aircraft noise impacts on surrounding communities.

NOISE COMPLAINT SUMMARY

During the second quarter of 2009, a total of 45 complaints were received, down from 59 during the same period in 2008. The majority of noise complaints received during the second quarter were from residents of Safety Harbor, related to late night and early morning arrivals. A total of 88 complaints were received year-to-date, compared to 146 complaints received at the end of the second quarter of 2008, representing a 40% decrease. Please refer to the attached *Second Quarter Noise Report*.

During the third quarter of 2009, a total of 43 complaints were received, up from 29 during the same period in 2008. The majority of noise complaints received during the third quarter were from residents of Safety Harbor, and attributed to late night and early morning arrivals. A total of 131 complaints were received year-to-date, compared to 175 complaints received at the end of the third quarter of 2008, representing a 25% decrease. Please refer to the attached *Third Quarter Noise Report*.

At present, approximately 60% of noise complaints are received via the website (www.fly2PIE.com), and remaining 40% via telephone (noise complaint hotline).

VOR-B APPROACH

The VOR-B southbound approach procedure to Runway 17L was approved by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Flight Procedures Office in November 2008. Since then both Allegiant and UPS have worked with their respective FAA Principal Operations Inspectors (POI) to obtain authorization to fly the approach. In order for PIE Air Traffic Control Tower (ATCT) to be able to grant the approach request, both Allegiant and UPS need to agree on the same weather minimums and minimum descent altitude so there are no disparities. Both airlines agreed to the minimums (2000' ceiling and 6 mile visibility) and revised their respective approach plates to coincide with one another. The final approach plates have since been published and distributed to their pilots. ATCT has disseminated the approach and begun briefing controllers, which is anticipated to take approximately 30 days (late November). The approach cannot be flown until all the Controllers are all trained. Both Allegiant and UPS have already briefed and trained their pilots on the new VOR-B approach so they can begin flying it immediately following ATCT training.

FLY FRIENDLY PROGRAM

The Fly Friendly Program has not been as active since John Collette, Airport Operations Supervisor, resigned to take a position at Philadelphia International Airport. The Airport intends on reviving the

Program that helps to educate the general aviation community on efforts they can take to help reduce aircraft noise exposure to surrounding communities.

VOLUNTARY QUIET WINDOW

Locair will be initiating service to Marsh Harbour and Treasure Cay using a 19 seat, Beechcraft-1900, with four flights daily operating between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 7:40 p.m. beginning on December 18, 2009. The proposed schedule causes no conflicts with the “Voluntary Quiet Window” program (11:00 p.m. – 7:00 a.m.).

Allegiant currently provides direct service to 20 cities. During the month of March, Allegiant had operated flights after 11:00 p.m. during the designated “Voluntary Quiet Window” (Quiet Window). Noah Lagos, Airport Director, expressed his concerns in writing to Allegiant. The airline acknowledged the problem and indicated they would modify their flight schedule when possible to avoid flights after 11:00 p.m.

USA 3000 and international Canadian airlines, Canjet and SunWing, are scheduled to resume service in mid-December. All flights are scheduled outside the “Voluntary Quiet Window”.

SUNSHINE LAW

At the July 22nd Task Force Meeting, Senior Assistant County Attorney Michael A. Zas conducted a presentation titled *Sunshine Law Requirements*, where he discussed the following:

- Florida Statute 286.011
- What is the scope of the law?
- Who must comply with the rules?
- Are advisory boards which make recommendations, subject to the Sunshine Law?
- What about fact finding committees?
- What is a meeting?
- Meeting Requirements
- Penalties
- Exceptions

AIRCO GOLF COURSE REDEVELOPMENT FEASIBILITY STUDY

At the request of the Task Force, Noah Lagos provided an update on the history of the Airport, Airco Golf Course (Airco), and the Airco Redevelopment Feasibility Study (Feasibility Study). The golf course is owned by Pinellas County Government, managed by the Airport, subject to FAA deed restrictions, grant assurances, and federal regulations. The Airport, inclusive of the golf course operation, is self-sustaining and is supported by user fees and federal and state grants (not local ad valorem taxes). The FAA requires the Airport to utilize its land to its highest and best use. The Feasibility Study details potential future uses for the golf course and recommends rezoning the property in order to achieve its highest and best use. The Airport is in the process of seeking the Board

of County Commissioners' (Board) approval to change the land use of the Airco parcel to commercial applications. The Board has indicated a commitment to provide a "buffer area" between Feather Sound and the Airco parcel which is subject to FAA approval.

GENERAL DISCUSSIONS – NEW BUSINESS

Discussions at the October 28, 2009 meeting took place regarding Nuisance Ordinances. The current Pinellas County Noise Ordinance (Ordinance No. 03-3) specifically exempts aircraft as preempted by federal law.

2010 MEETING SCHEDULE

The Task Force's quarterly meetings to be held in the Airport Conference Room, #234, at 3:00 p.m., are scheduled as follows:

Wednesday, January 20, 2010	July 21, 2010
Wednesday, April 21, 2010	October 20, 2010

(Note: Additional meetings may be scheduled on an as-needed basis.)