



Overview of the Oakland Airport-Community Noise Management Forum

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Forum Structure and Organization

■ Purpose

- Formed in 1998 as an advisory group
- Public forum to discuss airport noise issues
- Open channels of communication

■ Policies

- No noise transference

Forum Structure and Organization (cont'd)

■ Why a public forum?

- To engage with community stakeholders
- To facilitate discussions related to airport noise
- To inform communities about Airport operations, projects and future development

Forum Structure and Organization (cont'd)

■ Membership Criteria

- Community's proximity to the Airport
- Community's location re: Airport operations
- Community complaints
- Sign Forum participation agreement
- Any city in Alameda County eligible, others by application

Forum Structure and Organization (cont'd)

■ Current Members

- County of Alameda
- Cities of Alameda, Berkeley, Hayward, Oakland, Richmond, and San Leandro
- Port of Oakland



Forum Structure and Organization (cont'd)

■ Representation

- One citizen and one elected official per member jurisdiction
- One Port of Oakland representative

■ Member Responsibilities

- Attend quarterly and special Forum meetings

Forum Structure and Organization (cont'd)

■ Other Participants

- Airside Operations Manager
- Airport Noise Abatement Office
- Southwest Airline representative
- FedEx representative
- Federal Aviation Administration
- North Field/South Field Working Groups
- Industry Specialists and Consultants

Forum Structure and Organization (cont'd)

■ Annual Budget

- Up to \$50,000 for administrative costs
- Up to \$50,000 for consultant costs

■ Funding

- Each jurisdiction contributes \$1,000 annually
- The Port of Oakland contributes the remainder

An Elected Official's Perspective

■ The Forum is Unique

- Includes elected reps and their constituents
- Provides venue for communicating with constituents who have noise concerns
- Serves as means to learn about noise and Airport operational issues
- Allows for exploring alternative resolutions
- Highly qualified Airport staff and consultants work with stakeholders

An Elected Official's Perspective (cont'd)

■ Co-operation = Results

- Forum works with stakeholders (North Field/South Field Advisory Groups) and consultants to recommend new noise abatement procedures, for example:
 - Nighttime rolling takeoffs
 - Salad night departure procedure
 - Runway 12-night departure procedure

A Citizen's Perspective (cont'd)

■ **Lessons Learned**

- Maintain Open lines of Communication
- Work within the purview of existing law
- Educate yourself and your community
- Work together to change national laws

A Citizen's Perspective (cont'd)

■ Present Conditions

- Industry realization that airport growth and expansion in the United States will not occur unless they seriously deal with the concerns of people affected by aircraft noise and pollution

Forum Accomplishments

- Both Port and Forum recognized nationally for community outreach efforts
- Work with local Congress reps regarding ANCA and advocating legislative change
- Studies existing noise abatement procedures and recommends new procedures
- Southeast Plan noise abatement departure
- Noise 101 Education Program

Ideas for Continued Success

- Successful community engagement requires cooperation and coordination by and between the Forum, airport, airport users, FAA, and affected communities
- Education--including the hard fact that the FAA has jurisdiction over aircraft in flight, not the airport--helps to promote a better understanding of the issues
- The use of qualified experts to explain noise, technical issues, and regulatory requirements builds trust and allays suspicions
- The OAK Forum model of having both elected and community representatives provides balance as well as credibility
- Having an annual membership fee ensures that member agencies are committed to the program



Questions?