

Aviation Noise Working Group

MEETING SUMMARY

JUNE 12, 2023; 5:00 PM – 6:30 PM

VIA ZOOM VIDEOCONFERENCE

Meeting Objectives

Updates on the Aviation Near-term Noise Action Agenda. Overview of air cargo trends and a summer operations preview.

Meeting Summary:

- I. Facilitator welcome, introduction, and meeting agenda, Andres Mantilla, BDS Planning & Urban Design
- II. Aviation Near-term Noise Action Agenda, Tom Fagerstrom, Noise Programs Manager, Port of Seattle (POS)
 - Late Night Noise Limitation Program; partial look at Q2
 - FedEx Express, which had the most exceedances in Q1, is phasing out its MD11 fleet
 - Amazon is busier than in Q1 but below recent levels with fewer operations late at night
 - Late Night Third Runway Usage Update
 - Average of less than 1 third runway landing per late night in 2023 thru 5/31
 - Noise Comment Report Summary for May
 - Continued trend of fewer noise complaints
 - Drop in third party button usage to register noise complaints
 - May report: <https://www.portseattle.org/sites/default/files/2023-06/KSEA%20Monthly%20MAY23.pdf>
- III. Final Continuous Taxi to Take-Off Language, Marco Milanese, Community Engagement Manager, POS

The language is now final and will be soon become part of SEA's master record.

 - Continuous Taxi to Takeoffs at SEA – When practical, safe and available, continuous taxi to takeoffs are encouraged. Continuous taxi to takeoffs may reduce aircraft noise within nearby communities.
- IV. Air Cargo Trends, Tom Green, Air Cargo Operations and Development Manager, POS, Ken Galka, Air Cargo Operations Manager, POS
 - Fast Facts
 - SEA's cargo ranking in 2022 moved down to 20th
 - After LA and San Francisco, SEA is the largest in international cargo on the west coast
 - Tonnage Trends (2018-2022)

- For total cargo, SEA reached a peak in 2021
- International cargo recovered but not to levels of 2019
- Domestic cargo – large growth in e-commerce
- Annual Freighter Flights
 - Number of annual flights grew until 2021 then declined modestly in 2022
 - Growth in use of B767's
- Late Night Flight's by Type (2019-2022)
 - Passenger and cargo from midnight to 5AM – more flights since 2019, especially freighters
 - Percentage of freighters declined by about 25% in 2022 vs. 2019
- B737
 - B737 – smallest all- cargo type aircraft that operates at SEA
 - Flown predominantly by Alaska
 - Two to three flights daily – declining modestly from 2018 to 2022
 - Annual overnight arrivals and departures have been steady
 - B737 is least noisy of the group – 85 dB
- B767
 - Utilized by ATI (Amazon)
 - Also used by DHL and others like FedEx, Kalita, and ABX
 - Growth in frequency from 6 in 2018 to 10 in 2021
 - Aircraft is designed for international travel but used for domestic cargo
 - Noise levels are low
 - B767 typically flies between 2-3AM; increased use since 2019
- MD11
 - Noisiest type of aircraft: Older model, early 90s technology, noisy on takeoff (92-93 dB)
 - Average of 3-4 daily flights, mostly used by FedEx, lower utilization since 2020
 - Two main arrival peaks: early in the morning and afternoon/evening
- B777
 - Utilized by several carriers – Korean, China Cargo, Aero Logic, FedEx
 - Use is steadily increasing
 - 1 to 2 times a day on average
 - B777 can carry almost as much as a B747 – often used on international routes as is less noisy and uses less fuel (90dB)
- B747
 - Large, noisy aircraft
 - B747-400 is the loudest aircraft –and is used by China Airlines Cargo, Asiana and Korean
 - Mid to upper 90s dB
 - B747-8 - more modern version - noise levels in line with B777
 - Has four engines - heavy lift aircraft
 - Just finished production in Everett
 - Three of these a day on average at SEA
 - Not much of a change in total annual B747 flights in the last 5 years

- Peak arrivals in the morning before 5 am, some departures as well
- Trends overtime in the overnight - departure less frequent; no big change on arrivals
- B747 and B777 are the choice for international; cherry harvest export season. 2023 cherry season is predicted to be a good one.

V. FedEx Express Fleet Changes, Tom Green, POS, Ken Galka, POS and Tom Fagerstrom, POS

- FedEx Express is beginning to retire their MD11s
 - FedEx currently operating 54. Changes are part of a modernizations and cost savings campaign.
 - Already have 125 767's and will add 27 more to their fleet.
 - When POS learned MD11s are being retired by FedEx, it saw an opportunity for StART.
 - Transition away from MD 11s has begun and we are already seeing the benefits of that. POS staff asked if StART should send a letter congratulating FedEx on making this change? Should we ask them to consider what else they might do speed up the process?
 - General agreement on StART penning a letter to FedEx
 - Member asked if POS could quantify the noise value of removing MD11s from SEA and add this to the letter?
 - POS staff will look into that possibility.

VI. Summer Operations Preview, Cody Proulx, Airline Scheduling Coordinator, POS

- Midnight to 5 am relatively low operations; peak time 10 am -12 pm
- SEA experiencing capacity limitations (88 gates at SEA), so seeing a spread of operations into evening hours before midnight
- Total number of flights are less in 2023 compared to 2019
- Busing operations - if aircraft is not connected to passenger loading bridge
- Overnight operations
 - Aug 11 is the expected busiest night-time in 2023
 - A few 757s and 787s flights on August 11; the rest are 737s
 - Majority of passenger flights are group 3 aircraft (Boeing 737s and Airbus 320/321), occasional 757, 330, or 787
 - SEA seeing an increase in more modern types of 737s and airbuses operating. These newer aircraft operate with high efficiency, quieter turbo fan engines that reduce overall fuel burn and increase more efficient thrust.
 - 737 Max's are 2-3 dB quieter on take-off
 - 787 is very quiet and POS is encouraging airlines to change their fleet to these when possible
 - POS will ask about Boeing coming to a future meeting to discuss their newest, quietest aircraft

VII. Sound Insulation Status Report, Tom Fagerstrom, POS

- Single Family Residences: Completed 1 home in 2023 and 5 homes have been through the design process and will start their projects this summer. 4 additional homes are ready to be acoustically tested
- Condominiums: In Des Moines, all 28 units done.
- Apartments: 18 eligible - received 14 applications back – 5 are ready for construction; Scheduled to begin construction on those 5 in December/January. 3 more complexes are in the design stage. Those will be construction ready in 2024.
- POS will report back on where these apartments are located and their names of the complexes
- Places of Worship: 3 are going forward and in the design process. Going out for construction in 2024.

VIII. Next Steps

- POS to draft a letter to FedEx congratulating them on retiring MD11 aircraft from their fleet, letting them know of the benefits already seen, and ask what they can do to further expedite the process. StART representatives to sign the letter.
- POS to inform working group members of the names of all apartment complexes receiving sound insulation and the location.

MEMBER	INTEREST REPRESENTED	PRESENT
ADOLFO BAILON	BURIEN - CITY	-
AMY ARRINGTON	NORMANDY PARK - CITY	✓
BILL VADINO	FEDERAL WAY - CITY	✓
BOB LEONARD	DES MOINES - COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVE	-
BRYAN TOMICH	NORMANDY PARK - COMMUNITY	✓
GARMON NEWSOM II	BURIEN - CITY	-
CARL COLE	SEATAC - CITY	-
DAVE BERGER	FEDERAL WAY - COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVE	-
DENISE LATHROP	DES MOINES - CITY	✓
JEFF HARBAUGH	BURIEN - COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVE	✓
LANCE LYTTLE	PORT OF SEATTLE	-
MICHAEL MATTHIAS	DES MOINES - CITY	-✓
PETER PHILLIPS	DES MOINES - COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVE	✓
ROBERT AKHTAR	SEATAC - COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVE	✓
SCOTT INGHAM	DELTA AIR LINES	✓
SCOTT KENNEDY	ALASKA AIRLINES	-
LYNAE CRAIG	ALASKA AIRLINES	✓
ZACH SCHIELDS	SEATAC - CITY	✓
PRESENTERS		
TOM GREEN	PORT OF SEATTLE	✓
KEN GALKA	PORT OF SEATTLE	✓
TOM FAGERSTROM	PORT OF SEATTLE	✓
CODY PROULX	PORT OF SEATTLE	✓
ZACK SHIELDS	PORT OF SEATTLE	✓

RESOURCES	TITLE	
MARCO MILANESE	PORT OF SEATTLE	✓
SARAH COX	PORT OF SEATTLE	✓
STEVE VITTNER	PORT OF SEATTLE	-
DAVE KAPLAN	PORT OF SEATTLE	✓
PARIS EDWARDS	PORT OF SEATTLE	✓
JUSTIN BIASSOU	FAA	✓
CONSULTANT		
ANDRES MANTILLA	BDS PLANNING & URBAN DESIGN	✓
DORI KRUPANICS	BDS PLANNING & URBAN DESIGN	✓
VINCE MESTRE	CONSULTANT	-

NEXT MEETING: AUGUST 14, 2023- 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM
 LOCATION: ZOOM VIDEOCONFERENCE