



San Francisco International
Airport/Community Roundtable

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July 7, 2023

Polly Trottenberg
Administrator (A)
Federal Aviation Administration
Via: Federal eRulemaking Portal

Re: DOCKET # FAA-2023-0855 FAA Request for Comments on Review of the Civil Aviation Noise Policy

Dear FAA Administrator Trottenberg,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide these comments in response to the FAA request for Comments on the Review of the Civil Aviation Noise Policy.

Established in 1981, the San Francisco Airport/Community Roundtable, (Roundtable) represents more than 1.5 million residents in the City and County of San Francisco and San Mateo County. Roundtable members include elected officials of the Boards of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco and San Mateo County as well as from the City Councils of all twenty cities within San Mateo County.

The Roundtable collaborates with the San Francisco International Airport, the Federal Aviation Administration, airlines, members of Congress and other elected officials, noise-impacted communities, and the public with the purpose of developing, evaluating, and implementing policies, aircraft procedures, and mitigation actions that will reduce aircraft noise exposure in the neighborhoods and communities in San Francisco and San Mateo Counties, and to advocate for aircraft noise related legislation and programs, and to support research that reduces aircraft noise impacts. The pre-eminent goal of the SFO Airport/Community Roundtable is to improve all aircraft procedures and operations which have detrimental noise impacts to residents whether from ground operations or flight operations.

A special focus for the SFO Airport/Community Roundtable is nighttime airplane noise especially as a health issue. If aircraft noise is seen only as “annoying” to residents, it would overlook the well-documented deleterious effects of airplane noise on the health of residents. Documented in peer-reviewed scientific and medical journals, noise adversely and seriously affects blood pressure, cardiovascular and other health issues in adults. Studies with children indicate that aircraft noise can result in an increase in children’s blood pressure and can cause negative impacts on children’s education as shown by lower levels in cognitive testing, task perseverance, long term memory, short term memory and reading achievement.

The attached Roundtable Comment Response to the FAA Request for Comments on Review of the Civil Aviation Noise Policy, Federal Register Docket # FAA-2023-0855, was considered by Roundtable Members with input from the public at a noticed regular public meeting of the SFO Airport/Community Roundtable on June 7, 2023, where Roundtable members unanimously voted to approve this document.

We appreciate the opportunity to provide input on this request. Aircraft noise impacts are critically important to the health and quality of life to our residents. We applaud the FAA for undertaking this process and we look forward to working with you create quieter skies for our residents.

Very respectfully,



Sam Hindi, Chairman
SFO Airport/Community Roundtable
Councilmember, Foster City



Al Royse, Vice Chairman
SFO Airport/Community Roundtable
Councilmember, Town of Hillsborough

Attachments:

- a. July 2023 SFO Roundtable Comments in response to Federal docket number FAA-2023-0855 (FAA Noise Policy Review)
- b. April 13, 2021 SFO Roundtable Comment to Docket No. FAA-2021-0037- Request for input on Research Activities to Inform Aircraft Noise Policy.
(Note that references to “supplemental” noise metrics in the Roundtable response to the 2021 Docket No. FAA-2021-0037- Request would more correctly be referred to as “additional” noise metrics under the definitions in the Federal docket number FAA-2023-0855).
- c. Response to the FAA Initiative to Address Noise Concerns of Santa Cruz/Santa Clara/San Mateo/San Francisco Counties (Norcal Initiative)
- d. San Francisco International Airport Ground Based Noise Modeling Study, HMMH Report No. 309091.002, January 19, 2021 Revised January 2023 [via LINK](#)

Cc:

Members and Alternates of the SFO/Airport Community Roundtable
FAA Regional Administrator Dr. Raquel Girvin
Representative Nancy Pelosi
Representative Anna Eshoo
Representative Kevin Mullin
Representative Jimmy Panetta
California State Senator Scott Weiner
California State Senator Josh Becker
California Assemblymember Matt Haney
California Assemblymember Philip Ting
California Assemblymember Diane Papan
California Assemblymember Marc Berman
San Francisco Mayor London Breed
San Mateo County Board of Supervisors: Dave Pine, President, Warren Slocum, Vice-President, Noelia Corzo, Ray Mueller, David Canepa
San Francisco County Board of Supervisors: Aaron Peskin, President, Connie Chan, Matt Dorsey, Joel Engardio, Rafael Mandelman, Myrna Melgar, Dean Preston, Hillary Ronen, Ahsha Safai, Catherine Stefani, Shamann Walton

SFO Airport Commissioners: Malcolm Yeung, President; Everett A. Hewlett, Jr., Vice President; Jane Natoli, Jose Fuentes Almanza