



# AIRPORTS AND AVIATION NOISE

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# Who we are: ACI – NA

ACI-NA advocates policies and provides services that strengthen the ability of commercial airports to serve their passengers, customers and communities. ACI-NA professional staff in the government affairs, legal, environment, safety, security, operations and technical departments, works to ensure that legislation and regulations enacted in Washington, D.C., and Ottawa, help airports operate more safely and efficiently.

- **The voice of airports.**
- Representing North America's airports since 1948

# Agenda

- Airports Background
- How Airport's Have Responsibility for Aircraft Noise
- Talking about Aircraft Noise
- Managing Aircraft Noise

# Airports Background

- ➔ Airports are local government entities
  - City, State, or Airport Authorities
- ➔ Airport operators are always balancing multiple factors
  - Enabling
    - Best possible service to appropriate destinations with competitive fares
    - Positive significant economic impact
  - Being good neighbors and operating sustainably



ACI-NA's EONS Framework



# There are many aviation noise stakeholders – why are airports responsible?

- Three primary reasons that airports are responsible for airport noise:
1. Legal: Griggs v. Allegheny County, 1962
  2. Funding: FAA funding-related environmental studies require analysis, disclosure, and mitigation



3. Reality: Community focal point – Resistance/opposition to airport operations or future development

# Talking About Noise

*Airport Noise is both a technical and emotional conversation*



# Talking about Noise Loud vs Annoying

- ➔ Measuring noise levels doesn't tell the whole story
- Loudness is almost entirely determined by acoustic variables only
  - BUT, the sound becomes more annoying the longer it continues. Annoyance is influenced by a combination of acoustic and non-acoustic factors



**MOST ANNOYING SOUND?**

# Talking about Noise Community

- ➔ Community concerns beyond the measurable:
  - Fear of crashes and unconstrained airport growth
  - Concerns about diminution of property values; other economic factors
  - Concerns about health impacts
  - Beliefs in misfeasance (airport could be operated to avoid overflights of my home) and malfeasance (aircraft are intentionally routed over my home), lack of control over airport development, indifference of airport proprietors to non-aviation interests
  - Beliefs that airport operations are unnecessary, or that costs are unfairly allocated

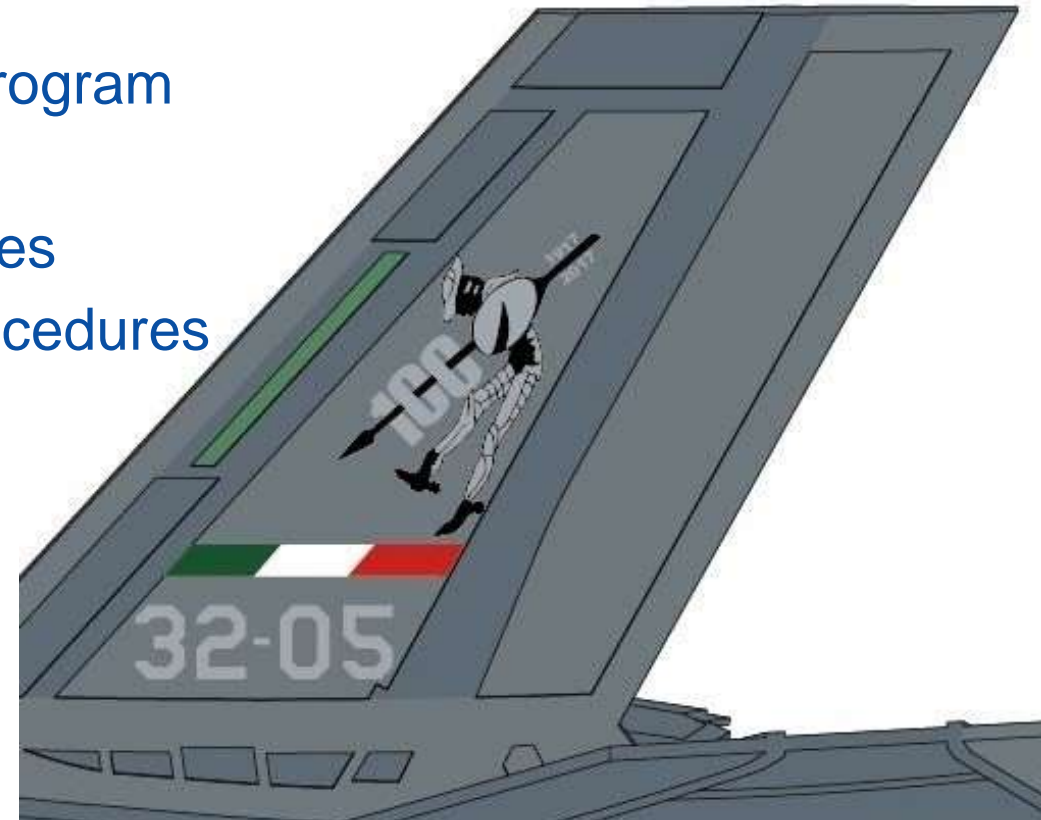


# Managing Noise – What's Can Airport Do?

*Limited suite of tools available for airports to help communities:*

## → Part 150 process + Master plan

- Residential Sound Insulation Program
- FlyQuiet programs
- Preferential runway use schemes
- Noise abatement departure procedures
- Voluntary curfews



## What can the community do?

### Options:

- ➔ Participate in forums to work on noise
- ➔ Land use management and planning

#### REPORT AIRCRAFT NOISE ONLINE

Aircraft noise intruding on your daily life?  
There is a quick way to report an incident on an internet-based complaint form. Visit:

**oharenoise.org**

To quickly link to the Chicago Department of Aviation complaint site. Save the form as a bookmark.

**O'HARE NOISE HOTLINE  
800-435-9569**

Callers should be prepared to provide the following information:

- Approximate time of noise event
- Your name, address and phone number
- Type of disturbance: Noise, Frequency, Vibration or Low Flying

Online Complaints:



[flychicago.com/OHare/EN/AboutUs/NoiseManagement/NoiseComplaints/Pages/Noise-Complaints.aspx](http://flychicago.com/OHare/EN/AboutUs/NoiseManagement/NoiseComplaints/Pages/Noise-Complaints.aspx)



#### ONCC BUILDS COOPERATION...COLLABORATION...CONSENSUS

- Collaborates with the Chicago Department of Aviation, the Federal Aviation Administration, airlines, manufacturers and other avionic stakeholders to reduce noise within the O'Hare International Airport region.
- Completed one of the largest and oldest school sound insulation programs in the world.
- Oversees the nation's leading residential sound insulation program.
- Recommends policy for Fly Quiet, a nighttime noise abatement program to reduce and balance aircraft noise over residential neighborhoods.
- Updates federal, state and local elected leaders on aircraft noise issues
- Participates in research symposiums and conferences that advance quieter aircraft technology.
- Reviews aircraft noise trends using the O'Hare Airport Noise Management System.
- Facilitates dialogue about aircraft noise issues through community outreach, education and information channels.
- Collaborates with community groups to mitigate aircraft noise wherever and whenever possible.

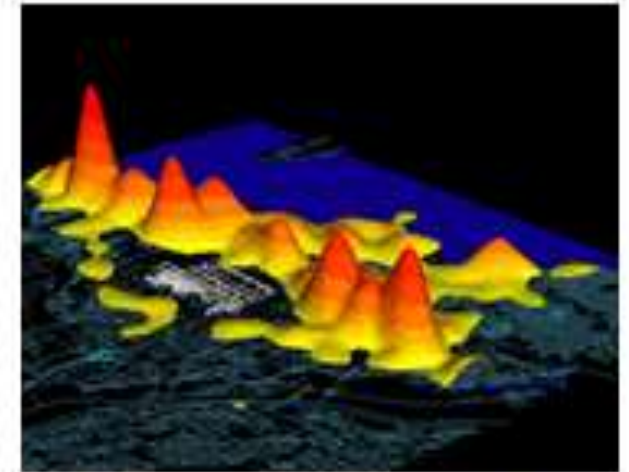
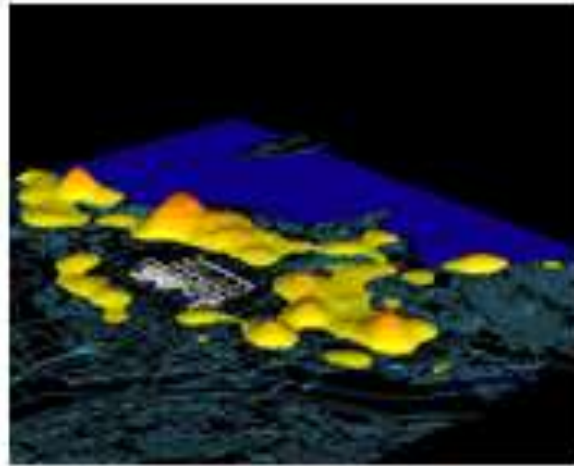


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# What can the community do?

Complaints are also a common interaction.

Complaints show that proximity to flight paths may be more annoying than absolute noise levels



Spatial densities of telephone complaints before (*left*) and 12 months after (*right*) minor changes in aircraft noise exposure due to increased runway utilization



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