

COMMUNITY MEETING

DISCUSSION OF AIRPORT NOISE IN WATERTOWN

7/25/17

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Background on MassPort Community Advisory Committee

- ❖ The MassPort Community Advisory Committee (MassPort CAC) was created by an Act of the Massachusetts Legislature in 2014.
- ❖ Mission: To be the voice of communities impacted by MassPort operations; offer local, regional, and national solutions through advocacy, information and MassPort oversight.
- ❖ Its statutory charges are:
 1. Make recommendations to the Massachusetts Port Authority (MassPort) on its budgets;
 2. Hold hearings on matters related to MassPort;
 3. Review and comment on MassPort's Annual Report;
 4. Examine MassPort's records; and
 5. Make recommendations to the Governor and Legislature relative to MassPort.
- ❖ The MassPort CAC membership: 35 members appointed by the Chief Executive Officer in the city or Town, and reflect municipalities that host MassPort facilities.
- ❖ Member communities: Bedford, Beverly, Boston (allotted 6 members), Braintree, Brookline, Cambridge, Chelsea, Cohasset, Concord, Everett, Hingham, Hull, Lexington, Lincoln, Malden, Melrose, Medford, Milton, Nahant, Quincy, Revere, Scituate, Somerville, Weymouth, Worcester and Winthrop.

Background on MassPort

- ❖ Enabled by the Massachusetts Legislature in 1959 as an independent public authority.
- ❖ MassPort is governed by a seven member Board. Five members are appointed by the Governor of Massachusetts and one is appointed by the MassPort CAC to staggered terms of seven years each. The Secretary of Transportation and Chief Executive Officer of the Massachusetts Department of Transportation serves as an ex officio member of the Board. All members serve without compensation. Board members must be residents of Massachusetts.
- ❖ MassPort operates facilities including the Boston Fish Pier, Conley Container Terminal, Cruise Ship port, Hanscom Field, Logan International Airport, the Port of Boston, and Worcester Regional Airport.

History of Logan CAC and MassPort CAC

- ❖ Started with mitigation requirement contained in the Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA) 2002 environmental Record of Decision for the Boston Logan Airside Improvements Planning Project (Runway 14-32).
- ❖ ROD required that the FAA, MassPort and what became the Logan Community Advisory Committee (Logan CAC) work jointly to develop a scope of a noise study.
- ❖ Noise abatement measures applicable to aircraft overflights which do not diminish safety and efficiency, and/or cause adverse impacts to other communities.
- ❖ The Study was broken into three Phases:
 - ❖ Phase One, called the Boston Overflight Noise Study (BONS), began in 2003 and culminated in October 2007 with an FAA environmental ROD that identified several Logan CAC recommended noise abatement procedures for FAA implementation within approximately two years.

History of Logan CAC and MassPort CAC

- ❖ Phase Two, called the Boston Logan Airport Noise Study (BLANS), began in early 2007 and was completed in December 2012, with the final results documented in *Level 3 Screening Report*, issued in December 2012.
- ❖ Several ground noise measures resulted from Phase 2, including identifying an area for engine runups and a location for holding aircraft delayed before departure.
- ❖ Phase Three, also called the BLANS, began in July 2013 and sought to identify and evaluate potential runway use measures to be included in a runway use program.

How Did R-NAV Result?

- ❖ R-NAV = **aRea NAVigation** - Allows an aircraft to choose any course within a network of navigation beacons, rather than navigate directly to and from the beacons.
- ❖ R-NAV was initially discussed as a concept with the Logan CAC.
- ❖ Prior to R-NAV, aircraft followed “general” routes created by ground-based waypoint beacons, meaning that the aircraft would follow and fly in a “lane” in the air.
- ❖ R-NAV = A way to address some causes of aircraft overflight noise by allowing aircraft to more “efficiently” use airspace.
- ❖ Consequence of R-NAV, which was formally implemented by Logan in 2013, is aircraft route compression.

Contact Information

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- ❖ Resources:
 - MassPort CAC website: <http://massportcac.org/>
 - MassPort CAC online Library: <http://massportcac.org/the-library/>