

**AIRCRAFT NOISE ABATEMENT TASK FORCE
ST. PETE-CLEARWATER INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT
(April & July 2021)**

Since the last report, the Aircraft Noise Abatement Task Force (Task Force, NATF) met virtually via the GoToMeetings platform, on two separate occasions (April 21 and July 21, 2021). The purpose of this report is to briefly outline initiatives taken by the Task Force and St. Pete-Clearwater International Airport (Airport, PIE) to address public concerns regarding aircraft noise impacts on surrounding communities.

TASK FORCE MEMBERSHIP

Since the last report the following changes in membership have occurred. Commander Jeanine Menze replaced Commander Keith Blair as representative for the United States Coast Guard. Christopher Heden replaced Russ Argus as representative for the Federal Aviation Administration - PIE Air Traffic Control Tower. These recommendations have been referred to and approved by the County Administrator.

NOISE ABATEMENT COMPLIANCE REPORT

The *Noise Abatement Compliance Report* for the months of January through June 2021 was reviewed and reported to the Task Force. The overall compliance rate reflected an average of 90%.

The number of flights during the Voluntary Quiet Window (VQW) ranges between 4% - 20%, with an average of 12% for this period. The latest scheduled flight within the VQW is 11:45 p.m. Some of the reasons for flights during the VQW were weather (both local and destination) causing ramp closures and ground stops from the Jacksonville Air Traffic Control Center and continued sanitization of aircraft to meet CDC COVID-19 Guidelines.

NOISE COMPLAINT SUMMARY

During the *1st Quarter 2021*, there were 1,866 complaints received from 46 different households. The top three cities submitting complaints were Oldsmar, Safety Harbor, and Clearwater. The top three reasons for complaints were excessive noise, did not use Noise Abatement Procedure (NAP), and low flying aircraft.

During the *2nd Quarter 2021*, there were 1,278 complaints, with 676 complaints coming from one household in Safety Harbor and 223 complaints coming from one household in

Oldsmar. The top three cities submitting complaints were Oldsmar, Safety Harbor, and Clearwater. The top three reasons for complaints were excessive noise, low flying aircraft, and did not use a NAP.

ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

Website Updates

The Fly2PIE website will be updated, including the noise page. The noise complaint form has been updated with three new fields: weather, activity disturbed, and time disturbed. The complaint form can be found on the Flight Tracking page to allow the individual the ability to fill in the pertinent tracking information of the flight the complaint pertains to. Mr. Sprague asked for feedback on the new noise page once the new website goes live.

Mr. Sprague added that new NAP signs have been added to the Airfield at the departure end of Runway 18-36. The NAP brochure has also been updated and is available at both Fixed Base Operators and online at https://fly2pie.com/docs/default-source/noise-abatement/spairport_noiseabate.pdf?sfvrsn=25da2b26_7

Air Carriers on Noise Abatement Procedure

Mr. Sprague will be talking with Swoop, Sun County, and Delta (baseball charters) to discuss these air carriers completing the required FAA paperwork and training to fly the RNAV NAP into PIE.

U.S. Coast Guard Helicopter Flights

Mr. Sprague stated that he met with the new U.S. Coast Guard Commander and requested that when training, the helicopters fly over McMullen Booth Road as opposed to over Safety Harbor neighborhoods. Mr. Sprague also reiterated training missions do not fly after 11:00 p.m. If the Coast Guard is flying after 11:00 p.m., they are flying on a mission.