

**AIRCRAFT NOISE ABATEMENT TASK FORCE MEETING
ST. PETE-CLEARWATER INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT**

April 20, 2022

St. Pete-Clearwater International Airport (PIE), Aircraft Noise Abatement Task Force (NATF) Committee, a/k/a Task Force, met at 3:00 p.m. virtually via the GoToMeeting platform, with the following members present:

Present:

Chris Heden, Federal Aviation Administration, Air Traffic Control PIE
H.D. Holland, Feather Sound Resident
Erin Johnson, Airport Operations Manager
Jerry Karp, Clearwater Resident
Andrew Knapp, Oldsmar Resident and City Council Member
LCDR Grant Langston on behalf of CDR Jeanine Menze, U.S. Coast Guard
Barbara Markley, Pinellas Park Resident
Steve Ochsner, Feather Sound Resident
John Padavich, Safety Harbor Resident
Steven Santamaria, Airport Operations Supervisor
Sean Schrader, City of Clearwater at Large Resident
Brad Schramski, Allegiant Chief Pilot
Cheryl Soszka, Airport Administration
Mark Sprague, Deputy Director, Operations and Facilities
Matt Tolnay, County Attorney's Office
Deen Walker, Sheltair
Jeff Yost, Allegiant Air
Michael Zas, County Attorney's Office

Absent:

Tom Jewsbury, Airport Director
Joseph Lassen, US Army Reserve
Hank Samuel, Palm Harbor Resident

Guests in Attendance:

Don Casey, Del Oro Groves
Lou Claudio, Safety Harbor
Nicholas Eddy, representing Commissioner Peters office
Commissioner Dave Eggers, Pinellas County Board of Commissioners
Cathy Minter, Oldsmar

AGENDA

1. Introduction & Opening Comments
2. Semi-Annual Report – October 2021 & January 2022
3. Move Meeting Minutes of January 19, 2022
4. Quarterly Noise Compliance Report & Complaint Summary
5. Flights within Voluntary Quiet Window
6. Action Items
 - RNAV Procedure assigned effective April 13, 2022
 - Naval T-45 Training Jets
 - Update on 5G
 - Update on Pinellas County Congested Airspace Working Group
7. Citizen’s Comments
8. Adjournment

INTRODUCTION, MEETING DATES, AND MEETING MINUTES

Mr. Sprague welcomed those present to the NATF Meeting. Mr. Sprague reviewed the *Semi-Annual Report* and moved the *Meeting Minutes* of January 19, 2022 into the record.

QUARTERLY NOISE ABATEMENT COMPLIANCE REPORT AND COMPLAINT SUMMARY

Mr. Sprague referred to the *Noise Abatement Compliance Report* for the 1st Quarter 2022. In January, 174 aircraft arrived on Runway 18; of those able to use a Noise Abatement Procedure (NAP), 132 aircraft did, while 25 did not. In February, 173 aircraft arrived on Runway 18; of those able to use a NAP, 123 aircraft did, while 11 did not. In March, 390 aircraft arrived on Runway 18; of those able to use a NAP, 267 aircraft did, while 17 did not. Overall compliance is 89%, with daytime compliance for Allegiant in the mid 90’s.

There were 998 complaints received during the 1st Quarter, with 519 complaints coming from one household in Safety Harbor, 381 complaints from another household in Safety Harbor, and 62 complaints coming from one household in Oldsmar. The top three cities submitting complaints were Safety Harbor, Oldsmar, and Clearwater; with the top three reasons for complaints being excessive noise, low flying aircraft, and flying over home.

FLIGHTS WITHIN VOLUNTARY QUIET WINDOW

The number of flights during the Voluntary Quiet Window (VQW) for the 1st Quarter ranged between 7-10% (180 out of 1,972 flights), which is down from the previous quarter. Some reasons for flights during the VQW this quarter were: weather (fog) on several occasions, fog diversion from Punta Gorda to PIE by air traffic control; and in late February, Jacksonville TRACON issued a ground stop due to heavy congestion for flights

going north in concentrated areas; severe weather shut down one of the Air Traffic Control sectors which resulted in significant delays and/or cancellations.

ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

RNAV Procedure assigned effective April 13, 2022

Mr. Sprague announced that effective April 13, 2022 the RNAV procedure will now be assigned. We will no longer have to rely on a pilot asking for the RNAV NAP. This will apply to Allegiant, Sun Country, Swoop, and Delta (baseball charters). Mr. Sprague is working with United and Air Canada to get on the RNAV Procedure.

Naval T-45 Training Jets

During the period of March 6-18, U.S. Navy/Marines had T-45 trainer jets at PIE conducting training over warm water.

Update on 5G

As previously discussed, PIE was identified as an airport within the radius of a 5G cellular tower. It was identified that this will not affect the Airport and the angle of the service cone will be angled away from the Airport to further reduce any chance of interference.

Update on Pinellas County Congested Airspace Working Group

Mr. Sprague stated the last update he received was in January. The Group had taken the collaborated information from all members and are working with the FAA. Mr. Sprague will provide the Task Force with an update as soon as he receives one and will update citizens at the next Task Force meeting in July.

As a follow up to the last meeting regarding improper altitude encoding above Oldsmar in PIE's portal, Mr. Sprague stated there was a software error and it has been corrected.

NATF MEMBERS AND CITIZEN'S COMMENTS

Andrew Knapp, Oldsmar NATF Member, inquired about the VQW as several flights that he looked at appeared to be scheduled to arrive prior to the VQW, but arrive late due to a delay. Mr. Knapp inquired if there are flights scheduled to arrive in the VQW. Mr. Sprague stated in the past few years, we have had flights scheduled in the VQW due to aircraft turn-around time increasing due COVID cleaning. Mr. Sprague advised they are working with Allegiant to keep scheduled flights out of the VQW.

Don Casey, Del Oro Groves, inquired about a very low flying plane over Kapok Tree on April 11 between 4:45 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. A neighbor was very upset about it and thought it should be flying over the Bay. Mr. Sprague advised he would investigate it. Mr. Casey asked if Delta would fly the NAP. Mr. Sprague advised Delta would fly the RNAV NAP Procedure.

Lou Claudio, Safety Harbor, stated things could be much worse and they have gotten a lot better over the years. The assignment of the RNAV NAP is a good example of something that has gotten better.

Cathy Minter, resident of Oldsmar, stated she is on the opposite end as things have gotten worse for her. She has very low flights over her home and the RNAV NAP put the flights directly over her home. Ms. Minter asked Mr. Sprague to look into a specific flight. Mr. Sprague advised he wants to come to her neighborhood on a busy flight day to observe arrivals and departures from her neighborhood directly. This will give him a firsthand perspective as the data he sees does not match up with what she is experiencing.

Commissioner Eggers thanked the Task Force and the citizens for participating. He stated the assignment of the RNAV Procedure should help tremendously.

Nicholas Eddy, representative for Commissioner Peters office, thanked the Task Force and the citizens for participating. He thanked the Airport for everything they do to reduce noise.

Meeting was adjourned at 3:59 p.m.