

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

January 20, 2021

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:

Diriki Geuka for Michael Zas, County Attorney's Office
H.D. Holland, Feather Sound Resident
Tom Jewsbury, Airport Director
Erin Johnson, Airport Operations Manager
Jerry Karp, Clearwater Resident
Barbara Markley, Pinellas Park Resident
Linda Norris, Oldsmar Resident
Steve Ochsner, Feather Sound Resident
John Padavich, Safety Harbor Resident
Steven Santamaria, Airport Operations Supervisor
Sean Schrader, City of Clearwater at Large Resident
Cheryl Soszka, Airport Administration
Mark Sprague, Deputy Director, Operations and Facilities
Deen Walker, Sheltair
Jeff Yost, Allegiant Air

Absent:

Russ Argus, Federal Aviation Administration, Air Traffic Control PIE
Joseph Lassen, US Army Reserve
Ernie Nevin, Allegiant Chief Pilot
Hank Samuel, Palm Harbor Resident
Keith Blair, U.S. Coast Guard
Michael Yuska, Federal Aviation Administration, Air Traffic Control

Guests in Attendance:

Andrew Knapp, City of Oldsmar City Council
Kimberly L., Safety Harbor
Catherine Minter, Oldsmar
Carlos Nevez, INDMEX
Kay Rose, Oldsmar

AGENDA

1. Introduction and Opening Comments
2. 2021 Task Force Meeting Dates
3. Semi-Annual Task Force Report
4. Move Minutes of October 21, 2020
5. Quarterly Noise Compliance Report & Complaint Summary
6. Flights within Voluntary Quiet Window
7. INDMEX Aviation Presentation
8. Action/Discussion Items
 - Runway Construction Update
 - Superbowl LV 2021
9. Citizen's Comments
10. Adjournment

INTRODUCTION, MEETING DATES, AND MEETING MINUTES

Mr. Sprague welcomed those present to the NATF Meeting and Cheryl Soszka conducted roll call. Mr. Sprague reviewed the *2021 NATF Meeting Dates* and *Semi-Annual Task Force Report*; and moved the *Meeting Minutes* of October 21, 2020 into the record.

QUARTERLY NOISE ABATEMENT COMPLIANCE REPORT AND COMPLAINT SUMMARY

The Runway 18-36 Rehabilitation Project required the closure of Runway 18-36 beginning July 14, 2020, requiring the need to temporarily shift all flight operations to its northeast/southwest runway, Runway 4-22. Runway 18-36 re-opened on December 18, 2020. Mr. Sprague referred to the *Noise Abatement Compliance Report* for December 18 - 31, 2020. For December 18 - 31, 108 aircraft arrived on Runway 18; of those able to use a Noise Abatement Procedure (NAP), 61 aircraft did, while zero did not.

There were 675 complaints received during the 4th Quarter from 62 different households, with 369 complaints coming from one household in Safety Harbor. The top three cities submitting complaints were Safety Harbor, Oldsmar, and Pinellas Park. The top three reasons for complaints were excessive noise, low flying aircraft, and did not use NAP.

In 2020, there were 4,661 complaints submitted from 115 different households, with 2,530 complaints (54%) coming from two households, one in Safety Harbor and one in Oldsmar. The top three reasons for complaints for the year were excessive noise, low flying aircraft, and did not use NAP.

FLIGHTS WITHIN VOLUNTARY QUIET WINDOW

The number of scheduled flights during the Voluntary Quiet Window (VQW) for the 4th Quarter ranged between 7-10%; and the 2020 average was 13%. Mr. Sprague and Mr. Jewsbury are consistently communicating with Allegiant to reduce scheduled flights during the VQW. Since July 2020, we have experienced a decline in the number of scheduled flights within the VQW.

INDMEX AVIATION PRESENTATION

Carlos Nevez gave a brief presentation on a new software utilized by the Airport that can provide a statement of reported complaints that are within one mile of a given address and within an altitude of 3,000 feet to identify potential aircraft that may have generated the complaint. This will assist the Noise department with identifying commercial aircraft that may not be following NAP and allow for discussion with the Chief Pilot.

ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

Runway Construction Update

Runway 18-36 opened on December 18, 2020 and NAP are in use again. Substantial completion for the project is scheduled for February 2021 as final permanent painting and new lights are being installed. Mr. Sprague thanked Pinellas County residents for their understanding and cooperation with this major construction project.

Mr. Sprague thanked Mr. Padavich for writing the FAA ombudsman; although the response was the FAA has no authority to prohibit aircraft from flying over specific neighborhoods unless it is unsafe.

Superbowl LV 2021

Superbowl LV will be held on February 7 with attendance capacity capped at approximately 25%. PIE will see some larger jets arriving; however, charter planes are not expected. Depending on the number of jets arriving, Runway 4-22 may need to be closed for the weekend for aircraft parking.

NATF MEMBERS AND CITIZEN'S COMMENTS

Linda Norris, Oldsmar NATF member, advised that her City Council term is completing in March, therefore this will be her last meeting. She is suggesting a replacement, Andrew Knapp, who is also a City Council member. Mr. Sprague thanked Ms. Norris for the recommendation but did advise the County Administrator must approve all Task Force members.

Kay Rose, Oldsmar citizen, appreciates the fact that Mr. Sprague thanked Safety Harbor for their four months of dealing with the excessive noise during the Runway 18-36

closure, but Oldsmar has been dealing with the noise for five years and she didn't hear that anything would change for them.

Catherine Minter, Oldsmar citizen, stated she would like a little more respect and consideration from Allegiant as the NAP was moved more toward Oldsmar to relieve the noise for Safety Harbor. Allegiant aircraft tends to hug the coast at an altitude below 1,800 feet, more like 1,400 feet, which is very loud. Ms. Minter indicated both approaches and departures are very low over Oldsmar, when a higher altitude can be maintained on departure and approach based on Tampa's numbers. Ms. Minter also mentioned flights leaving as early as 6:00 a.m. on the weekends, when she thought the VQW went until 7:00 a.m.

Mr. Sprague went over the 2020 year in review of noise reduction and improvements made:

- Ground noise reduction for engine start-ups reduced to zero complaints.
- Allegiant's Flaps 3 landing configuration lowers noise levels.
- New noise complaint website form modifications were made based on input from NATF and citizens.
- New Allegiant Chief Pilot came out to meet with Mr. Sprague to understand PIE's noise issues and concerns.

Mr. Sprague stated some items to look forward in 2021 are:

- Continue working with the U.S. Coast Guard flying C-130's directly over Safety Harbor on a consistent basis for training.
- Continue working with Allegiant to schedule flights outside of the VQW.
- Investing in newer NAP signs and pamphlets to our Fixed Base Operators.
- Update the Noise page on PIE's website.

Meeting was adjourned at 4:36 p.m.