

**AIRCRAFT NOISE ABATEMENT TASK FORCE
ST. PETE-CLEARWATER INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT
(October 2020 & January 2021)**

Since the last report, the Aircraft Noise Abatement Task Force (Task Force, NATF) met virtually via the GoToMeetings platform, on two separate occasions (October 21, 2020 and January 20, 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

At the January 20, 2021 meeting, Linda Norris, Oldsmar NATF member, advised that her City Council term is completing in March, therefore the January meeting would be her last meeting. She is suggesting a replacement, Andrew Knapp, who is also a City Council member. This recommendation has been referred to and approved by the County Administrator.

NOISE ABATEMENT COMPLIANCE REPORT

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.

The *Noise Abatement Compliance Report* for the months of July 2020 through December 2020, was reviewed and reported to the Task Force. July 14 through December 18, 2020 did not have any compliance reports as Runway 4-22 does not have a Noise Abatement Procedure for approaches or departures. Therefore, the overall compliance rate reflected 93% for the period of 27 days Runway 18-36 was open (July 1-13, 2020 & December 18-31, 2020).

The number of flights during the Voluntary Quiet Window (VQW) ranges between 7-29%, with an average of 15.5% for this period. The significant rise in flights operating within the VQW is due to extra time Allegiant requires to board and clean the aircraft to Center of Disease Control – COVID19 Guidelines, as reported by Allegiant. The latest scheduled flight within the VQW is 11:45 p.m. Since July 2020, we have experienced a decline in the number of scheduled flights within the VQW.

NOISE COMPLAINT SUMMARY

During the *3rd Quarter 2020*, there were 893 complaints received from 76 different households, with 504 complaints coming from one household in Safety Harbor and 101 complaints coming from one household in Oldsmar. The top three cities submitting complaints were Safety Harbor, Oldsmar, and Clearwater. The top three reasons for complaints were late night or early morning flights, excessive noise, and low flying aircraft.

During the *4th Quarter 2020*, there were 675 complaints received 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 Noise Abatement Procedures.

For the year 2020, there were a total of 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 Noise Abatement Procedures. There were complaints from new households due to the runway construction.

RUNWAY 18/36 REHABILITATION AND CONSTRUCTION

In May 2020, PIE sent out a media campaign to advise surrounding communities that there will be a temporary shift in flight patterns for approximately four months while the flights utilize Runway 4-22. The project was designed to minimize operational impacts to air carriers, passengers and the surrounding communities through a collaborative ongoing planning effort that involved coordination with Air Traffic Controllers. PIE reopened Runway 18-36 on Friday, December 18, 2020 after its closure in July. PIE recognized these altered flight patterns impacted residential communities while the airport completed these safety improvements and sent a media release thanking the communities for their understanding. Noise Abatement Procedures resumed with the reopening of the primary runway. PIE appreciated the community's understanding during this critical phase of the project.