

**AIRCRAFT NOISE ABATEMENT WORKING GROUP MEETING
ST. PETE-CLEARWATER INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
MINUTES (JANUARY - JUNE 2025)
July 30, 2025**

The Aircraft Noise Abatement Working Group (Working Group) met on July 30, 2025, at 3:00 p.m. in the Airport Conference Room #234. The purpose of this report is to briefly outline initiatives taken by the Working Group and St. Pete-Clearwater International Airport (Airport, PIE) to address public concerns regarding aircraft noise impacts on surrounding communities.

The following individuals were present:

Present:

Jason Driskill, U.S. Army
H.D. Holland, Feather Sound Resident
Tom Jewsbury, Airport Director
Erin Johnson, Airport Operations Manager
LCDR Andrew Lucak, U.S. Coast Guard
Barbara Markley, Pinellas Park Resident
Cathy Minter, Oldsmar Resident
John Padavich, Safety Harbor Resident
Mark Sprague, Deputy Director, Operations and Facilities
Cody Ward, County Attorney's Office
Shirley Westfall, Airport Administration
Jeff Yost, Allegiant Air (via teleconference)

Absent:

Don Casey, Clearwater/Del Oro Groves Resident
Steve Ochsner, Feather Sound Resident
Steven Otterness, Allegiant Air
Hank Samuel, Palm Harbor Resident
Anibal Velazquez, Federal Aviation Administration, Air Traffic Control PIE
Deen Walker, Sheltair

Guests in Attendance:

Sarah Blazonis, Bay News 9
Lou Claudio, Safety Harbor resident
Vince Nowicki, Pinellas County Board of County Commissioners

INTRODUCTION, MEETING DATES, AND MEETING MINUTES

Mr. Sprague welcomed those present to the semi-annual Noise Abatement Working Group (NAWG) meeting, and introduced Jeff Yost, Allegiant Air, via conference call and new member Cathy Minter, Oldsmar resident. Mr. Sprague informed that the 2026 NAWG meeting dates, Working Group member list, and January 29, 2025 meeting minutes were included in the agenda packet.

NOISE ABATEMENT COMPLIANCE REPORT & VOLUNTARY QUIET WINDOW

The *Noise Abatement Compliance Reports* for the months of January through June 2025 were reviewed and reported to the Working Group. The overall compliance rate reflected an average of 93%. Some of the issues that created unusual noise included: closed runways due to maintenance and mowing season, medical emergencies, unknown drone that led to straight in approaches, low visibility, and two security incidents.

Mr. Sprague reviewed the number of flights during the Voluntary Quiet Window (VQW) for the first two Quarters, ranging between 9-23%, for an average of 16% for the first half of 2025.

Responding to a query by Mr. Padavich, he stated as Allegiant continues to add more flights and destinations, they are encouraged to keep flights out of the VQW.

NOISE COMPLAINT SUMMARY

There were 707 complaints received during the 1st Quarter, with 675 complaints from one household in Safety Harbor, representing 95% of the complaints for this quarter. The top two cities submitting complaints were Safety Harbor (676) and Oldsmar (9); while the top three reasons for complaints include flying over home, excessive noise, and low flying.

There were 896 complaints received during the 2nd Quarter, with 887 complaints coming from one household in Safety Harbor, representing 99% of the complaints this quarter. The top three reasons for complaints include late night and early morning, excessive noise, and low flying.

ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

Allegiant Boeing 737 Max

Allegiant continues to invest in new Boeing aircraft and is in the process of obtaining a total of 50 new aircraft with four based at PIE; whereupon, Mr. Sprague noted that newer aircraft are quieter.

FAA Noise Ombudsmen

Mr. Sprague advised that correspondence has been received from FAA representative Shane Jackson, indicating that the FAA will not be attending any community forums.

Geo Fencing

Mr. Sprague reviewed the new flight tracking software program, VirTower which has the capability of Geo Fencing. The Geo Fencing provides information such as the kind of aircraft, tail number, altitude, air speed, etc.; whereupon, a brief discussion ensued.

CITIZEN'S COMMENTS

Public Comments were made by Safety Harbor resident Lou Claudio.