



October 13, 2004

Mr. Joseph A. Breen, Air Transport Specialist
Aviation Department
Keck Center of the National Academies
Transportation Research Board
500 Fifth Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20001

Dear Mr. Breen:

The Los Angeles International Airport (LAX)/Community Noise Roundtable (Roundtable) was created by Los Angeles World Airports (LAWA) in September 2000 as a follow-up to the Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA) Southern California Task Force. The Roundtable is intended to reduce and mitigate adverse aircraft noise impacts that the users of LAX produce on surrounding communities. Membership of the Roundtable consists of state and local elected officials and staff, representatives of congressional offices, members of recognized community groups, the FAA, the airlines, and LAWA Management. This forum provides a mechanism that attempts to ensure cooperation between LAX and local impacted communities in achieving noise impact reduction to those communities wherever possible.

Since its inception, the majority of the Roundtable's efforts have been directed at those noise impacts occurring in communities located outside of the LAX 65 dB CNEL/DNL noise contour. With the help of the FAA, LAWA and the airline industry, we have been successful in achieving some incremental noise reductions for those communities. The members of the Roundtable are optimistic that the Transportation Research Board's (TRB) research work will provide information that is supportive of our interest in achieving our mission of mitigating aircraft noise impacts in the communities impacted by LAX.

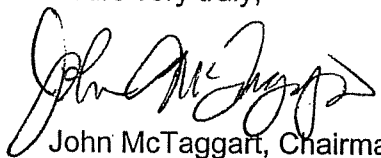
The Roundtable understands that the TRB is seeking suggestions for research topics. We believe that additional information would be useful to the Roundtable in achieving its goals and we would like to offer the following ideas that have been developed from our Work Program:

- Noise metrics, together with levels of significance, that would be applicable in the evaluation of aircraft overflight noise outside the 65 dB CNEL/DNL noise contours during daytime and noise sensitive nighttime hours;
- The use of airspace classifications to assure maximum flight altitudes are used over residential areas during nighttime hours;
- Noise metrics, together with levels of significance, that would be applicable in addressing low frequency noise issues;
- Health effects of aircraft noise – including levels of significance for sleep interference and speech interference due to aircraft noise; and
- Provide additional noise mitigation options.

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We are honored to offer these topics for your consideration. If you wish to contact us for further information please address correspondence to me c/o LAX/Community Noise Roundtable, P.O. Box 92216, Los Angeles, CA 90009-2216, Attn. Robert Holden.

Yours very truly,



John McTaggart, Chairman
Los Angeles International Airport/Community Noise Roundtable

cc: Marland Townsend, Chair, San Francisco International Airport/Community Roundtable
Arlene Mulder, Chair, Chicago O'Hare Noise Compatibility Commission
Carl Burleson, Director, FAA Office of Environment and Energy
Alan Zusman, Chair, Federal Interagency Committee on Aircraft Noise
Kim Day, LAWA

TRB TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH BOARD
OF THE NATIONAL ACADEMIES

November 4, 2004

Mr. John McTaggart
Chairman
LAX Community Noise Roundtable
P.O. Box 92216
Los Angeles, CA 90009-2216

Re: Airport Cooperative Research Program

Dear Mr. McTaggart:

This is in response to your October 13 letter offering research topics for consideration in the ACRP.

Although the ACRP was authorized in the 2003 Vision 100 Act, there have been no appropriations so far; we are hoping to see research funding in fiscal year 2005. The FAA has provided \$55,000 to TRB for ACRP start-up activities. An independent board will be formed for governance of the ACRP, and the board will meet in the next few months to prioritize research needs and to work on organizational issues.

As you know, we have been compiling problem statements on airport research needs. Up-to-date information on the status of the ACRP and copies of the more than 80 problem statements that were submitted for consideration by the ACRP governing board are posted on the TRB website. The ACRP Program Overview can be accessed on the Internet via the TRB website at <http://www.trb.org/ACRP>. ACRP is the third program listed on the left-hand navigation bar. The "Research Problems" heading on the navigation bar accesses a PDF document containing all of the problem statements that have been submitted to ACRP thus far. This document will be supplemented periodically until the ACRP governing board convenes and funding is allocated for the first round of ACRP projects.

ACRP is still accepting problem statements from all sources. If you want to submit a research need for consideration, we ask that you describe it in accordance with the enclosed "Problem Statement Outline" and submit it by e-mail to acrp@nas.edu. If sent electronically, our preference is for you to include the statement in Microsoft Word format as an attachment to an e-mail message. The problem statement may also be submitted in the text of an e-mail message. Please note that problem statements need not be lengthy; 1-2 pages should be sufficient to describe the research topic in the requested format. Paper copies of problem statements also can be submitted to me by US Mail or by facsimile at (202) 334-2006.

The research topics listed in your letter appear to be appropriate for the ACRP, but it might take some effort to put them into the format needed for consideration by the ACRP board. You might want to start by comparing the Roundtable's topics with the statements received so far in ACRP Field 2: Environment. Please let me know if we can help.

We have established an e-mail list for use in providing updates on the status of the ACRP; and, if you will provide your e-mail address, we would be happy to add it (and any others you want to suggest) to this list.

Thank you for your interest in the ACRP.

Sincerely,



Robert J. Reilly

Director

Cooperative Research Programs

cc: Joe Breen
Christopher Jenks

Enclosure

**OFFICE FOR AIRPORT COOPERATIVE RESEARCH PROGRAM
PROBLEM STATEMENTS**

I. PROBLEM TITLE

The title should be no more than 10 words.

II. RESEARCH PROBLEM STATEMENT

In no more than three paragraphs, provide a general description of the problem requiring research.

III. OBJECTIVE

Include a clear, concise statement of the objectives (anticipated products) that are expected to be met by this research.

IV. RESEARCH PROPOSED

Provide a statement of the specific research proposed, how it relates to the research problem statement in Section II, and, if possible, describe the research approach and the tasks envisioned.

V. ESTIMATE OF THE PROBLEM FUNDING AND RESEARCH PERIOD

Recommended Funding: Include an estimate of the funds necessary to accomplish the objective stated in Section III. As a general guideline, the current cost for research averages approximately \$150,000-\$250,000 per professional staff-year. ACRP projects will typically be in the \$300,000-\$500,000 range. A detailed budget is not needed in this problem statement.

Research Period: Provide an estimate of the period of time needed to complete the research, including 3 months for review and revision of a draft final report.

VI. URGENCY AND PAYOFF POTENTIAL

Include a statement on the importance of this particular research. Identify and, if possible, quantify the potential payoff from the achievement of the project objective. Any institutional, political, or socio-economic barriers to implementation of the anticipated research products should also be identified.

VII. RELATED RESEARCH

If known, provide information on other research—completed, in progress, or pending—that is closely related to the proposed problem.

VIII. PERSON(S) DEVELOPING THE PROBLEM

Provide the specifics (i.e., name, title, address, telephone, and fax numbers) for the person(s) who developed the problem.

IX. PROCESS USED TO DEVELOP PROBLEM STATEMENT

State whether this problem statement is the product of an individual, a formal committee, or another entity.

X. DATE AND SUBMITTED BY

Provide the specifics for the person(s) who submitted the problem and the date of submission.

Submit to:

**Robert J. Reilly
ACRP
Transportation Research Board
500 Fifth Street., N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20001
202/334-3224
FAX 202/334-2006**