



# **LAX Community Noise Roundtable**

Aviation Noise News Update

November 10, 2015

# Congress Approves FAA Funding Bill Extension



- **A six-month extension of the bill funding the FAA was approved by the Senate and the House only days before the bill was set to expire**
- **The six-month extension should prevent any interruptions to AIP grant funding**
- **The extension of the current bill, which was approved in 2012, was expected due to the fact that Republicans have not introduced their version of the next FAA reauthorization bill**
- **AAAE and ACI-NA support increasing the passenger facility charge (PFC) cap to \$8.50 from \$4.50 in the next FAA reauthorization bill**
- **The proposed increase to the PFC cap is tied up in negotiations**
- **Lawmakers are discussing several ideas that could affect how the aviation industry is funded including a proposal that would privatize some aspects of air traffic control**

# Pratt & Whitney PurePower Geared Turbofan Engine



- **Pratt & Whitney's new PurePower Geared Turbofan aircraft engines are scheduled to enter commercial service before the end of 2015**
- **PurePower Geared Turbofan aircraft engines burn 16 percent less fuel than other jet engines, have fewer parts (which makes them more reliable) and they generate less noise**
- **It took 30 years and an investment of \$10 Billion to develop the PurePower Geared Turbofan aircraft engine**
- **Almost half of Airbus A320neo aircraft and all new narrow-body aircraft from Bombardier, Embraer, and Mitsubishi will feature the engine**



Source: Eva O'Leary for Bloomberg Businessweek

# Study Evaluates Correlation Between Aircraft Noise Exposure and Cardiovascular Disease



- **The first ecological study investigating the relationship between exposure to aircraft noise and mortality from cardiovascular disease, coronary heart disease, and myocardial infarction**
- **The study area included 161 communes in France (with a population of 1.9 million people) in the vicinity of Paris-Charles de Gaulle, Lyon-Saint-Exupéry, and Toulouse-Blagnac airports**
- **Positive associations between weighted average exposure to aircraft noise and mortality from the diseases listed above even when controlling for socioeconomic status, demographic factors (such as age and gender of the inhabitants), and lung cancer mortality (used as a proxy for smoking)**
- **Air pollution does not seem to be a confounding factor in the relationship between aircraft noise and mortality from the diseases listed above**
- **Mortality rates were higher among men than women**

# Quiet Communities Act of 2015 (H.R. 3384)



- **Representative Grace Meng (D-NY) announced legislation on October 2, 2015 that would require the U.S. EPA to study and report to Congress about the effectiveness of the FAA's efforts to mitigate the impact of aircraft noise**
- **There have been several attempts in the past to re-fund the U.S. EPA's noise office since it was defunded in 1982**
- **The bill has 11 co-sponsors that are all Democrats so it is not likely to be passed by a Republican-controlled House and Senate**
- **It is possible that provisions of H.R. 3384 could be slipped into the new FAA reauthorization bill during a House-Senate conference**
- **The controversial CatEx2 provisions were enacted through the FAA Modernization and Reform Act of 2012**

# Santa Clara County Calls on the FAA to Address NextGen Noise



- **The Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors approved a resolution calling on the FAA to address increased aircraft noise levels attributable to changes in flight paths to Bay Area airports related to the NorCal OAPM**
- **Prior to the NorCal OAPM “varied flight paths dispersed the noise from aircraft and prevented any one city from experiencing a disproportionate amount of noise” according to Supervisor Joe Simitian. Now arriving aircraft fly “along a fixed, narrow superhighway that leads them above many Mid-Peninsula and South Bay cities”**
- **The resolution asks the FAA to mitigate increased ground level noise caused by the NorCal OAPM, consider raising flight altitudes for new procedures, and consider a redesign of all flight paths within the NorCal Metroplex**
- **The resolution also asks Congress to mandate a more robust community engagement process before implementation of new flight paths**

# Airbus Delivers Finnair's first A350-900



- Airbus delivered an A350-900 to Finnair on Wednesday, October 7, 2015 and stated it is on track to deliver 15 A350-900 aircraft this year
- Airbus has experienced several setbacks as it has attempted to ramp up production of the A350 including delays in the delivery of seats and other cabin equipment
- By 2018, Airbus expects it will be able to deliver 10 Airbus A350 aircraft per month
- Airbus claims that the A350-900 is 25 percent more fuel efficient than than the current generation of A330
- The A350-1000, a longer version of the A350-900 that can seat 366 passengers, will be introduced into service during the summer of 2017



Source: WorldAirlineNews.com

# Final Flight for U.S. Airways



- **Flight 1939** marked the last departure under the **U.S. Airways** name
- **American Airlines** unified the reservations systems for both airlines on the same day
- **Flight 1939** began its final journey in **Philadelphia** and made stops in **Charlotte** and **Phoenix** before landing in **San Francisco**



Source: Tim Boyle, Getty Images