LAX Community Noise Roundtable

Aviation Noise News Update

May 11, 2016
On April 27, 2016, Congressman Stephen F. Lynch (D-Boston) introduced H.R. 5075, the Airplane Impacts Mitigation (AIM) Act of 2016

- "The AIM Act would require the FAA Administrator to enter into an agreement with a school of public health to conduct a study of the health impacts of airplane flights on residents exposed to a range of noise and air pollution levels from such flights, including asthma exacerbation, sleep disturbance, stress, and elevated blood pressure."

- "The AIM Act mandates that the study will focus on residents in Boston, Chicago, New York, the Northern California Metroplex region, Phoenix, and up to three additional cities."

- "The study will focus on residents living partly or wholly within the land area underneath the flight paths most frequently used by aircraft flying including during takeoff or landing at an altitude lower than 10,000 feet. It will consider only those health impacts that manifest during the physical implementation of the NextGen RNAV program."

In April, the Senate passed an FAA reauthorization bill that would cover FAA’s programs through September 2017

- The bill has moved on to the House where efforts to develop a companion bill have stalled

- The House version, known as the Aviation Innovation Reform and Reauthorization (AIRR) Act, includes provisions to remove the air traffic control function from the FAA. The Senate version includes no such provision

- The AIRR Act contains several noise-related provisions; some of which address community concerns that have arisen from the implementation of RNAV procedures

- The FAA’s current spending authority expires on July 15, 2016

(http://thehill.com/policy/transportation/276828-senate-sends-faa-reauthorization-to-house)
The Los Angeles County Economic Development Corporation (LAEDC) released a report on LAX’s contribution to the local economy

- The LAEDC report found that LAX created 620,610 local jobs and 121,640 jobs tied to the ongoing capital improvement program

- The 620,610 jobs generated $37.3 billion in labor income, $6.2 billion in state and local taxes, and $8.7 billion in federal taxes

- “Arriving visitors spent $9.7 billion and supported 155,640 jobs at the region’s many hotels, restaurants, theme parks and entertainment centers, and retail outlets.”

- From 2008 through 2023, LAWA expects to spend more than $14 billion to renovate LAX

Alaska Air Group Agrees to Buy Virgin America

On Monday, April 4, 2016 Alaska Air Group’s board of directors approved the $4 billion acquisition of Virgin America

• Alaska Air Group won a bidding war with jetBlue airlines, which was seeking to expand its penetration into the west coast

• In addition to allowing Alaska Airlines to expand its west coast presence, the acquisition provides access to key east coast markets including Reagan National, JFK, and LaGuardia Airports

• Alaska Air Group stated that the acquisition, “. . .will make Alaska Airlines the go-to airline for the more than 175,000 daily fliers in and out of Golden State airports, including San Francisco and Los Angeles.”

• The merged airline will operate 1,200 daily departures using 280 aircraft with an average age of 8.5 years

Photo Credit: Creative Commons by InSapphoWeTrust
Delta Air Lines places major aircraft orders to expand and modernize its fleet

- On April 28, 2016, Delta placed a $5.6 billion order for 125 Bombardier CS100 narrowbody, 110-seat aircraft
- On April 29, 2016, Delta ordered 37 Airbus A321 aircraft bringing its total A321s on order to 82
- The A321 aircraft are expected to replace Delta’s fleet of 116 MD-88 aircraft
- Bombardier states that, “The C Series is now the most efficient aircraft in the skies” due to its nose to tail design, its Pratt & Whitney PurePower 1500G engines, and advanced aerodynamics
“The C Series aircraft’s reduced drag, optimized wing aerodynamics and integrated 3-axis fly-by-wire controls all contribute to the family’s 20% fuel burn advantage.”

Source: Bombardier

COMMUNITY FRIENDLY

The C Series is the ideal aircraft for urban operations thanks to its unmatched environmental scorecard.

REDUCED EMISSIONS

The C Series aircraft’s fuel burn advantage translates directly into a 20% reduction in CO₂ emissions. This means that one C Series aircraft could reduce an operator’s CO₂ emissions by up to 6,000 tonnes each year. The C Series will also emit 50% fewer NOx emissions than the CAEP6 NOx emission standards.

REDUCED NOISE

With the lowest noise levels of any commercial jet in production, the C Series is ideal for urban operations and noise-sensitive airports.

REDUCED IMPACT

Bombardier assesses the environmental impact of its aircraft throughout their life cycles. Through its design, manufacturing, operations and recyclability, the C Series will be issued an Environmental Product Declaration (EPD) upon entry into service – an industry first.

Source: Bombardier