

Presentation Before the LAX/Community Noise Roundtable

Marco Milanese, Port of Seattle

November 15, 2023



SEA Airport Overview

- 11th Busiest US Airport
- Largest Airport in the PNW
- Alaska Airlines' Main Hub
- Top 20 Cargo Airport
- 24/7 Operation
- 2010: 31M passengers
- 2023 Forecast: Over 50M passengers





Constrained Footprint in a Dense Area

Seattle



SEA Airport Sound Insulation Boundary

Over 9,400 homes insulated since 1985



October 2021



Noise Comment Report – Totals for 2022

- 917 Distinct Households
- 210,146 Comments
- 23% Drop in Comments vs.

2021 Totals









StART Overview

- Supports meaningful and collaborative public dialogue and engagement
- Provides an opportunity for the cities to inform the airport about their priorities
- Raises public knowledge about the airport and its impacts
- Focuses on practical, achievable solutions to reduce the impact of the airport on the near-airport cities.



StART Overview

- Developed in consultation with the nearairport cities: Burien, Des Moines, Federal Way, Normandy Park, SeaTac & Tukwila
- Alaska Airlines, Delta Air Lines and FAA all play key roles
- Consultant serves as facilitator
- Airport Managing Director serves as chair
- Cities appoint two community reps and one city employee – no elected officials serve
- Steering Committee guides StART's direction
- Inaugural meeting: early 2018





Overall Successes





StART: Overall Successes

- Become **the** venue where airport impacts are discussed and tackled
- Only venue that brings together all the key players with a collective purpose: airport, airlines, FAA and the community
- Built shared ownership for StART, its accomplishments and its structure
- Demonstrated that the airport doesn't just talk it acts
- Improves the overall relationship and advances other shared priorities
- Helps prevent rushed/reactive actions from taking form



Challenges





StART: Challenges

- Airports have very limited authority on addressing impacts/implementing mitigation
- Change at the federal level moves slowly
- Other players pressuring to join the group
- Lack of trust in airport (stemming from past activities) takes time to rebuild
- Quick wins enacted; additional steps become increasingly more difficult
- FAA's involvement fluctuates
- Lack of outside understanding of StART's bylaws
- Community member participation is uneven



Working Groups





Aviation Noise Working Group Accomplishments

- Runway Use Plan
- Late Night Noise Limitation Program
- Monthly noise complaint reporting
- Discouraging reverse thrust
- Encouraging continuous taxi to takeoffs (rolling takeoffs)
- Promoting one-engine taxiing?





Federal Policy Working Group Accomplishments

- Successful advocacy for aircraft noise and emissions policies in 2023 FAA bills
- Language included in Senate and/or House bills:
 - ➢ Funding for "failed" sound insulation replacement
 - > Deadline for FAA action on Noise Policy Review
 - Ultrafine particulate study
 - > FAA Environmental Mitigation Grant Program
 - ➢ Regional airport capacity guidance





Federal Policy Working Group Accomplishments

- Joint Port-Cities DC Fly-in & virtual meetings with Congressional & FAA officials
- Joint comment letters on FAA and EPA regulatory changes
- Joint comment letter on FAA Noise Policy Review
- Inclusion of key funding priorities in FY23 & FY24 Appropriations bills





Questions?