



LAX Community Noise Roundtable

Work Program Item C6

ACRP Discussion

July 9, 2014



INTRODUCTION

- **The LAX Community Noise Roundtable’s Work Program Item C6 has been geared towards reviewing and recommending Problem Statements to the Airport Cooperative Research Program (ACRP)**
- **Each year, LAWA staff, on behalf of the Roundtable, requests copies of all problem statements submitted**
- **ESA Airports evaluates the aircraft noise-related Problem Statements for the Roundtable’s consideration**
- **ESA Airports develops a list of “Recommended” and “Not Recommended” projects based primarily on the potential benefits of the research to communities near LAX**
- **The Roundtable forwards the recommended Problem Statements to ACRP**

Work Program Item C6 - ACRP Discussion



- **However, the ACRP does not solicit input on Problem Statements nor is it setup to receive unsolicited input on Problem Statements from individuals or groups like the LAX Roundtable**
- **As a result, the ACRP Program Manager has indicated that “...there is no formal process to open the evaluation to the general populace of the airport industry.”**
- **Therefore, ACRP will no longer provide the requested Problem Statements for the Roundtable to review**



BACKGROUND

- **The ACRP was established in December 2003 to carry out “...applied research on problems that are shared by airport operating agencies and are not being adequately addressed by existing federal research programs.”**
- **In October 2005, FAA executed an agreement with the National Academies, through the Transportation Research Board (TRB), to carryout the ACRP**
- **In addition to noise, “the ACRP undertakes research and other technical activities in a variety of airport subject areas including design, construction, maintenance, operations, safety, security, policy, planning, human resources, and administration”**

Work Program Item C6 - ACRP Discussion



- **In October 2005, the Secretary Transportation appointed an ACRP Oversight Committee (AOC) with representation from airports, aviation industry organizations such as the ACI-NA, AAAE, NASAO, and A4A**
- **The AOC is responsible for identifying the highest priority research projects, establishing the funding levels, and defining the expected products**
- **The ACRP also utilizes the support and “. . .participation of airport professionals, state and local government officials, equipment and service suppliers, other airport users, and research organizations.”**
- **TRB appoints a panel of subject-area experts for each research project, which reviews proposals, selects the contractor, and provides input to the research effort**



THE ACRP PROCESS

- **ACRP periodically solicits recommendations for research in the form of Problem Statements**
- **The Problem Statements are reviewed by ACRP staff for potential overlap with other ACRP projects**
- **TRB aviation-related committees provide feedback on the merits of each problem statement**



THE ACRP PROCESS

- **Review panels are convened to evaluate each problem statement and to make a recommendation to the AOC as to which should be funded**
- **ACRP staff then transmits the problem statements and the recommendations for funding to the AOC**
- **AOC members select the problem statements they feel will address the most pressing aviation issues and produce the most useful results for the airport community**



THE ACRP PROCESS

- **The established ACRP process does not provide for unsolicited input into the selection of the Problem Statements**
- **As a result, the current LAX Roundtable process is not an effective way to provide input to the ACRP on aircraft noise research projects**

Work Program Item C6 - ACRP Discussion



- **While the Roundtable could consider providing input to the ACRP during the Problem Statement creation and submission phase of the research process, this is a time consuming process that is typically best suited for aviation industry professionals involved in research**
- **The Roundtable would need to identify research projects that meet the ACRP goals of:**
 - **solving common operating problems,**
 - **adapting appropriate new technologies from other industries, or**
 - **introducing innovations into the airport industry.**
- **The research would also need to be on problems that are “...shared by airport operating agencies and are not being adequately addressed by existing federal research programs.”**



MOVING FORWARD

- **Since the current process is not an effective use of the Roundtable's time and effort, the Roundtable may wish to consider closing Work Program Item C6**
- **ACRP Problem Statements and ongoing research projects that are of interest to the Roundtable would continue to be covered during the Aviation Noise News portion of Roundtable meetings or may be covered in depth during a separate agenda item**



Questions?