

# Aircraft Noise Management and Community Engagement

N.O.I.S.E. Policy Summit and Community Involvement Workshop

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# Port of Portland Noise Management – Vision and Mission

## Vision

*We will be recognized regionally, nationally, and globally for our commitment to aviation noise management and helping enhance the livability of the region through programs that balance the needs of all stakeholders and encourages trust and open communication.*

## Mission

*Minimize to the extent possible, the noise impacts from aircraft utilizing airports operated by the Port of Portland. Encourage cooperation and collaboration with internal and external partners.*

# Noise Management Highlights

- 1979: Noise management program initiated
- 1983: Completed FAA Part 150 (Noise Compatibility Study) **(7<sup>th</sup> Airport in US)**
- 1983: Noise Abatement Advisory Committee Formed
- 1985: VOR navigational aid installed for noise abatement **(Only Airport in US)**
- 2001: Construction of Ground Run-Up Enclosure **(3<sup>rd</sup> Airport in US)**
- 2001: *Hosted N.O.I.S.E. Conference in Portland*
- 2004: Early evaluation of RNAV technology and potential value for noise abatement.
- 2008-09: Development of RNAV Departure Procedures in support of noise abatement
- 2011-14: Development of RNAV Arrivals and Approaches in support of noise abatement

# What We Do

Land-Use Planning

Operational Policies  
and Procedures

Infrastructure

# How We Do It

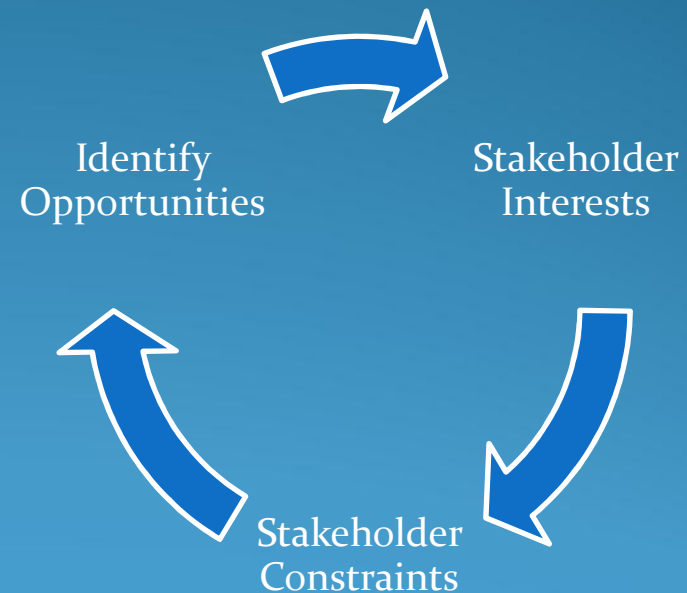


# Stakeholder Engagement

## Fundamental Role for Airports

*“Airports want to work with their aircraft operators and their communities to provide a safe and efficient airport environment while minimizing the impact of aircraft noise”*

*Source: PASSUR Aerospace*



# Bridging The Gap





# Engaging Stakeholders – Who?

## Industry

- Federal Aviation Administration
  - Local, Regional, National
  - Air Traffic Control
  - Airports Division
  - NextGen/PBN Office
  - NATCA
  - FAA Safety Team
- Aircraft Operators
  - Airlines
  - General Aviation
  - Military (Local and Visiting)
  - Flight Instructors and Students
  - Law Enforcement
  - Airport Tenants
  - Regional Groups
  - Media
- Trade Associations
- Aircraft Manufacturers
- Procedure Designers

## Public / Community

- Individual residents
- Neighborhood Groups
- Homeowner/Condo Associations
- Advisory Committees
  - **PDX Citizen Noise Advisory Committee**
  - Hillsboro Airport Roundtable Exchange
- Working Groups
  - Regional Cargo Feeder Study
  - Noise Beyond DNL 65
- Local, regional, state jurisdictions
  - Planners, Environmental, etc.
  - Office of Neighborhoods
- Local, regional, and state political leadership
- Non-Government Organizations
- Media



# Engaging Industry Stakeholders – How?

## ***Inform / Advise***

- Noise Program Brochures
- Pilot Information Hotline
- Whispertrack
- Pilot Briefings
- Presentations and Conferences

## ***Consult***

- Operations / Fly Quiet Reporting
- Air Traffic Controller Noise Management Training
- Flight Instructor and Student Pilot Briefings

## ***Collaborate***

- Procedure Design (e.g. NextGen/RNAV)
- Fly Quiet Meetings
- Issue-Specific Meetings (Air Traffic Control, Aircraft Operators, etc.).

# Engaging Community Stakeholders – How?

## ***Inform / Advise***

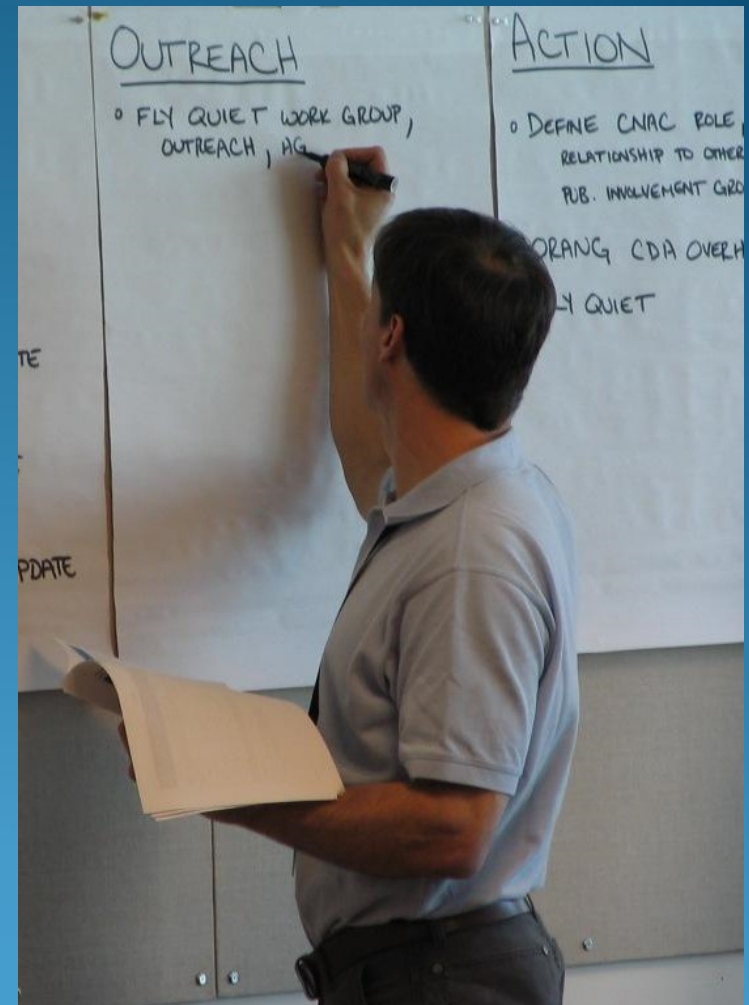
- Newsletters, Fact Sheets, Annual Reports, etc.
- Noise Alerts
- Website
- Podcast
- Direct Mailings
- Farmers Markets
- Community Events
- Open Houses (Airports and Tenants)

## ***Consult***

- In-Person Meetings
- Community / Neighborhood Meetings
- Homeowner / Condo Association Meetings

## ***Collaborate***

- Advisory Committees
- Project or Issue-Focused Working Groups



# PDX Citizen Noise Advisory Committee

*The Citizen Noise Advisory Committee (CNAC) is the official public forum for addressing community aircraft noise impacts associated with the operation of the Portland International Airport (PDX).*

*As an advisory committee, CNAC ...*

- Collaborates with Port staff on addressing aircraft noise and operations impacts*
- Provides a forum for residents to address questions and concerns*
- Reviews and comment on airport projects*
- Provides input related to the PDX Noise Management Program*
- Assists the Port with outreach and communication efforts*

# Community Engagement In Action

## Regional Cargo Feeder Study

- Community requested less concentration of arrivals over residential neighborhoods
- Convened working group (open to interested community members) to explore current arrival/departure procedures and proposed alternatives
- Participation included airlines, air traffic control, and community.
- Multi-year project representing communities in both Oregon and Washington
- Outcome: Set of operational recommendations for ATC, most of which were adopted.



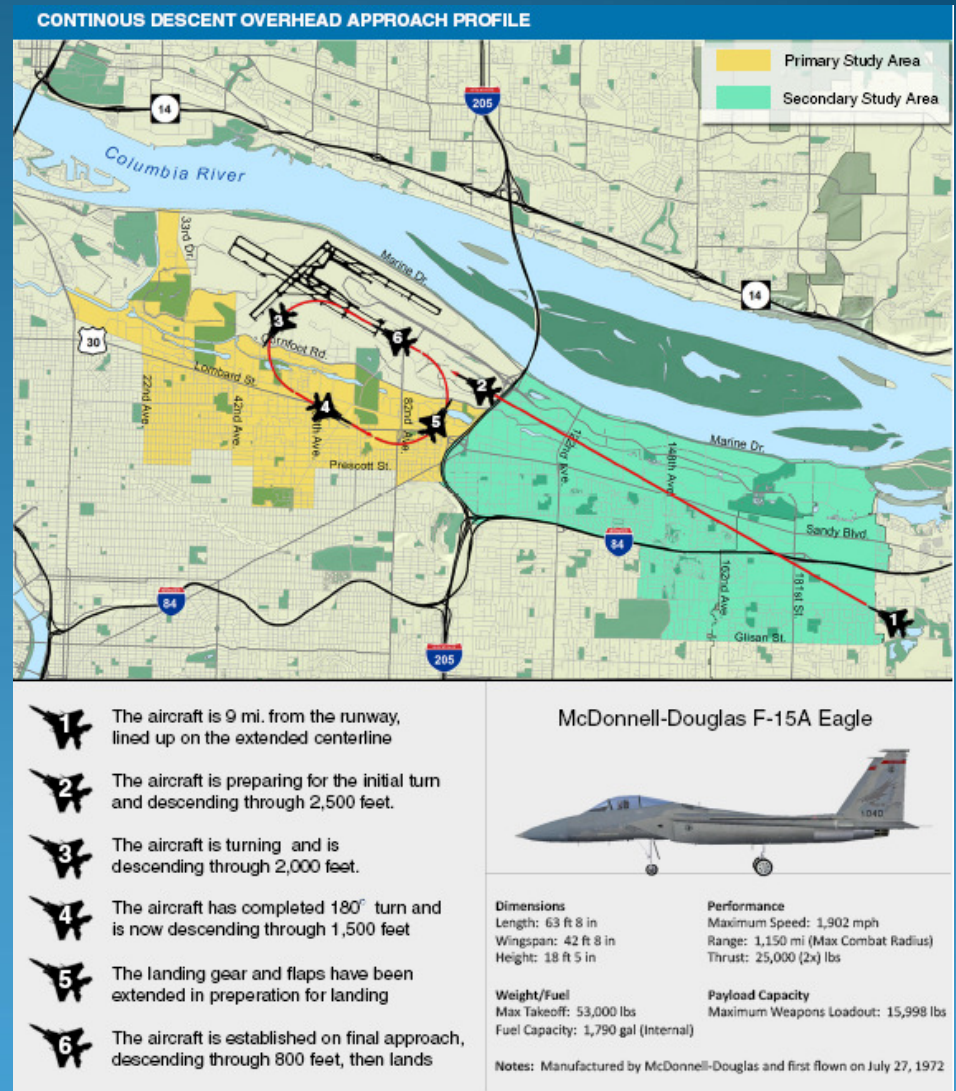
*Photo Copyright: Claus Witte, Airlines.Net*



# Community Engagement In Action

## Continuous Descent Overhead Approach

- Local military requested support for required training procedure.
- Primary engagement: CNAC and interested residents from nearby neighborhoods.
- Numerous discussions with military, CNAC, and community to understand interests and concerns.
- Hosted “Community Fly Day” (Suggestion from CNAC) to allow residents to experience the noise and provide feedback.
- Outcome: Full CNAC and (majority) community support for new procedure. Military able to meet training requirements.



# Community Engagement In Action: NextGen

## FAA NextGen (RNAV – Area Navigation) Design and Implementation

- Goal: Leverage NextGen technology to enhance PDX noise abatement procedures
- Primary engagement: Citizen Noise Advisory Committee (public meetings).
- Included education and background including political, technical , and environmental implications of NextGen technology.
- Multi-phase project including development of RNAV departure and RNAV arrival procedures
- Frequent updates to CNAC throughout project
- CNAC had understanding of so-called “trade-space” and compromises therein
- Unanimous support for project
- Outcome: Implementation of RNAV procedures which was acceptable to both community and industry partners



# Advocating for Communities – Ours and Yours

## **Speaker / Presenter at Conferences Nationwide**

- Performance Based Navigation (PBN) Summit
- Airports Council International-North America (ACI-NA)
- UC Davis Noise and Emissions Symposium

## **Industry Working Groups**

- RTCA NextGen Advisory Committee PBN Blueprint for Success Task Group
- National Business Aviation Association Airports Working Group
- Helicopter Association International – Fly Neighborly Committee
- Recognizing Excellence and Leadership in Air Transportation for the Environment - FAA Core Group
- Aviation Sustainability Center Advisory Board
- NoiseQuest Project Team

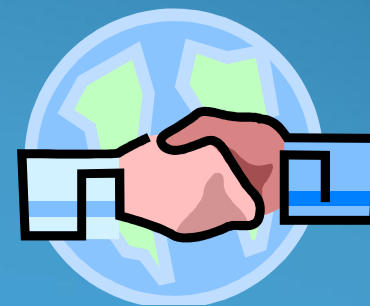
## **Publications**

- Airport Noise Report
- Airport Regions Conference Guest Column
- Rotor Magazine (Helicopter Association International)
- ACI-NA - Airports' Role in PBN Whitepaper Working Group (Co-Author)



# How to Engage YOUR airport

- Find the right person/department
- Telephone is often best
- Do your homework
- Know the stakeholders, their roles, their mission, and constraints
- Focus on the “big picture”
- “Seek first to understand, then to be understood” \*
- “Seek Win-Win”\*
- The airport operator may be your best resource/partner



*\* “Seven Habits of Highly Effective People,” Author: Stephen Covey*

# Thank You!

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