



HOLLYWOOD - NORTH PARK COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

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January 26, 2013

Our Elected Representatives and Public Officials

The Board of Directors of the Hollywood-North Park Community Association (HNPCA) strongly denounces the Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA) published plan, effective October 17, 2013, to significantly change runway usage patterns at O'Hare International Airport. The noise created by these changes, especially from late night/early morning landings, will have a serious, negative impact on the North Park neighborhood and northwest side of the City of Chicago.

HNPCA, representing over 4500 households of the North Park community area challenges this plan because the increased noise will:

- Significantly decrease property values because home buyers will not even look in areas with frequent airplane noise.
- Reduce our quality of life by:
 - Impeding and impairing the quality of sleep
 - Forcing residents to restrict outdoor social activities; planes overhead every 2 minutes make most conversation and outdoor peace and quiet impossible.
 - Increasing air pollution

The FAA plan shifts more than 60,000 safe and efficient landings annually from the west side of the airport to the east side. This shift will:

- Add 35-40 miles and 10-15 minutes of travel time for every flight affected,
- Waste fuel in excess of 40 million gallons annually, costing the airlines at least \$120 million more each year

The FAA should advocate reducing costs at O'Hare rather than greatly increasing them.

Further, the FAA plan, wind allowing, shifts the majority of late night/early morning (10 pm to 7 am) landings onto runway 27 Left/Thorndale. These landings are currently handled by runways that are longer and closer to the terminals.

Impact to our community:

- Currently: 15 landings/night (average), most between 10-11pm and 6-7am
- New plan: Over 100 landings/night, with significant increase between midnight and 5am

We demand investigation of viable alternatives, including:

- Leaving existing diagonal runways and not extending 27 Left (at a cost of \$3 B)
- Shifting traffic to the west side of 27 Left (9 Right) which is severely underused and largely handles planes that fly over a no-people zone.
- Shifting departure traffic from west 10 Left/Lawrence and/or increasing arrival traffic to 28 Right/the east side of Lawrence.
- Using other new runways. Why are 28 Center/Wilson and 27 Right/Pratt to be used only part-time? Shift traffic on some nights to them.
 - 28 Center/Wilson, costing over \$1B and opening October 2013, is to be closed from 10pm to 6am. It is 40% longer and 33% wider than 27 Left.
 - 27 Right/Pratt is also completely closed at night. It is newly built at a cost of over \$700M.

We object to the planned concentration of night landings on 27 Left when safe and efficient runway alternatives are available. We demand that the FAA reconsider this plan and look at alternatives. The negative impacts property values and quality of life in our community is significant and unacceptable.

Sincerely,

Jewel Klein
Chairman of the Board
Hollywood-North Park Community Association

Distribution List:

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