



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Aviation
Administration**

Great Lakes Region
2300 East Devon Avenue
Des Plaines, IL 60018

JUN 25 2010

Dear .

Thank you for your electronic mail message (email) dated May 24, 2010 regarding your concerns with the noise in your neighborhood.

Based on your address, your home is approximately one quarter of a mile north of the approach to Runway 27L, and over seven miles east of O'Hare. As the airport operator, the City of Chicago determines which runways are open and available for use by the airlines and the air traffic controllers. The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) utilizes these runways, including Runway 27L, based on airfield, air traffic, and weather conditions, all of which cause the number of aircraft utilizing individual runways to vary every day.

Due to construction of a future runway (Runway 27C), aircraft arrivals will be closer to your residence and will be more prevalent once Runway 27C is operational. Daily usage will vary based on weather and other conditions as described above. The FAA's forecast assumes that operational levels at O'Hare will be higher in the future than what is currently being experienced, and will increase at approximately the same proportion of day/night operations in the future.

You may hear noise at other times of the day than you have in the past. This would be due to the use of alternate runways to accommodate airfield construction, and is temporary. No component of the construction would cause any change in altitude of the planes over your home as compared to operations prior to the start of construction (2005).

There are currently no FAA approved procedures that would allow a variation in the location of arrivals for Runway 27L, allowing for the type of approach routing you suggested, over the forest preserve to the south rather than residential areas.

The FAA has provided extensive funding throughout the nation to address airport noise impacts to the greatest extent possible. The FAA has worked with the City of Chicago and the O'Hare Noise Compatibility Commission to provide over \$285 million for school sound insulation, and more than \$62 million for residential sound insulation to address O'Hare related noise impacts. Since your home is over seven miles away from O'Hare and it is not within the 65 Day-Night Equivalent Sound Level (DNL) contour, your home is ineligible for Federal sound insulation funding. The FAA is unaware of any State of Illinois programs that fund sound insulation for airport noise.

Enclosed please find a copy of Exhibit 5.1-10 from the O'Hare Modernization Environmental Impact Statement which shows the 65 DNL noise contour. Residential property is considered for sound insulation if it is located within the 65 DNL contour.

For more information on the OMP, please reference our website:

http://www.faa.gov/airports/airport_development/omp/

You will find the completed Environmental Impact Statement, Frequently Asked Questions regarding the program, and many more other details.

While we acknowledge that impacts such as noise cannot be completely eliminated, the FAA has taken significant steps to minimize those impacts, and we will continue to do so. We also anticipate technological advancements in the aviation industry will provide additional opportunities to do even more. Thank you for sharing your perspective with the FAA.

Sincerely,

Original Signed by

Joyce B. Scott

 Barry D. Cooper
Regional Administrator
Great Lakes Region

Enclosure

cc: Congressman Quigley