# OMP PUBLIC HEARING

FEB 2 2005

**Richard M. Daley**
**Mayor**

**Rosemarie S. Andolino**
**Executive Director**

## WRITTEN COMMENT FORM

Thank you for attending the OMP Public Hearing. If you would like to submit written comments on the O'Hare Modernization Program or the Federal Aviation Administration's Final Environmental Impact Statement, you may use this form. Should your comments exceed the space allotted, you may attach additional pages.

**Name:** Arlene Muder

**Address:**

**Comment:**

Submitted attached letter

# O'Hare Noise Compatibility Commission

Arlene J. Mulder
Chairperson

Raymond J. Kuper
Vice-Chairperson

September 6, 2005

FEB 1 2 2005

Mr. Michael MacMullen
Airports Environmental Program Manager
Federal Aviation Administration
Chicago Airports District Office
2300 East Devon Avenue
Des Plaines, IL 60018

Dear Mr. MacMullen:

On April 6, 2005, on behalf of the O'Hare Noise Compatibility Commission (ONCC), I submitted detailed comments regarding the O'Hare Modernization Program (OMP) Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) to the Federal Aviation Administration. I am grateful to our members who have remained fully engaged in the process and who have provided constructive and useful suggestions and input.

As the OMP has progressed through the FAA's Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) process over the past several months, the ONCC has offered testimony and provided written comments regarding this project. In the final EIS released in July, the FAA responded to the most recent set of comments submitted by the ONCC in April.

The ONCC feels it is vital that the City of Chicago and the FAA to work with local community leaders and officials to reduce aircraft noise at its source and improve the quality of life for residents surrounding O'Hare International Airport. As such, the ONCC feels very strongly that all stakeholders in the process consider these quality of life issues to the same degree as airport efficiency, with safety being the main priority.

Our remarks referenced the great progress made by the City of Chicago and the FAA in the O'Hare Residential and School Sound Insulation Programs. The ONCC wants these Programs to continue throughout the various implementation phases of the OMP. As such, the ONCC requests that the FAA specifically identify the sources of the funding for those Programs.

Technical and operational issues are vital aspects of the ONCC's mission to reduce aircraft noise at the source. Therefore, the ONCC urges the FAA to continue working with the City of Chicago to assess the effectiveness and enforcement of the O'Hare Tower Order by improving lines of communication and thereby the workability of the Order.

P.O. Box 1126 • Des Plaines, Illinois 60017-1126
Phone: 773-686-3198 • Fax: 773-686-4980
www.oharenoise.org

In addition, as part of the its involvement with the OMP and in reviewing TAAM data, it is important for the ONCC to remain fully engaged with the FAA and City of Chicago on decisions concerning the utilization of airspace around O'Hare Airport for arrival and departure traffic.

In addressing proposed mitigation strategies, the ONCC champions the potential of the Advanced Flight Track Procedures (or AFTPro). This initiative, using new technology and departure procedures, promises to direct flights with greater precision along flight tracks that are over compatible land areas, such as forests, industrial areas and expressways.

The ONCC commends the FAA for the high level of detail in the OMP DEIS regarding the future of the Fly Quiet Program. It is necessary that the ONCC be involved with key stakeholders as a detailed review of the O'Hare Fly Quiet Program is conducted. As the OMP progresses, there should be a thorough evaluation as to how a new or modified form can improve the functionality of this the voluntary nighttime program and further benefit residents of communities around O'Hare International Airport.

The ONCC looks forward to ongoing participation and dialogue with the FAA and the City of Chicago during the rest of the EIS process and in subsequent implementation phases of the OMP.

In conclusion, I commend you and you staff at the FAA's Chicago Airports District Office for substantively considering the potential impacts of the O'Hare Modernization Program on the quality of life of residents around O'Hare International Airport; for responding to our inquiries and questions on a timely basis; and for appearing and speaking at ONCC-sponsored meetings and forums about these issues.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit our written comments regarding the O'Hare Modernization Program (OMP) Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

Sincerely,

Arlene J. Mulder
Chairperson, O'Hare Noise Compatibility Commission and
Mayor, Village of Arlington Heights

Enclosure

cc: Members, O'Hare Noise Compatibility Commission
Brian Gilligan, Executive Director, O'Hare Noise Compatibility Commission