Federal Update on Aircraft Noise Advocacy

City of Culver City

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January 27, 2020
Began Advocacy in Early 2018

- Primary focus – work with Congress/FAA to reduce aircraft noise
  - Prepare regular updates on advocacy strategy
  - Participate in bi-monthly calls with City’s Aviation Subcommittee
- Federal advocacy has been in support of litigation
- Initial and ongoing outreach targets
  - Culver City congressional delegation
  - Congressional Quiet Skies Caucus Members
  - House and Senate Aviation Subcommittees
  - House and Senate Transportation Appropriations Subcommittees
FAA Reauthorization – Initial Focus

• Initial advocacy
  – Establish new standards for measuring noise, using both single event and cumulative event measurements
  – Mandate study on health impacts of noise

• Prepared letters for Mayor

• Engaged Rep. Bass and Senators Harris and Feinstein

• Coordinated City’s federal advocacy trip in October 2018
  – Culver City congressional delegation
  – House Aviation Subcommittee staff
FAA Reauthorization – Expanded Advocacy

• Advocate with Senators on FAA Reauthorization bill of 2018
  – Identified comprehensive list of policy initiatives on noise
  – VSA advocated directly with Senate Aviation Subcommittee
  – VSA drafted letter for Culver City to send to California Senators
    • Enhanced noise measures
    • Phasing out Stage III aircraft
    • Improving FAA engagement with communities
    • Appointing an ombudsman for each FAA region
    • Study of health effects of noise
    • Restore flight dispersion
FY 2020 Appropriations Bill

• House and Senate Appropriations Committees
  – Continue to pressure FAA to act
    • Senate directs FAA to improve development of flight procedures, give fair consideration to public comment, reduce noise through procedure modification/dispersion to reduce impact on local communities;
    • FAA should utilize state-of-the-art technologies/metrics to measure actual noise at ground level in communities affected by flight paths;
    • FAA should give high priority to evaluating where increased noise levels disrupts homes and businesses, and threatens public health.
    • House urges the FAA to respond completely to the requirements in the FAA Reauthorization Act pertaining to noise reduction
Other Congressional Advocacy on Noise

• Nomination of Steve Dickson to be FAA Administrator
  – Submitted questions to Senators on noise for confirmation hearing on whether Dickson would make noise a priority
• House FAA oversight hearing in September
  – Submitted questions on status of FAA implementation of noise provisions enacted in 2018
• Rep. Jackie Speier’s introduction of 8 noise bills in November
• Quiet Skies Caucus meeting w/ Administrator; follow-up letter
• Letters this month to House and Senate aviation leaders
  – One year anniversary of FAA Reauthorization Act and urging they keep pressure on FAA to act on noise
National League of Cities Resolution

• Culver City resolution to National League of Cities on noise
• Council Member Eriksson carried aircraft noise resolution through adoption by NLC
• Working with NLC to carry the policy resolution to Congress
  – Will include Council Member Eriksson’s trip to NLC Legislative Conference in March
  – VSA will schedule and participate in meetings with Congress to make aviation policymakers are aware of resolution on noise
Next Steps on Federal Advocacy

• Aircraft Noise
  – Advocacy trip to Washington, DC during NLC Legislative Conference
  – Continue advocacy with California delegation and Quiet Skies Caucus
  – Develop legislative proposals this year
    • FY 2021 Transportation/HUD Appropriations
    • House infrastructure bill will address aviation

• Surface Transportation Authorization
  – Identify City’s priorities on road, bridges, transit, and sustainability
  – Engage congressional delegation and House/Senate committees
  – Work with NLC and other stakeholders
Questions