

To: Nantucket Airport Commission
From: Nantucket Noise Advisory Committee (NAC)
Re: Recommendations for Future Implementation by Airport Commission
Date: February 10, 2004

The Nantucket Airport Noise Advisory Committee (NAC) has completed its initial year of meetings to fulfill its Charter by evaluating current noise abatement policies and procedures and by identifying strategies and actions that may be necessary to meet noise abatement goals of the Airport and Community. To conduct its evaluation the NAC sought input from commercial airlines management, chief pilots, local and regional FAA air traffic personnel and management and a broad spectrum of community members and airport neighbors. In addition, the NAC worked closely with the Airport's Environmental Coordinator using data provided by the recently installed Passur monitoring system.

As a result of this intensive process, the NAC offers the following recommendation to the Airport Commission for its consideration and action.

I. Establish Formal Goal

The Airport Commission should adopt a long-term noise reduction goal by formalizing the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT IN order to preserve the economic viability, the historic character, the environmental resources and the natural quietude of Nantucket Island by keeping it a desired place to visit, to invest, to work and to live, the Nantucket Airport Commission (Commission) is committed to the long-range goal of **minimizing noise impacts of aircraft operations** to the maximum extent possible. Further, it is the intention of the Commission to actively work with the Nantucket community at-large, the FAA, local and regional Air Traffic Control personnel, the airlines and all airport users to achieve this outcome.

II. Groundside Noise Goals

The Airport Commission should establish rules and procedures aimed at limiting the noise impacts of unnecessary extended use of Auxiliary Power Units (APU's) and other groundside operations. The following specific actions are recommended:

- A. Re-configure the parking plan for the South Ramp for maximum noise mitigation without compromising safety.
- B. Dedicate staffing for South Ramp/GA/APU compliance monitoring.
- C. Incorporate use of the North Ramp in the overall parking plan during high volume parking demand.
- D. Facilitate and encourage use of electrically powered Ground Power Units (GPU's) rather than APU's for aircraft that can accommodate either.
- E. Formulate enforceable rules and procedures for limiting APU use where plug-in units are an alternative and educate all GA owners and pilots to ensure maximum compliance.
- F. Explore the economic feasibility of a long-term self-sustaining transition toward use of plug-in units on a "plug and pay" basis.
- G. Based on G., if and when an East Ramp is developed, consider incorporating infrastructure (wiring and equipment) needed to require the use of electrically driven GPU's in this location.

III. Airside Noise Goals

The Airport Commission should take the following actions to achieve its goal of eliminating or minimizing noise impacts of aircraft operations:

- A. Tighten compliance with current one-mile off shore procedures.
 - 1. Strive for 100% compliance of one mile over-water route procedures.

2. Periodically study and evaluate the efficacy of the one-mile off shore routes. Factors of wind, altitude and distance should be incorporated into such an analysis.
3. Consider adjusting off shore distance based on the above study results.

B. Minimize over flights of the Island

1. Strive for 100% compliance with recommended VFR noise abatement routes.
2. Review and refine current VRF noise abatement routes for possible adjustment.
3. Continue working with the FAA to achieve IFR noise abatement procedures.
4. Continue working with Board of Selectmen in communications with FAA.
5. Utilize political contacts as necessary.

IV. Make Best effort to incorporate Specific Noise Mitigation Actions in FEIR and in Long Range Master Plan

V. Support Public Education and Outreach

Consider resources and budget for reaching target audiences through education/advertising campaign, poster development, education packages for GA community. Target audiences include: new pilots; general and commercial aviation users; community stakeholders; and affected residents.

VI. Support Activities of the Noise Advisory Committee

Consider providing specific additional resources for administrative support for the NAC as requested on a case by case basis.

VII. Annual Report

Provide a report at least annually that measures the progress of all of the above goals.