

Helicopter Resolution

Whereas, *low flying helicopters make excessive noise and inconvenience Arlington residents, and*

Whereas, *helicopters are flown over Arlington by the federal government, military, public agencies, and private companies to perform a variety of important missions including business, law enforcement, medical, national security, news, and public safety, and*

Whereas, *helicopters are a vital form of transportation, and*

Whereas, *there are eight main existing helicopter routes within the Metropolitan Washington area with prescribed altitude rules designed to minimize impact on residential areas, and*

Whereas, *helicopter noise effects on residential areas are very pronounced at low altitudes and have less effect at altitudes over 1,000 feet, and*

Whereas, *commercial helicopters are generally required to follow the prescribed helicopter routes and fly at higher altitudes; therefore, be it*

Resolved *that the Arlington County Civic Federation calls on the Arlington County Board to work on its own and through the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments to require helicopter operators to find ways to reduce the noise impact on residential areas by following the existing main routes and flying towards the upper end of the allowable altitude window when they can safely do so for routine flights and without unduly affecting emergency situations or national security.*