

June 13, 2023

Dear Arlington Community Member:

On behalf of the Arlington County Board and because of your interest and concern about aircraft noise, we thought you might be interested in the following information, including an invitation for the public to send comments about airplane noise to the Federal Aviation Agency (FAA).

As you may know Congressman Don Beyer has been very involved and active regarding this topic. His office is the best link between us and the FAA. On April 25, 2023, Congressman Beyer announced that new measures would be implemented to mitigate the impact of disruptive helicopter noise in Northern Virginia and across the national capital region. The press release is attached.

Two days later on April 27th he issued a statement (attached) opposing the FAA's request to weaken the DCA perimeter and slot rules because of the increase in number of flights and consequently aircraft noise that it would create.

We much appreciate Congressman Beyer's work and are currently working with his office on possible legislation that might be included in the new FAA Reauthorization.

Also, the FAA is taking public comment on airplane noise over the next several weeks. The FAA has a "Request for Comments" open through which the public can share their written input until *Monday, July 31, 2023*. Comments should be addressed to **Docket FAA-2023-0855** at www.regulations.gov.

To quote from the FAA notice:

["The Request for Comments builds on and responds to public feedback on the FAA's January 13, 2021 Federal Register Notice. That Notice provided an overview of the FAA's noise research portfolio and sought input to assist the FAA in assessing how resources should be directed to better understand and manage the factors underlying concerns from aircraft noise exposure. The resounding theme of comments filed in response to that Notice requested that FAA begin the process of updating its noise policies, rather than wait for the outcome of ongoing research efforts."](#)

[We are committed to providing ample and meaningful public engagement opportunities during the public comment period. We have scheduled a series of four webinars between May 16 - 28 to provide stakeholders an opportunity to engage with us on this topic.](#)

[We have launched a project website at <http://www.faa.gov/noisepolicyreview>, which will provide updates, resources, and access to webinar recordings. We will also soon launch a Spanish language website to expand our outreach efforts. We look forward to your participation and engagement with the Notice."](#)

We are not sure how much of an effect public comment will have on FAA decisions, but we are pleased they are asking for comment and this is a good opportunity to directly share your experiences with the FAA. We are working closely with the National Organization to Insure a Sound controlled Environment (N.O.I.S.E.) to write our own official Board comments to send to the FAA. We continue to work with neighboring jurisdictions that have the same concerns. We remain hopeful that together as a community we will make some progress on mitigating airplane noise.

We hope this information has been helpful. Don't hesitate to let us know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Libby Garvey Takis Karantonis
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