



October 2, 2024

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Secretary, Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

The Honorable Michael Whitaker
Administrator, Federal Aviation Administration
800 Independence Avenue SW
Washington, DC 20591

Re: FAA Reauthorization Community Noise Provisions

Dear Secretary Buttigieg and Administrator Whitaker:

We are writing to support comments made in a September 12, 2024 letter to you from forty Members of Congress about select provisions of the 2024 FAA Reauthorization.

Established in 1981, the San Francisco Airport/Community Roundtable, (Roundtable) represents the more than 1.5 million residents in the City and County of San Francisco and San Mateo County. The pre-eminent goal of the SFO Airport/Community Roundtable is to improve all aircraft procedures and operations which have detrimental noise impacts to residents whether from ground operations or flight operations.

A special focus for the SFO Airport/Community Roundtable is nighttime airplane noise especially as a health issue. Documented in peer-reviewed scientific and medical journals, noise adversely and seriously affects blood pressure, cardiovascular and other health issues in adults. Studies with children indicate that aircraft noise can result in an increase in children's blood pressure and can cause negative impacts on children's education as shown by lower levels in cognitive testing, task perseverance, long term memory, short term memory and reading achievement. Additional SFO Roundtable comments can be found in our response to the FAA Request for Comments on Review of the Civil Aviation Noise Policy FAA-2023-0855-0001.

The importance of robust community engagement with the FAA cannot be overstated. And effective

FAA community engagement is not just talking to the community, but also listening collaboratively to what the community says.

We would urge you to implement the Aircraft Noise Advisory Committee (Section 792 of the FAA Reauthorization) in accordance with the statutory deadline and to ensure that it's community appointees are individuals who can effectively and impartially represent the diverse aircraft noise impact experience.

We look forward to the FAA's expeditious implementation of the other FAA Reauthorization provisions that might give communities a more effective voice in working to decrease the impact of aircraft noise on their communities.

Please convey our continued appreciation and thanks to the FAA employees who work every day to keep our skies safe.

Very respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Al Royse". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Al Royse, Chairman
SFO Airport/Community Roundtable
Member, Hillsborough Town Council

Attachments: September 12, 2024 Letter from Forty Members of Congress to the Honorable Pete Buttigieg and Michael Whitaker
July 18, 2024 Letter from Aviation-Impacted Communities Alliance to the Honorable Pete Buttigieg

Attachment via Link: [SFO Roundtable Comments on the FAA Civil Aviation Noise Policy FAA-2023-0855-0001](#)

cc: Representatives Anna Eshoo, Kevin Mullin, Nancy Pelosi
Raquel Girvin, FAA Regional Administrator, Western-Pacific Region
Members of the SFO Airport/Community Roundtable