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Noise Policy Review

FAA MISSED NOV. 12 DEADLINE FOR FORMING NEW AIRCRAFT NOISE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The FAA missed the Nov. 12 deadline for forming the new Aircraft Noise Advisory Committee (ANAC) mandated by Congress in Section 792 of the FAA Reauthorization Act of 2024.

"The FAA told Congress it was unlikely we would meet the timeframes associated with Sec. 792 but that we will execute it in as timely a manner as possible while adhering to all applicable statutes. These include the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) and Department of Transportation advisory committee requirements," FAA told ANR.

The agency did not indicate when it expected the new Airport Noise Advisory Committee to finally be formed and begin operating. Formation of the Committee is now caught in the interregnum between the outgoing Biden administration and the incoming Trump administration; a period where all sorts of mischief could prevail.

Asked to comment on FAA's failure to meet the Nov. 12 deadline for forming ANAC, Darlene Yaplee, President and Co-founder of the Aviation-Impacted Communities Alliance, offered the following statement:

"Missing the statutory deadline of November 12, 2024, is certainly disappointing, but we appreciate the FAA's commitment to getting this right.

"We look forward to seeing our request, which was supported by a bipartisan group of 40 U.S. House Representatives in their letter to Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg and FAA Administrator Michael Whitaker, reflected in the final structure of the ANAC (36 ANR 87, 107).

"Specifically, we're advocating for the inclusion of four community representatives and a selection process guided by key parameters we specified and to ensure a balanced ratio of community representatives to industry professionals.

"This balance is essential to fulfill the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) of 1972 mandate that committee memberships be "fairly balanced in terms of the points of view represented and the functions to be performed".

Section 792 of the *FAA Reauthorization Act of 2024* states that the new Aircraft Noise Advisory Committee must include representatives of engine manufacturers, air

carriers, airport owners or operators, aircraft manufacturers, advanced air mobility manufacturers or operators; and institutions of higher education; as well as "representatives of airport-adjacent communities from geographically diverse regions."