

FAA Appoints Dr. Cindy Christiansen to REDAC



January 25, 2025

Dear Aviation-Impacted Communities,

I am honored to share that the FAA has appointed Dr. Cindy Christiansen, Ph.D., Co-founder and Chief Technology Officer of AICA, to its [Research and Development Advisory Committee \(REDAC\)](#) for a two-year term beginning January 17, 2025.

This appointment is not only a groundbreaking milestone for community representation but also a recognition of Dr. Christiansen's extensive expertise and contributions in advocating for the health and well-being of aviation-impacted communities.

AICA has long advocated for incorporating the lived experiences of impacted communities and ensuring meaningful representation in decision-making processes and forums. Dr. Christiansen's appointment is a testament to the progress we are making together and the growing acknowledgment of the importance of community perspectives in shaping aviation policies.

The FAA's appointment letter stated:

"Your work representing the views of environment and energy, health policy research, cross-disciplinary research, and aviation public policy concerns will greatly benefit the REDAC and the Department's efforts to conduct efficient research to ensure safety in air transportation, maintain awareness of emerging technologies supporting aviation and avionics, and provide positive guidance throughout domestic and global aviation communities."

About Dr. Cindy Christiansen

Education

- **Ph.D., Statistics** – University of Texas at Austin, McCombs School of Business
- **M.S., Statistics** – University of Texas at Austin, Department of Mathematics
- **B.A., Mathematics** – University of Texas at Austin, Department of Mathematics

Early Aviation Advocacy

Since 2013, Dr. Christiansen has been deeply engaged in addressing aviation issues, motivated by firsthand experience with the effects of NextGen and Performance-Based Navigation on communities and the environment.

Advisory Expertise

She has served on numerous advisory committees throughout her career, providing informed guidance to decision-makers. Her notable contributions include service with Massport and the Logan Community Advisory Committees (MCAC and LCAC).

Example Contributions

Dr. Christiansen co-authored AICA's [Technical Response for the Congressional Quiet Skies Caucus Staff regarding the FAA's Report to Congress on the DNL Metric and DNL 65 Standard for Airplane Noise](#). She

also co-authored the NOISE-CON paper [“Realizing 21st Century Noise Policy”](#) and presented at ANE on the topic [“Is It Time to Retire a 30-Year-Old Aviation Single Noise Metric?”](#) among other significant works.

This appointment underscores the importance of collaboration between aviation stakeholders and impacted communities. Dr. Christiansen’s expertise will undoubtedly strengthen REDAC’s mission and amplify the voice of communities in aviation policy and research. Congratulations to Cindy!

Kind regards,
Darlene Yaplee