

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

May 22, 2026

The Honorable Sean Duffy
Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

The Honorable Bryan Bedford
Administrator
Federal Aviation Administration
800 Independence Avenue SW
Washington, DC 20591

Dear Secretary Duffy and Administrator Bedford:

As members of the Congressional Quiet Skies Caucus, we thank your staff for meeting with us to provide updates on the Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA) work to reduce aviation noise. We urge you to act on our requests regarding our individual districts and to immediately solicit members, including community representatives, for the Aircraft Noise Advisory Committee and to hold roundtables or other public meetings in airport-adjacent communities nationwide, including those impacted by concentrated overflights and aircraft operations.

As the FAA is well aware, aviation noise is not only a constant disturbance for those living under a flight path, but also poses an actual threat to human health. Study after study has shown that aviation noise can cause long-term physiological stress that then leads to higher risk of cardiovascular disease, hypertension, and mental illness. Community members who complain about aviation noise are experiencing real health effects that could be mitigated by action from the FAA.

To date, community members with firsthand experience with aviation noise have had few opportunities to engage with the FAA and influence its noise policy in a meaningful way. The FAA's Aviation Noise Complaint & Inquiry Response portal functions primarily as a complaint intake mechanism rather than allowing meaningful engagement between the FAA and affected communities. The FAA participates in community roundtable meetings for some communities, but this framework is not used nationwide. Some communities have not heard from the FAA about how it is addressing their noise concerns in months, if not years.

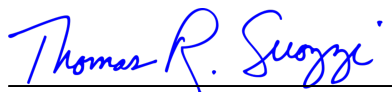
We were encouraged to see the FAA Reauthorization Act of 2024 include the formation of an Aircraft Noise Advisory Committee (ANAC), which must include multiple representatives of airport-adjacent communities in addition to industry professionals. We wrote to the FAA in September of 2024, urging leadership to include robust community representation in the ANAC's membership and establish it in compliance with the statutory deadline of November 12, 2024. Eighteen months later, the FAA has yet to solicit members for the ANAC. In delaying so long, it has deprived community members of representation they are owed by law.

Community members deserve the opportunity to hear how the FAA is addressing their complaints and to provide input on solutions, but the FAA has not provided nearly enough opportunities to do so. Therefore, we urge the FAA to immediately:

1. Solicit members for the ANAC by June 30, 2026 and hold the ANAC's first meeting by December 31, 2026; and
2. By the end of 2026, schedule and hold public meetings for community members near every U.S. airport that has received at least 10 noise complaints in the last year.

While the FAA has formally established the ANAC through the Federal Advisory Committee Act charter process, it has yet to convene or operationalize the committee through membership appointments or public meetings, despite clear Congressional direction. This prolonged delay has significantly limited meaningful community engagement and undermines Congress's intent that community input play a central and timely role in shaping aviation noise policy and mitigation efforts. It is high time for the FAA to acknowledge the importance of community input and ensure that it informs the agency's strategy to reduce aviation noise impacts, as the law directs.

Sincerely,



Thomas R. Suozzi
Member of Congress



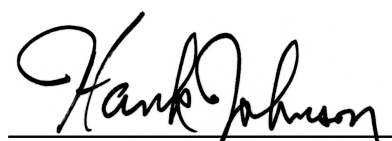
Stephen F. Lynch
Member of Congress



Eleanor Holmes Norton
Member of Congress



Mike Quigley
Member of Congress



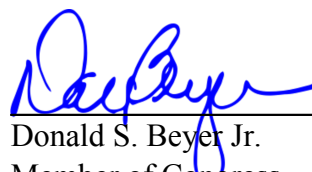
Henry C. "Hank" Johnson, Jr.
Member of Congress



Adam Smith
Member of Congress



Brad Sherman
Member of Congress



Donald S. Beyer Jr.
Member of Congress



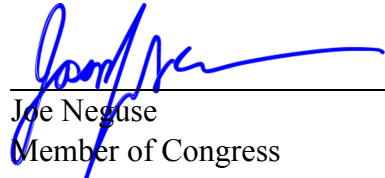
Pramila Jayapal
Member of Congress



Jason Crow
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Suzanne Bonamici
Member of Congress



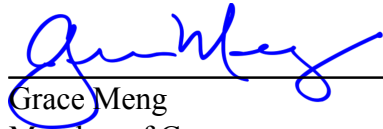
Joe Neguse
Member of Congress



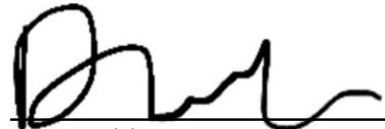
Maxine Waters
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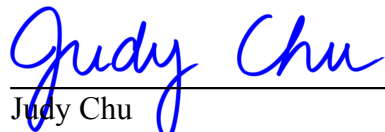
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Salud Carbajal
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Brittany Petersen
Member of Congress

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Katherine M. Clark
Member of Congress