

Consultation

Introduction

The King County International Airport/Boeing Field (KCIA) FAR Part 150 Study Update involved an extensive public consultation and involvement process, with many several components far exceeding the requirements of the regulation. This inclusive tone was set by the County from the very beginning as part of the public involvement plan which states: *“Part of the public involvement plan will be to provide a strategy that builds community trust in the process and provides channels and methods to communicate citizen concerns and opinions about the project.”*

The elements of the public consultation and involvement process were:

- Public Involvement Plan developed in consultation with staff and advisory committee members/community stakeholders
- Advisory Committee
- Five Open Houses
- Meetings with Community Groups and Individual Citizens
- Four Newsletters
- Website
- Numerous Working Papers and Technical Outlines
- Working Papers Available in Public Libraries
- An Extensive Technical Document
- One public hearing for the Noise Compatibility Program

The Public Involvement Plan is found in Appendix Two. The following is a brief description of the activities conducted in each of those categories.

Advisory Committees

The public involvement process began with the establishment of a Study Advisory Committee. Composition of the Study Advisory Committee (SAC) was developed to include representatives from interested parties including neighborhood representatives, businesses on the airport, airport users, city, county, and state representatives, and the FAA. Members of the SAC are listed in Appendix Four. The SAC met 19 times throughout the Study process.

The purpose of the Study Advisory Committee was to provide a broad and balanced range of perspectives on the Part 150 Noise Study and act as a forum for open dialogue in which to express the broad range of interests and points of view, explore and challenge the study assumptions, evaluate alternatives, help identify impacts and trade-offs of choices, and provide a base for testing responses to proposed solutions. The Committee worked with the consultant team to review the findings and recommendations and provide input and comment on the study elements.

The role of the Committee was one of working with the consultant team and airport staff during the course of the study, reviewing the various findings and recommendations coming forth from the study effort, providing input, and generally providing review and comment on the study elements. The Committee operated on a consensus basis and at the end of the process provided either unanimous recommendations or offered majority and minority reports. Decision making on the final elements of the study was ultimately the responsibility of King County with input from the Committee (which includes the Airport Roundtable) and the general public.

The Committee helped assure that the planning process was open, responsive to public concerns and technically sound. Members were encouraged to express all points-of-view and perspectives on issues and alternatives and to seek to identify areas of agreement as well as reasons for differing points of view on the Part 150 Noise Study.

The Committee consisted of 23 members:

- All 16 members of the Airport Roundtable. The Airport Roundtable was established by the King County Council in June 1997 to advise and make recommendations to the airport management, county executive and county council on the airport budget, programs, regulations, master plans and noise reduction strategies and other related matters. The Roundtable operates by consensus. The 16 regular voting members include:
 - Eight representatives of communities directly affected by the airport, including one each from Georgetown, Magnolia/North Seattle, Tukwila, Renton/Kent/South King County, Beacon Hill/Rainier Valley, West Seattle, Unincorporated King County, and one at-large.
 - Four airport tenant representatives including one each from the cargo operation, small general aviation, corporate tenants, and the Boeing Company.
 - One representative from a pilots association
 - One representative from a commercial enterprise which is an off-site user or off-site provider of airport related services
 - Two labor representatives
- A representative from the Puget Sound Regional Council
- A representative from the Aeronautics Division of the WA State Dept. of Transportation
- A representatives from FAA planning staff
- A representative from FAA Air Traffic Control staff
- Representatives from the governments of the two affected jurisdictions, Seattle and Tukwila.
- A representative from SeaTac Airport

Members of the Roundtable were appointed by the King County Executive and confirmed by the Council. The governmental units selected their own representatives.

Observers

Observers were welcome at all committee meetings but not seated at the table or participate in the discussions. A time was set aside in the agenda of each meeting for comments or questions from observers.

Meeting Times and Location

The Committee met 19 times during the study in one of the airport conference rooms. Meetings generally were scheduled on the same date as a regularly scheduled Roundtable meeting, the second Monday of the month.

Meetings

The Study Advisory Committee met to review and discuss issues and material before it was presented at a community briefing or a larger public meeting held prior to the key planning and/or decision points. The purpose of the group was to reflect the interests and concerns of the KCIA community and others in the development of the Noise Study. Its role was to assist the County/project team by providing review and comment on study elements including the review of existing conditions, noise monitoring procedures and models, existing and future noise contours, the identification and evaluation of noise compatibility and land use alternatives, and recommendations as they emerged.

Members were encouraged to express all points-of-view and perspectives and issues and alternatives and to seek to identify areas of agreement as well as reasons for differing points of view on the development of alternatives and recommendations. The project team used feedback from the committee as a resource to them in developing the plan.

This process will take at least eight working sessions, each requiring staff preparation and response time, and each requiring committee members to do some reading and preparation outside the meetings. The project team is committed to listening and responding to the comments and information from the Study Advisory Committee.

The purpose of each meeting is listed below. Because of the complexity of the issue and the need to reach consensus, 16 instead of the eight originally anticipated, were held.

Table K1
ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING DATES AND PURPOSES
King County International Airport FAR Part 150 Study

Meeting Date	Meeting Purposes
June, 1999	Kick Off Meeting.
September 13, 1999	Introduce study and review committee procedures and ground rules.
November 8, 1999	Review airport inventory.
January 10, 2000	Review preliminary noise contours, public involvement plan, and community meeting schedule.
March 13, 2000	Discuss noise contours for KCIA, five-year base case noise contours, combined KCIA/Sea-Tac noise contours, and notice of upcoming public open house.
May 8, 2000	Review consultants noise abatement alternatives and develop criteria for evaluation.
September 11, 2000	Continued discussion on criteria for selection of alternatives and adopted first level criteria. Prepare for interest based bargaining training on September 18.
October 16, 2000	Presentation on Land Use Analysis, Abatement Alternatives Evaluation, and Decision Criteria Matrix.
November 13, 2000	Continued evaluation of alternatives.
December 11, 2000	Continued evaluation of alternatives.
January 8, 2001	Continued evaluation of alternatives.
February 12, 2001	Continued evaluation of alternatives; Decide on preliminary list of alternatives to carry forward for further analysis.
April 9, 2001	Presentation of consultant's recommendations; discussion on alternatives to identify preliminary SAC recommendations.
May 14, 2001	Report from additional community meetings and open house; development of preliminary recommendations (continued).
June 11, 2001	Report from additional community meetings; further discussion on alternatives to identify preliminary recommendations.
July 16, 2001	Review of Consultant's Recommendations, additional recommendations not included in consultant's list, and alternatives generated at community meetings to identify areas of consensus.
October 15, 2001	Review of draft recommendations report.
November 5, 2001	Presentation on sales assistance and acquisition programs at Sea-Tac; Review of updated draft recommendations report.

Meeting Summaries

A meeting summary was prepared after each meeting. The purpose of the summary was not to provide meeting minutes, but rather to record comments and questions raised by members of the committee. In this way, a record of discussion items was kept that can be referenced in the course of the project. Answers to questions raised were included in italics or clarified in a subsequent meeting.

Open Houses/Community Meetings

Five Open Houses were held during the Study where members of the public were able to interact directly with Airport and consulting staff on their noise related concerns. Display boards were available to present information being discussed among the different committees. At all Open Houses, members of the public were afforded the opportunity to provide written comments, have their questions answered, and to take away printed material on the items being discussed. Public input from these Open Houses was influential in prioritizing issues during the Study.

The Open Houses took place at the Airport in the Terminal Building and were advertised in local daily and weekly newspapers (*West Seattle Herald/White Center News, Highline Times, Beacon Hill News, Magnolia/Queen Anne News, South District Journal, Seattle Times/Post-Intelligencer, and South County Journal*), on the Study's Website, as well as in the Part 150 Update Newsletter mailed to approximately 2500-3500 area residents. Flyers were also mailed out and distributed at community meetings, particularly when the newsletter was sent out more than a month prior to the Open House.

Table K2
OPEN HOUSE MEETING DATES AND PURPOSES
King County International Airport FAR Part 150 Study

Meeting Date	Meeting Purpose
June 17, 1999	Kick Off Meeting; purpose of study.
April 5, 2000	Present existing and future noise contours; Roadmap to the study process.
January 18, 2001	Combined noise contours: current and projected impacts, Potential noise reduction alternatives, Criteria for reviewing alternatives.
June 6, 2001	Present preliminary alternatives.
March 2002	Present Airport and Advisory Committee Recommendations.

In addition to the scheduled Open Houses, Airport Staff and Consultants attended numerous community and civic meetings to update and explain the Study findings, recommendations, and process. These meetings were attended by citizens, elected officials, civic groups, and community organizations, and were organized to present the Study findings and options to date. One or more meetings were held in August-September 1999, January 2000, and/or May 2001 for the following communities.

Table K3
PLACES AND DATES OF MEETINGS
King County International Airport FAR Part 150 Study

Community	Dates
Allentown	May 30, 2001
Beacon Hill/Rainier Valley	September 27, 28, 29, 1999; January 19, 2000; May 10, 2001
South Beacon Hill	May 2, 2001
North Beacon Hill	May 8, 2001
Duwamish Central Committee	January 18, 2000
Duwamish Neighborhood Improvement Council/Foster Point Community Council	January 20, 2000
Georgetown Community	September 22, 1999; January 25, 2000; May 9, 2001
North Highline Unincorporated Council	January 20, 2000; May 3, 2001
Magnolia Community	September 23, 1999; January 26, 2000; May 16, 2001
Seattle School Board	October 24, 2001
Skyway/West Hill Community Council	August 20, 1999; May 29, 2001
Tukwila Community	September 16, 1999
Tukwila City Council	August 9, 1999; June 18, 2001
West Seattle/Admiral/Alki Community Councils	September 27, 28, 1999; January 27, 2000; April 26, 2001

Newsletters

Project newsletters were developed to provide information about the project status, current findings, and details on how citizens could find more detailed information both about the project and the results of committee meetings. Newsletters were mailed to the airport mailing list and anyone who attended any of the open houses and community meetings at key project milestones and when feasible, to advertise an upcoming open house. In addition, the newsletter was posted on the airport website, distributed in project notebooks in libraries and at the open houses.

Table K4
NEWSLETTER DATES AND TOPICS
King County International Airport FAR Part 150 Study

Newsletter Date	Topic
March 2000	Noise monitoring results, noise exposure maps or contours, next steps, and how to be involved. Notice of April 5, 2002 Open House.
November 2000	Preliminary noise reduction alternatives and evaluation criteria; next steps and how to be involved. First Notice of January 18, 2001 Open House.
March 2002	Airport recommendations to reduce noise. Notice of March 12, 2001 Open House.
September 2002	County Executive Part 150 recommendations. Notice of September 16, 2002 Public Hearing.

Website

Early in the Study, a website was created to provide broad access to schedules, technical data, and other pertinent information. Among the items posted on this website were:

- Questions and answers
- Technical Papers
- Summaries from all SAC meetings
- Schedules
- Notices of Open Houses and Community Meetings
- Newsletters
- Comment Form.

Project Notebooks

Project Notebooks were placed in 15 libraries located in areas around the airport. Notebooks included copies of all the technical papers distributed to advisory committee members, committee meeting summaries, notices of open houses, newsletters, and other relevant information.

Libraries included:

Seattle Public Libraries: Beacon Hill, Columbia, High Point, Holly Park, Magnolia, Rainier Beach, Southwest and West Seattle branches.

King County Public Libraries: Burien, Boulevard Park, Foster, Skyway, Tukwila, and White Center branches.

Renton Public Library.

Technical Outlines and Papers

Several technical Outlines and Working Papers were prepared and presented throughout the course of the Study. These included Inventory, Forecasts and Noise Analysis Working Papers, several Technical Outlines on Operational and Facility Alternatives, a Land Use Alternatives Technical Outline, as well as other papers. The Technical Outlines were updated and expanded during the many subcommittee meetings on the various subjects. The Technical Outlines served as the basis for the Alternatives Chapters in this document.

Public Hearing

A Public Hearing addressed the Noise Compatibility Program recommendations from the County Executive to the County Council. The Noise Compatibility Program contains recommendations on operations and land use issues addressed in the Study. A Public Hearing was held on September 16, 2002. The Public Hearing was held in the King County Administration Building at 9:30 am. An Open House on the recommendations had been held earlier in the year on March 12, 2002. At the Open House, displays indicated the Recommendations, the Existing and Future Noise Exposure Maps, and specific Noise Compatibility Program elements. Members of the Airport Staff and Consulting Team were available to answer questions and listen to public comments and input. Comment sheets were available for recording written

comments on the recommendations. In addition, the public was encouraged to send comments directly to the County Council.

A copy of the Resolution adopting the FAR Part 150 recommendations and forwarding the complete document, including the Noise Exposure Maps and Noise Compatibility Program, to the Federal Aviation Administration is found in Appendix Eight.