

emergency. The Department is taking action to effectuate this recommendation.

#### A. Notice of Intent To Establish a Task Force and Request for Comment

In accordance with the requirements of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), an agency of the Federal government cannot establish or utilize a group of people in the interest of obtaining consensus advice or recommendations unless that group is chartered as a Federal advisory committee. The purpose of this notice is to indicate that it is OST's intent to create a Task Force to develop model contingency plans to deal with lengthy airline on-board ground delays. OST has determined that the establishment of this Task Force is necessary and in the public interest.

#### B. Name of Committee

National Task Force To Develop Model Contingency Plans To Deal With Lengthy Airline On-Board Ground Delays.

#### C. Purpose and Objective

(1) The Task Force will develop model contingency plans for minimizing the impact of lengthy airline on-board ground delays.

(2) The Task Force will be responsible for reviewing incidents involving long, on-board ground delays and their causes; identifying trends and patterns of such events; and recommending workable solutions for mitigating the on-board consumer impact of extraordinary flight disruptions.

(3) The Task Force will report to the Secretary of Transportation the results of its consideration and a description of model contingency plans it develops.

(4) The Task Force will not exercise program management, regulatory or program guidance responsibilities. It will make no decision directly affecting the programs on which it provides advice. The Task Force will provide a forum for the development, consideration, and communication from a knowledgeable and independent perspective of a strategy for dealing with lengthy on-board ground delays nationwide.

#### D. Balanced Membership Plans

The Task Force will be composed of individuals appointed by the Secretary of Transportation. Task Force members will represent a cross-section of the diverse agencies, organizations and individuals that represent airlines, airports and consumer groups in the U.S.

This document gives notice to potential participants of the process and affords them the opportunity to request representation on the Task Force. The procedure for requesting such representation is set out below. In addition, we invite comments and suggestions for potential participants.

OST is aware that there are many more potential organizations and participants than there are membership positions on the Task Force. It is very important to recognize that interested parties who are not selected for membership on the Task Force can make valuable contributions to the work of the Task Force in several ways. For example, the person or organization could request to be placed on the Task Force mailing list and may submit written comments to the Task Force.

Further, any member of the public is welcome to attend Task Force meetings, and, as provided in the FACA, speak to the Task Force. Time will be set aside during meetings for this purpose as appropriate.

#### E. Applications for Membership

Each Application for membership or nomination to the Task Force should include:

(1) A brief resume or letter (no more than one page) demonstrating the applicant or nominee's unique qualifications and why they are interested in serving on the Task Force (please note, resumes or letters will be posted on the public docket and therefore should not contain personal information such as date of birth, etc.)

(2) Evidence that the applicant or nominee is authorized to represent parties related to the interest(s) the person proposes to represent; and

(3) A written commitment that the applicant or nominee would participate in good faith.

Since all comments and/or applications for membership or nominations for membership on the Task Force will be posted on the Public Docket, we encourage you to include only that information you are willing to provide for the public docket and submit your application electronically using the docket number provided on this notice through the Federal Docket Management System found at <http://www.regulations.gov>.

#### F. Duration

The Task Force will terminate one year after the date of the filing of the Task Force charter unless prior to that time the charter is terminated or extended in accordance with the FACA.

#### G. Notice of Establishment

After evaluating applications and nominations received as a result of this notice, the Department will publish in the **Federal Register** a notice announcing the establishment and composition of the Task Force.

Issued on: December 17, 2007.

**Samuel Podberesky,**

*Assistant General Counsel for Aviation Enforcement & Proceedings, U.S. Department of Transportation.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Federal Aviation Administration

#### Notice Before Waiver With Respect to land at Raleigh County Memorial Airport, Beckley, WV

**AGENCY:** Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), DOT.

**ACTION:** Notice of Intent of waiver with respect to land.

**SUMMARY:** The FAA is publishing notice of proposed release of 16.10 acres of land at the Raleigh County Memorial Airport, Beckley, West Virginia to the Raleigh County Airport Authority and the Raleigh County Commission for the development of an industrial park. There are no impacts to the Airport and the land is not needed for airport development as shown on the Airport Layout Plan. Fair Market Value of the land will be paid to the Raleigh County Airport and the Raleigh County Commission, and used for Airport purposes.

**DATES:** Comments must be received on or before January 22, 2008.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments on this application may be mailed or delivered in triplicate to the FAA at the following address: Connie Boley-Lilly, Program Specialist, Federal Aviation Administration, Beckley Airports District Office, 176 Airport Circle, Room 101, Beaver, West Virginia 25813.

In addition, one copy of any comments submitted to the FAA must be mailed or delivered to Thomas Cochran, Airport Manager, Raleigh County Memorial Airport at the following address: Thomas Cochran, Airport Manager, Raleigh County Memorial Airport, 176 Airport Circle, Room 105, Beaver, West Virginia 25813.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Connie Boley-Lilly, Program Specialist, Beckley Airport District Office, (304) 252-6216 ext. 125, Fax (304) 253-8028.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** On April 5, 2000, new authorizing legislation became effective. That bill, the Wendell H. Ford Aviation Investment and Reform Act for the 21st Century, Public Law 10-181 (April 5, 2000; 114 Stat. 61) (AIR 21) requires that a 30 day public notice must be provided before the Secretary may waive any condition imposed on an interest in surplus property.

Issued in Beckley, West Virginia on December 7, 2007.

**Matthew P. DiGiulian,**

*Acting Manager, Beckley Airport District Office, Eastern Region.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Federal Aviation Administration

#### Noise Compatibility Program Notice; Austin-Bergstrom International Airport; Austin, TX

**AGENCY:** Federal Aviation Administration, DOT.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) announces its findings on the noise compatibility program submitted by the City of Austin under the provisions of 49 U.S.C. (the Aviation Safety and Noise Abatement Act, hereinafter referred to as "the Act") and 14 CFR Part 150. These findings are made in recognition of the description of Federal and nonfederal responsibilities in Senate Report No. 96-52 (1980). On February 15, 2007, the FAA determined that the noise exposure maps submitted by the City of Austin under Part 150 were in compliance with applicable requirements. On December 7, 2007, the FAA approved the Austin-Bergstrom International Airport noise compatibility program. All of the recommendations of the program were approved. No program elements relating to new or revised flight procedures for noise abatement were proposed by the airport operator.

**DATES:** *Effective Date:* The effective date of the FAA's approval of the Austin-Bergstrom International Airport noise compatibility program is December 7, 2007.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mr. Paul E. Blackford, Department of Transportation, Federal Aviation Administration, Fort Worth, Texas 76193-0650, (817) 222-5607. Documents reflecting this FAA action may be reviewed at this same location.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** This notice announces that the FAA has given its overall approval to the noise compatibility program for Austin-Bergstrom International Airport, effective December 7, 2007. Under section 47504 of the Act, an airport operator who has previously submitted a noise exposure map may submit to the FAA a noise compatibility program which sets forth the measures taken or proposed by the airport operator for the reduction of existing non-compatible land uses and prevention of additional non-compatible land uses within the area covered by the noise exposure maps. The Act requires such programs to be developed in consultation with interested and affected parties including local communities, government agencies, airport users, and FAA personnel.

Each airport noise compatibility program developed in accordance with Federal Aviation Regulations (FAR) Part 150 is a local program, not a Federal program. The FAA does not substitute its judgment for that of the airport proprietor with respect to which measures should be recommended for action. The FAA's approval or disapproval of FAR Part 150 program recommendations is measured according to the standards expressed in Part 150 and the Act and is limited to the following determinations:

- a. The noise compatibility program was developed in accordance with the provisions and procedures of FAR Part 150;
- b. Program measures are reasonably consistent with achieving the goals of reducing existing non-compatible land uses around the airport and preventing the introduction of additional non-compatible land uses;
- c. Program measures would not create an undue burden on interstate or foreign commerce, unjustly discriminate against types or classes of aeronautical uses, violate the terms of airport grant agreements, or intrude into areas preempted by the Federal Government; and
- d. Program measures relating to the use of flight procedures can be implemented within the period covered by the program without derogating safety, adversely affecting the efficient use and management of the navigable airspace and air traffic control systems, or adversely affecting other powers and responsibilities of the Administrator prescribed by law.

Specific limitations with respect to FAA's approval of an airport noise compatibility program are delineated in FAR Part 150, section 150.5. Approval is not a determination concerning the

acceptability of land uses under Federal, state, or local law. Approval does not by itself constitute an FAA implementing action. A request for Federal action or approval to implement specific noise compatibility measures may be required, and an FAA decision on the request may require an environmental assessment of the proposed action. Approval does not constitute a commitment by the FAA to financially assist in the implementation of the program nor a determination that all measures covered by the program are eligible for grant-in-aid funding from the FAA. Where federal funding is sought, requests for project grants must be submitted to the FAA regional office in Fort Worth, Texas.

The City of Austin submitted to the FAA on August 14, 2007, the noise exposure maps, descriptions, and other documentation produced during the noise compatibility planning study conducted from December 15, 2005 through August 14, 2007. The Austin-Bergstrom International Airport noise exposure maps were determined by FAA to be in compliance with applicable requirements on February 15, 2007. Notice of this determination was published in the Federal Register on February 23, 2007.

The Austin-Bergstrom International Airport study contains a proposed noise compatibility program comprised of actions designed for phased implementation by airport management and adjacent jurisdictions from December 7, 2007 beyond the year 2012. It was requested that the FAA evaluate and approve this material as a noise compatibility program as described in section 47504 of the Act. The FAA began its review of the program on August 14, 2007 and was required by a provision of the Act to approve or disapprove the program within 180 days (other than the use of new or modified flight procedures for noise control). Failure to approve or disapprove such program within the 180-day period shall be deemed to be an approval of such program.

The submitted program contained three proposed actions for noise mitigation off and on the airport. The FAA completed its review and determined that the procedural and substantive requirements of the Act and FAR Part 150 have been satisfied. The overall program, therefore, was approved by the FAA effective December 7, 2007.

Outright approval was granted for all of the specific program elements. Approved measures consisted of (1) acquisition of noise sensitive land uses, (2) upgrade of the existing noise