



New York/ New Jersey/ Philadelphia Metropolitan Area

airspace redesign

project

Volume 6

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DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT RELEASE!

The Airspace Redesign Program in a Nutshell

The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Eastern Terminal Service Area is redesigning the airspace in the New York/New Jersey/Philadelphia Metropolitan area. The air traffic environment in this metropolitan area is characterized by an ever-increasing demand on the air traffic system. The major airports in the area experiencing severe delays are Newark International (EWR), John F. Kennedy International (JFK), LaGuardia (LGA), and Philadelphia International Airport (PHL).

The New York/New Jersey/Philadelphia metropolitan air traffic environment was designed and implemented in the 1960s. The volume of air traffic and the types of aircraft that use the airports and the air traffic control system have changed significantly. The system has evolved beyond its originally designed procedural and operational capacity, resulting in some of the most delayed operations nationally.

Air traffic control procedural changes associated with the proposed airspace redesign have the potential to impact the environment. Therefore, an Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) that analyzes the potential environmental impacts of airspace redesign has been developed. Going hand in hand with the DEIS is public involvement, which is required by the National Environmental Policy Act or (NEPA). NEPA regulations require that federal agencies involve the public in decisions which affect the quality of the human environment.

The NEPA process starts with a Notice of Intent (NOI). This is followed by the scoping process. The scoping process includes community meetings and coordination with federal and other interested agencies. This is followed by the preparation of a DEIS, public review/comment on the DEIS, identification of a preferred airspace alternative, publication of a Final EIS (FEIS), and the formal agency Record of Decision (ROD).



There are several milestones associated with this Federal Aviation Administration project and an Environmental Impact Statement.

After the scoping meetings in 2001, development of the alternatives began in 2002. However, delays in finalizing the alternatives slowed our progress. These delays were caused by several factors, including changes in military activity airspace, resulting from the events of September 11, 2001, comments on the routes from numerous sources, and concerns regarding airspace allocations. These issues were resolved and the project is moving forward.

As a result of these concerns, the DEIS is now being released in December, 2005. The following pages will list the libraries where copies of this document may be viewed and a preliminary list of locations for public workshops where open discussions and question and answer sessions will be held.

The final EIS is scheduled for completion in 2006.

http://www.faa.gov/nynjphl_airspace_redesign/

Public Workshop Meetings:

How to Participate

- Participants may comment with a court reporter, or in writing using a comment form at anytime during the meeting.
- A question and answer session will allow for group interaction during the last hour of the meeting.
- Written comments may be submitted by mail or email until June 1, 2006. See contact information on the last page.
- The workshop will include one-on-one discussions with both design and environmental staff.
- The public is encouraged to review the DEIS before taking part in the public workshop. The DEIS will be available at area libraries (see page 3) and on the FAA study website listed on the front and back of this newsletter.
- All written and verbal comments will be recorded into a database, taken into consideration by FAA, responded to, and included in the FEIS.

Federal Aviation Administration

Bringing Safety to America's Skies



Drafting a Final Environmental Impact Statement:

How Your Voice Contributes to a Sound Solution.

The DEIS is a decision-making tool, along with operational efficiency modeling, to help the FAA decide on a course of action for future improvements to the New York/New Jersey/Philadelphia metropolitan air traffic flow. A series of public workshops and public hearings are being scheduled to provide you with important information and an opportunity to comment on the DEIS before decisions are made.

A FEIS will be prepared by FAA following public review and comment on the DEIS. The FEIS will document and respond to public comments received, as well as identify the FAA's Preferred Alternative. The FEIS is scheduled to be completed in 2006.

What is the difference between the DEIS and the FEIS?



The DEIS is made available to the public and agencies for formal comment before a preferred alternative is identified. This phase provides direct public involvement and full disclosure prior to any decisions.

The FEIS will contain the responses to the comments received on the DEIS, changes resulting from these inputs and identification of a preferred operational and environmental alternative.

Proposed Public Meeting Locations

In February:

Kingston, NY; Danbury, CT; White Plains, NY; Stamford, CT; Larchmont, NY; Elizabeth, NJ; Northwest Staten Island, NY; Southwest Staten Island, NY; and Carteret, NJ

In March:

Toms River, NJ; Tinton Falls, NJ; Trenton, NJ; Uniondale, NY; Lawrence, NY; Elmhurst, Queens, NY; Edison, NJ; Springfield, NJ; Somerville, NJ; Talleyville, DE; Philadelphia, PA; and Ridley Park, PA

In April:

Parsippany, NJ; Clifton, NJ; Hasbrouck Heights, NJ; Manhattan, NY; Jersey City, NJ; Park Slope, Brooklyn, NY; and Bronx, NY

WHERE TO REVIEW THE DEIS

The Draft Environmental Impact Statement will be available for public review and comment in December 2005 at the following locations:

Connecticut

Bridgeport Library, Bridgeport, CT
Danbury Public Library, Danbury, CT
Rathburn Free Memorial, East Haddam, CT
Hartford Public Library, Hartford, CT
New Haven Public Library, New Haven, CT
New London Public Library, New London, CT
Ferguson Public Library, Stamford, CT

Delaware

Newark Branch Library, Newark, DE
Brandywine Hundred Branch, Wilmington, DE

New Jersey

Passaic Public Library, Passaic, NJ
Camden County Library System -
 South County Regional Branch, Atco, NJ
Atlantic City Public Library, Atlantic City, NJ
Warren County Library, Belvidere, NJ
Bridgewater Library, Bridgewater, NJ
Elizabeth Public Library, Elizabeth, NJ
Gloucester County Library System -
 Greenwich Township Branch, Gibbstown, NJ
Jersey City Public Library, Jersey City, NJ
Monmouth County Library Headquarters,
 Manalapan, NJ
Pinelands Library, Medford, NJ
Middlesex Public Library, Middlesex, NJ
Montclair Public Library, Montclair, NJ
Newark Public Library - Main Library, Newark, NJ
Sussex County Library - Main, Newton, NJ
Charles E. Reid Branch Library, Paramus, NJ
South County Branch, Ringoes, NJ
Salem Public Library, Salem, NJ
Monmouth County Library Eastern Branch,
 Shrewsbury, NJ
Franklin Township Public Library, Somerset, NJ
Ocean County Library, Toms River, NJ
Trenton Public Library, Trenton, NJ
Union Public Library, Union, NJ
Vineland Public Library, Vineland, NJ
Morris County Library, Whippany, NJ

New York

Albany Public Library, Albany, NY
Hunt's Point Branch, Bronx, NY
Brooklyn Public Library -
 Central Library, Brooklyn, NY
Chatham Public Library, Chatham, NY
East Rockaway Public Library, East Rockaway, NY

New York continued

Queens Borough Public Library, Flushing, NY
Franklin Free Library, Franklin, NY
Greenville Public Library, Greenville, NY
Queens Borough Public Library, Jamaica, NY
Kingston Library, Kingston, NY
Larchmont Public Library, Larchmont, NY
Levittown Public Library, Levittown, NY
Liberty Public Library, Liberty, NY
Mahopac Public Library, Mahopac, NY
Middleburgh Library, Middleburgh, NY
New City Free Library, New City, NY
Inwood Branch Library, New York, NY
New Amsterdam Branch Library, New York, NY
New York Public Library, New York, NY
Newburgh Free Library, Newburgh, NY
Huntington Memorial Library, Oneonta, NY
Poughkeepsie Public Library District,
 Poughkeepsie, NY
Schenectady County Public Library,
 Schenectady, NY
Port Richmond Branch Library, Staten Island, NY
Tottenville Branch Library, Staten Island, NY
West Islip Public Library, West Islip, NY
White Plains Public Library, White Plains, NY
Woodstock Library, Woodstock, NY
Yonkers Public Library -
 Riverfront Branch, Yonkers, NY

Pennsylvania

Pike County Public Library -
 Milford Branch, Milford, PA
Abington Township Public Library, Abington, PA
Allentown Public Library, Allentown, PA
Western Pocono Community Library,
 Brodheadsville, PA
County of Bucks Free Library, Doylestown, PA
Easton Area Public Library, Easton, PA
Chester County Library System, Exton, PA
Wayne County Public Library -
 Honesdale, Honesdale, PA
Lancaster County Library, Lancaster, PA
Northampton Area Public Library,
 Northampton, PA
Free Library of Philadelphia -
 Central Branch, Philadelphia, PA
Pottsville Public Library, Pottsville, PA
Reading Public Library, Reading, PA
Ridley Park Public Library, Ridley Park, PA
Scranton Public Library, Scranton, PA



New York/New Jersey/
Philadelphia Metropolitan Area
Airspace Redesign Project

Northrop Grumman IT
Mail Stop C302
12005 Sunrise Valley Drive
Reston, VA 20191

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Thanks for Your Input

We welcome your comments regarding the DEIS and invite you to attend our upcoming public workshops to present your views. You also may send written comments by mail to:

Steve Kelley, FAA-NAR
c/o Nessa Memberg
12005 Sunrise Valley Rd., C302
Reston VA 20191

1.866.EISLINE (1.866.347.5463)
faa.deis@ngc.com

We look forward to receiving your comments by June 1, 2006.

Stay Informed

To read the DEIS or for the latest information on public hearings, workshops and project updates, visit...

Q & A

How do I make a comment? Either in writing or verbally to a court recorder at the public workshops. You may also mail or email comments to the address listed in this newsletter.

What happens to my comment? Each comment is reviewed, analyzed and used in the development of the FEIS. Both the individual comments and responses will be listed in the FEIS.

When will the FEIS be published? Depending on the outcome of the DEIS comments, the FEIS is expected to be released in 2006.

When is the final decision announced? The final decision on what alternative will be implemented will be included in the Record of Decision, also scheduled for release in 2006.

How will I be able to receive announcements and view the FEIS and ROD? The FEIS and ROD will both be published on the project website. In addition, any new information on the project, following the DEIS phase, will also be listed on the website.

How will I get information on the exact location of public workshops? The locations will also be listed on the project website, along with directions. Additionally, you may contact any of the numbers listed in the newsletter for meeting location information. Finally, it is anticipated that a newsletter will be mailed out prior to the workshops announcing the exact locations and times.

What if I can't make a particular public workshop? There will be several workshops held throughout the study area from February to April, 2006. Many of these workshops will be in close proximity to one another.

http://www.faa.gov/nynjphl_airspace_redesign/