

O'Hare Noise Compatibility Commission



For Immediate Release

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Commission Names American Airlines Its Annual Fly Quiet Winner

(ROSEMONT, IL) — October 3, 2003 — The O'Hare Noise Compatibility Commission today presented American Airlines with the 2002 Fly Quiet Award and applauded the company's record of cooperation with the O'Hare Fly Quiet Program and the Commission's aircraft noise reduction work.

"It is important to note that all of the airlines at O'Hare participate actively in the Fly Quiet Program's success and have worked hard to help achieve significant aircraft noise reduction over the past six years," said Commission Chair, Arlington Heights Mayor Arlene J. Mulder. "However, American Airlines made outstanding efforts last year and it's important for us to commend them today."

Mulder and Chicago Aviation Commissioner Thomas R. Walker presented the award to American Airlines Vice President for the Chicago Region Bernie DeSena and Managing Director Bill Hood. DeSena thanked the Commission for the award and told the Commission members "you've managed aircraft noise issues better than anyone else in the nation."

American Airlines won the 2002 Fly Quiet Award based on its performance in several areas as judged by the Commission's Technical Committee, which is chaired by Palatine Mayor Rita Mullins. Committee members looked at the usage of the Ground Runup Enclosure engine testing facility; the use of quieter aircraft at night; participation at Commission meetings; and responsiveness to the Commission's communications.

"American did extremely well in all of these areas," said Mulder. "We were especially impressed by the active participation of its representatives at the Commission's meetings in 2002."

The Fly Quiet Program was started in 1997 and enhanced by the Commission in 2000. It defines special departure procedures and promotes the use of specific runways to reduce aircraft noise over populated areas between 10:00 P.M. and 7:00 A.M.

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2003 Residential Sound Insulation Program Allocation Announced

Six hundred homes have been identified for participation in the 2003 O'Hare Residential Sound Insulation Program. The homes are in ten communities, unincorporated Cook County and unincorporated DuPage County.

Community	Homes
Bensenville	18
Chicago	1
Des Plaines	222
Elk Grove Village	2
Franklin Park	4
Norridge	2
Northlake	1
Rosemont	1
Schiller Park	5
Unincorporated Cook County	231
Unincorporated DuPage County	45
Wood Dale	68
Total	600

The scheduling of the homeowner briefings will start this month and insulation work is expected to begin a short time later. Many of the homes in the 2003 program were eligible for the program in previous years but their owners opted out of the program. The Commission's Residential Sound Insulation Committee voted to give new owners of those homes another opportunity to participate. Many are now taking advantage of the offer.

The O'Hare Noise Compatibility Commission began working in 1996 to bring together the parties that are most able to reduce aircraft noise with representatives of communities affected by aircraft noise in a partnership to address jet noise at its impact and sources. The Commission's current membership includes the villages of Arlington Heights, Bartlett, Bellwood, Franklin Park, Hoffman Estates, Melrose Park, Mount Prospect, Niles, Norridge, Palatine, River Grove, River Forest, Rosemont, Schaumburg, Stone Park and Elmwood Park; the cities of Des Plaines, Northlake, Oak Park, Rolling Meadows and Chicago; unincorporated Cook County; and school districts 59 (Elk Grove Village, Des Plaines, Arlington Heights, Mount Prospect), 63 (Des Plaines, Niles, Morton Grove and Glenview), 80 (Norridge), 81 (Schiller Park), 84 (Franklin Park), 84½ (River Grove), 86 (Harwood Heights), 87 (Berkeley, Northlake, Bellwood), 89 (Maywood, Melrose Park and Broadview), 214 (Elk Grove Village, Des Plaines, Arlington Heights, Mount Prospect, Rolling Meadows, Prospect Heights, Wheeling, Buffalo Grove), 234 (Norridge, Harwood Heights), 299 (Chicago Public Schools) and 401 (Elmwood Park). The commission holds a public meeting on the first Friday of every month, except July. Most meetings are held at the Donald E. Stephens Convention Center, 5555 N. River Road in Rosemont, Illinois.