

O'Hare Noise Compatibility Commission



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Arlington Heights Mayor Re-Elected To Head O'Hare Noise Compatibility Commission

Sound Insulation Programs Top Priority

Rosemont, IL, May 2, 2008—Arlington Heights Mayor Arlene J. Mulder, an internationally recognized leader on issues of aircraft noise mitigation, was re-elected Chairperson for 2008 of the O'Hare Noise Compatibility Commission at the Commission's annual meeting held in April in Rosemont. Mulder has been elected ONCC chair annually since 1997.

In her acceptance remarks, Mulder announced that 2007 experienced the ninth continuous year of reduced O'Hare aircraft noise complaints received by the City of Chicago.

"We recognize the vital economic benefits O'Hare brings to the region and will continue to work with airlines, homeowners and school districts to ensure environmental noise reduction remains a top priority as the Chicago Airport System continues its modernization program," explained Mulder.

Other ONCC officials re-elected were Superintendent Dr. Raymond J. Kuper of Union Ridge School District 86 in Harwood Heights as Vice-Chairman and former Mt. Prospect Mayor Gerald L. "Skip" Farley as Treasurer.

ONCC is comprised of three standing committees that direct funding for sound insulation programs inside schools and homes and promote technological advancements to reduce aircraft noise.

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(Mayor Mulder re-elected head of O'Hare Noise Compatibility Commission)

Cook County official Frank Damato heads ONCC's Residential Sound Insulation Program that has insulated nearly 6,200 homes, including 777 in 2007. Kuper is chairman of ONCC's School Sound Insulation Program that has insulated 115 O'Hare area schools. These sound-insulation programs cost over \$465 million and were financed by the Federal Aviation Administration, the Chicago of Chicago and the airlines.

ONCC's Technical Committee, headed by Palatine Mayor Rita Mullins, addresses aircraft noise with the Department of Aviation, air traffic controllers, Federal Aviation Administration representatives, airline pilots and communities. The committee attributes a significant factor in noise reduction during 2007 to the retirement of older and noisier Stage-1 and Stage-3 aircraft, including the 727.

ONCC was formed in 1996 to assist in developing meaningful methods of reducing the impact of aircraft noise on surrounding neighborhoods through home and school insulation, and to reduce whenever possible, aircraft noise at its source. Its members represent 42 communities including 26 municipalities, Cook County and 15 school districts; the Federal Aviation Administration; airlines; the Chicago Airport System; and the City of Chicago. For more information visit www.oharenoise.org or call 773-686-3198.

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