



**O'HARE NOISE  
COMPATIBILITY  
COMMISSION**

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## **New O'Hare Runway Meets FAA Noise Standard Ranks Third in Aircraft Arrivals**

Des Plaines, Ill., February 13, 2009—Aircraft noise from the new Runway 9 Left-27 Right at O'Hare International Airport falls within Federal Aviation Administration sound metrics, according to a year-end report issued recently by the Chicago Department of Aviation (DOA).

“We expected to hear from residents living near O'Hare because there's been a shift in runway traffic. The east-west parallel 9L-27R runway, opened Nov. 20, 2008, is affecting a new population in the southern portion of Park Ridge and other parts of Chicago, Des Plaines and Niles, explained Brian Gilligan, executive director of the O'Hare Noise Compatibility Commission (ONCC).

“Today aircraft traffic on the new runway accounts for 20 percent of O'Hare's daily arrivals. In the past, Runway 22, whose flight path is over the northern portion of Park Ridge, accounted for 21 percent of arrivals when used daily,” Gilligan said. A third runway, 27 Left, had the highest arrival rate of 27 percent for December, according to the most recent DOA Airport Noise Management System (ANMS) report.

The ANMS report also confirmed that “air traffic controllers and pilots landing aircraft on Runway 9L-27R are successfully observing Chicago's Fly Quiet nighttime noise abatement time parameters within FAA's variance of 4 percent,” said Gilligan.

ONCC uses ANMS reports as an integral part of its mission to abate aircraft noise and improve quality of life for those living and working in communities near O'Hare.

In addition to runway usage and day-night noise levels, the ANMS report tracks O'Hare noise complaint phone calls. Year-end statistics show an increase in complaints from 1,248 in 2007 to 2,483 in 2008 that ended a nine-year record of steadily decreasing calls.

(more)

## New O'Hare runway meets FAA noise standard/add 1

According to the December ANMS report, 78 percent of noise complaint calls came from Park Ridge residents, with each caller averaging three calls to the noise hotline. Ninety-three percent of the calls did not specify the reason for the complaint.

In an effort to expedite complaint calls, the current 311 noise hotline will be expanded in the next few months to include Internet access, according to ONCC Commissioner and Harwood Heights Trustee Mark Dobrzycki, who along with Park Ridge Mayor Howard Frimark, initiated the request for better, quicker access to a complaint line.

Data from both phone callers and Internet users will be combined into future monthly ANMS complaint call reports. ANMS statistics about runway use, noise, fleet mix and the hotline are posted at [www.oharenoise.org](http://www.oharenoise.org).

ONCC, composed of 27 Cook and DuPage communities, Cook County and 15 school districts, strives to reduce the impact of aircraft noise on surrounding neighborhoods through home and school insulation, and to reduce, wherever possible, aircraft noise at its source. For more information, contact Brian Gilligan, 773- 686-3198.

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ONCC member communities: Arlington Heights, Bartlett, Bellwood, Chicago, Des Plaines, Elmwood Park, Franklin Park, Harwood Heights, Hoffman Estates, Itasca, Maywood, Melrose Park, Mount Prospect, Niles, Norridge, Northlake, Oak Park, Palatine, Park Ridge, River Forest, River Grove, Rolling Meadows, Rosemont, Schaumburg, Schiller Park, Stone Park, Wood Dale and Cook County.

ONCC member school districts: 59; 63; 80; 81; 84; 84.5; 85.5; 86; 87; 88; 89; 214; 234; 299; and 401.

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