



**O'HARE NOISE
COMPATIBILITY
COMMISSION**

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Elk Grove High School Receives \$11.6 Million FAA Grant for Sound Insulation Construction

O'Hare Noise Compatibility Commission Succeeds in FAA Funding Pursuit

Des Plaines, Ill., Sept. 12, 2011—Today Elk Grove High School received a Federal Aviation Administration grant of \$11.6 million for the construction of sound insulation to significantly reduce the impact of aircraft noise on the learning environment for the school's students and staff.

The award was announced during the School Sound Insulation Committee meeting of the O'Hare Noise Compatibility Commission by Lindsay Gutilla, FAA Great Lakes Region environmental specialist.

In total, the high school received \$15.5 million for design and construction work from the FAA that includes a City of Chicago 20 percent matching grant.

Earlier this year Ridgewood High School in Norridge received \$28 million in combined FAA and City of Chicago grants for design and construction work. Total outlay for the two schools is \$43.5 million in 2011.

A long history of efforts to fund these schools culminated when ONCC sent a delegation of School Sound Insulation Committee members including ONCC Chairperson and Arlington Heights Mayor Arlene J. Mulder; ONCC Vice-Chairperson and Dist. 86 Retired Superintendent Dr. Raymond Kuper; Dist. 214 Associate Superintendent for Finance and Operations Debra Parenti; and Norridge School Dist. 234 Superintendent Dr. Robert Lupo, to FAA headquarters in Washington, DC. They urged the FAA to re-evaluate eligibility of schools to receive federal funds. The two high schools were deemed eligible following noise monitor tests in August 2010.

ONCC also received support from Sen. Richard Durbin (D., Ill.), and Representatives Jan Schakowsky (D., Ill.) and Peter Roskam (R., Ill.).

ONCC, composed of representatives from 28 Cook and DuPage communities, Cook County, and 16 school districts, strives to reduce the impact of aircraft noise on surrounding neighborhoods of O'Hare International Airport through home and school insulation, and to reduce, wherever possible, aircraft noise at its source. For more information, contact Brendan McLaughlin, 773-686-3198, or visit www.oharenoise.org.

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ONCC member communities: Arlington Heights, Bartlett, Bellwood, Bensenville, 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; 64; 80; 81; 84; 84.5; 85.5; 86; 87; 88; 89; 214; 234; 299; and 401.

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