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## O'Hare Noise Compatibility Commission

# INTERIM FLY QUIET TALKING POINTS

### October 2019

#### SUMMARY

The Interim Fly Quiet Runway Rotation plan (IFQ) will be in effect from Sunday night, November 3, 2019 through May 17, 2020. The IFQ features an eight-week runway rotation plan. For each week, a runway use configuration is provided, with both primary and secondary options to accommodate potential changes in wind direction. The runway use configurations have been defined and approved by the ONCC to balance noise exposure to the extent possible.

#### WHAT IS FLY QUIET?

The voluntary Fly Quiet Program encourages pilots to use designated nighttime preferential runways and, in addition, flight tracks developed by the Chicago Department of Aviation in cooperation with ONCC, the airlines, and air traffic controllers.

#### DEVELOPING THE IFQ

- The ONCC formed the ad hoc Fly Quiet Committee in 2015 to review, modify and make recommendations to the existing Fly Quiet nighttime noise abatement program. The nine-member committee represented communities surrounding the airport.

The goals of the Fly Quiet Committee were as follows:

- Provide Near-Term Relief
- Reduce Impacts to the Highest Impacted Communities
- Provide Predictability

- The ONCC developed and oversaw three Proposed Interim Fly Quiet Runway Rotation Plan tests to collect data on possible Fly Quiet runway configurations to be used at night that could provide near-term relief to the most impacted communities surrounding O'Hare.
- The IFQ was approved by the ONCC membership in December 2017. The CDA submitted the formal IFQ plan to the FAA in February 2018. The FAA has determined that since the impacts of the program are temporary, a new Environmental Impact Statement is not needed and the plan was approved to move forward.

## **INTERIM FLY QUIET PLAN IMPLEMENTATION**

- The Interim Fly Quiet Runway Rotation Plan at O'Hare International Airport is scheduled to begin on Sunday, November 3, 2019 and will be in place through May 16, 2020.
- The IFQ proposal features an eight-week rotation plan with six configurations arranged to alternate each week between parallel and diagonal runways and rotating east flow and west flow.
- The airport will operate under traditional Fly Quiet from May 17, 2020 – September 30, 2020 while rehab work on Runway 4R/22L is taking place.
- IFQ will resume September 13, 2020, and will be in place for 20 weeks through January 31, 2021, when construction of the Runway 9R extension will necessitate a return to original Fly Quiet.

## **NEXT STEPS: FQ21**

- The permanent Fly Quiet Committee was formed by the ONCC in 2018 to consider modifications to the Fly Quiet program to be in place once the O'Hare Modernization Plan is completed and full build-out is reached. The addition of new runways could provide additional options for a more balanced distribution of noise not currently available in the existing Fly Quiet program.
- The 11 member committee is appointed by the ONCC Chair with consent of the Executive Committee, and is intended to provide balanced representation for each quadrant surrounding the airport.
- The FAA is currently reviewing safety concerns regarding use of the north airfield at night. Maintenance hangars are located on the north airfield, and the FAA has expressed concern regarding aircraft crossing live runways to reach those locations.
- While this review is underway, the committee is considering departure headings. Departure heading discussions include deciding whether the committee prefers to spread headings out over a geographic area to avoid repeated impact, or to send flights over less populated areas. The Committee is also considering the option of Performance Based Navigation (PBN) for certain headings, sending flights over a very concentrated and precise path. The target completion and implementation for FQ21 is 2021, contingent upon approval from CDA and FAA.