



SEATTLE-TACOMA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

Noise Programs Overview

The Port of Seattle is committed to ensuring that Seattle-Tacoma International Airport benefits our region and neighbors, and that means being responsive to community concerns about airport impact. To improve air quality, we have instituted programs like pre-conditioned air for parked aircraft – reducing emissions by more than 50,000 metric tons of CO₂ – and we are a national leader in piloting aviation biofuels that have a lifecycle carbon footprint typically 50 to 80 percent lower than regular jet fuel. To address noise issues, the Port's Noise Program – one of the most comprehensive in the country – partners with airlines, the FAA and local residents in four key ways:

1. NOISE REMEDY

To-date, the Port has invested approximately \$400 million in noise mitigation programs. Noise remedy programs began as an outcome of the FAA-approved Part 150 Noise Study completed in 1985. There have been three updates to the Study – 1993, 2002 and 2014. The updated Noise Remedy Boundary is the basis for all new programs and was established in 2014. The Port's mitigation programs include insulation and voluntary acquisition. Key insulation achievements include:

- Over 9,400 single family homes, through windows, doors and ventilation modifications
- 5 condominium complexes (246 individual units)
- 14 buildings on the Highline College campus
- 8 schools within the Highline School District

2. PUBLIC INQUIRY AND COMPLAINT RESPONSE

Port employees personally respond to public comments that arrive through our noise hotline (206.787.5393) or our online comment form: (www.portseattle.org/Environmental/Noise/Pages/Noise-Comment-Form.aspx). The Port also provides an online flight tracking tool for the public to use, called PublicVue, which also allows users to submit comments utilizing a username and password (www.portseattle.org/Environmental/Noise/Noise-Abatement/Pages/Aircraft-Monitoring-System.aspx). Port staff help residents understand the causes of airplane noise near their homes as well as what programs may be available to address their concerns.

3. FLIGHT TRACKING AND NOISE MONITORING

Our Noise Programs team utilizes a sophisticated flight tracking system to monitor flight paths in and out of Sea-Tac, as well as aircraft compliance with established noise abatement flight procedures. This information is used in providing timely, accurate responses to citizen inquiries. Noise Programs staff meet regularly with the FAA to share this data and discuss flight procedures. We also maintain and operate a system of 24 noise monitors at permanent locations throughout the local region.



4. FLY QUIET PROGRAM

The Fly Quiet program encourages airline compliance with noise abatement efforts by evaluating flight procedures, as well as aircraft noise levels, and recognizing airlines with the best record of achievement in their award group. The award was developed by Port staff and a citizen advisory committee as a way to increase airline and pilot awareness of the impact of aircraft noise on local communities.

Airlines are given scores based on three categories:

- Compliance percentage with existing noise abatement procedures
- Compliance with Sea-Tac's aircraft engine testing run-up rules and regulations
- Overall noise of their operations as measured by 4 of our permanent noise monitors

Three Fly Quiet Awards are presented annually:

- Quietest of the top five busiest jet airlines, based on total operations
- Quietest airline among the jet airlines with at least 1,000 annual operations
- Quietest airline among regional jet carriers

Fly Quiet Award recipients are publicly acknowledged by the Port in various ways for their efforts to limit the impact of aircraft noise on our local communities.

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT

www.portseattle.org/Environmental/Noise/Pages/default.aspx



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Port of Seattle
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