O'HARE NOISE COMPATIBILITY COMMISSION

HIGHLIGHTS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The O'Hare Noise Compatibility Commission is an internationally recognized policymaking organization dedicated to reducing the impact of aircraft noise from Chicago's O'Hare International Airport. The commission oversees one of the nation's largest residential and school insulation programs for neighborhoods near O'Hare and advocates technological advances for quieter aircraft.

Since ONCC's inception in 1996, the commission has heightened the awareness of aircraft noise effects on communities among state and federal lawmakers.

Partnering with the Chicago Department of Aviation (CDA) and the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), its members work through three standing committees—Residential Sound Insulation, School Sound Insulation and Technical.

ONCC members include 30 suburban communities, 5 Chicago wards and 16 school districts all working together to mitigate aircraft noise in the O'Hare region.

AT A GLANCE

1982
Chicago introduces a school sound insulation program.

1995 - 1996
CDA selects 10 homes for sound insulation pilot project.

Chicago Mayor Richard M. Daley creates the O'Hare Noise Compatibility Commission and invites suburban mayors to oversee aircraft noise mitigation. It becomes the only recognized organization dedicated to reducing aircraft noise near O'Hare International Airport.

The Residential Sound Insulation Program begins.

1997
ONCC officially commences with the signing of an inter-governmental agreement between Chicago, 17 suburban municipalities and 9 school districts. It is chaired by Village of Arlington Heights Mayor Arlene J. Mulder and co-chaired by Union Ridge School District 86 Superintendent Raymond J. Kuper, Ed.D.

The inter-governmental agreement authorizes ONCC to plan noise relief projects in the O'Hare area; oversee an effective and impartial noise monitoring system; and advise the city of Chicago about O'Hare-related noise issues.

Founding members include: Arlington Heights, Chicago, Elmwood Park, Franklin Park, Hoffman Estates, Melrose Park, Mount Prospect, Norridge, Northlake, Oak Park, Palatine, River Forest, River Grove, Rolling Meadows, Rosemont, Schaumburg, and unincorporated Cook County; and School Districts 59, 80, 81, 84, 86, 87, 214, 234, and 299.

1998 - 1999
ONCC uses O'Hare Noise Contour map showing actual flight activity in 1997 to identify residential and school sound insulation projects and relies on 32 permanent noise monitors to capture aircraft noise data.

Chicago and the signatory air carriers at O'Hare commit to continue funding the Residential and School Sound Insulation programs.

2000
Village of Niles joins ONCC.

ONCC lobbies Congress for continued NASA research funding to develop quieter aircraft engines.

The CDA Community Outreach Vehicle travels to communities to explain home and school sound insulation, aircraft noise monitoring, the Fly Quiet Program and the Chicago Airport System.

2001
Villages of Stone Park and Bellwood, and School Districts 84.5, 89, 401 and 63 join ONCC.

Due to quieter aircraft, the 2000 noise contour indicates a 44 percent reduction of the aircraft noise metric for homes within the contour and a 34 percent reduction in the surrounding region.

Chicago leads the nation in sound insulation funding.

International Aviation Noise Symposium recognizes ONCC as leader in aircraft noise mitigation.

ONCC lobbies airlines to phase out hush-kit equipped aircraft.

2002
City of Des Plaines joins ONCC.

United Airlines retires all hush-kit equipped aircraft.

American Eagle and America West airlines are the first recipients of ONCC Fly Quiet Award.

U.S. Rep. Mark Kirk (R-IL) pledges support for ONCC in federal committees regarding air transportation and aircraft noise.

2003
Village of Bartlett joins ONCC.

American Airlines receives ONCC Fly Quiet Award.

ONCC goes on record at International Aviation Noise Symposium to seek greater compatibility in land use surrounding airports.

2004
City of Park Ridge and School District 85.5 join ONCC.

ONCC joins congressionally-mandated aircraft noise study. ONCC named one of three community-based aircraft noise groups in the Partnership for Air Transportation Noise and Emissions Reduction (PARTNER). The consortium includes universities, aircraft and aircraft engine manufacturers and government agencies working together to identify solutions for existing and anticipated aircraft noise.

U.S. Rep. Jan Schakowsky (D-IL) pledges support for aircraft noise reduction efforts in Congress.

ONCC Noise 101 workshop becomes part of community outreach and education mission.

American Airlines receives ONCC Fly Quiet Award.

2005
Village of Maywood and School District 88 join ONCC.

Chairman Arlene J. Mulder receives the Jay Hollingsworth Speas Airport Award for outstanding contributions in achieving compatible relationships between airports and neighbors.

Inter-governmental agreement extended for five years.

O'Hare Modernization Program (OMP) commences; FAA Record of Decision names ONCC to oversee Residential Sound Insulation program utilizing a

computer generated model of the full build out noise contour. Scope of work includes insulation for 6,000 additional housing units.

American Eagle and United Express receive ONCC Fly Quiet Awards.

2006

Village of Harwood Heights joins ONCC.

The FAA awards Des Plaines a $750,000 Vision 100 land use grant which encourages compatible land use and zoning with neighboring airports.

American Eagle, Continental Airlines, FedEx Express and Delta Air Lines Station Manager Chris Diaferio receive ONCC Fly Quiet Awards.

2007

City of Wood Dale and the Village of Schiller Park join ONCC.

Annual usage of the O'Hare Ground Run-up Enclosure to muffle aircraft engine testing exceeds 80 percent.

ONCC celebrates Devers Elementary School, Chicago, as the 100th school sound insulated.

FedEx Express, Mexicana Airlines, Northwest Airlines and FAA Chicago Airports District Environmental Specialist Amy Hanson receive Fly Quiet Awards.

2008

Village of Itasca joins ONCC.

Harwood Heights receives a $320,000 FAA Vision 100 land use grant.

ONCC approves sound insulation of multi-unit buildings.

Arlington Heights adopts the nation's first municipal energy and sound ordinance for building construction. It is patterned after ONCC model ordinance.

ONCC hosts a noise symposium for federal and aircraft industry officials and community leaders to discuss environmental issues and aeronautical advancements.

Runway 9L/27R, the first runway commissioned in O'Hare's modernization program, creates a shift in aircraft noise. A new population turns to ONCC for aircraft noise answers.

ONCC appeals to FAA to reevaluate established noise metrics; requests FAA monthly nighttime flight report for Runway 9L/27R.

2009

Village of Bensenville and Park Ridge/ Niles School District 64 join ONCC.

Hitch and Farnsworth elementary schools in Chicago and Roosevelt School in Park Ridge receive approximately $6.5 million in federal funds for sound insulation.

Aircraft noise complaints quickly dispatched via new Internet option.

Bensenville receives a $1 million federal grant. Wood Dale also receives $180,000 FAA Vision 100 land use grant.

2010

Chicago City Council approves another five-year, inter-governmental agreement with ONCC.

ONCC Chairman Arlene J. Mulder participates in FAA Noise Research Roadmap Workshop, a five-year investigation on the effects of aircraft noise.

FAA approves funding eligibility of Ridgewood and Elk Grove high schools after both are re-tested for noise levels.

Construction crews complete sound insulation for George Washington and Roosevelt elementary schools in Park Ridge and Chicago's Hitch Elementary School.

ONCC launches a three-part project to revitalize the Fly Quiet Program (FQP) that identifies preferential nighttime runways at O'Hare and limits flights between 10 p.m. and 7 a.m. Initiatives include updating the FQP manual, petitioning FAA to review nighttime operations data and implementing the use of GPS-navigation at O'Hare.

Airport World magazine features ONCC's role in aircraft noise mitigation and highlights the commission's efforts to build relationships with aviation stakeholders.

2011

Ridgewood and Elk Grove high schools receive $43.5 million from the FAA and Chicago for sound insulation construction.

St. Tarcissus Elementary School in Chicago is the 123rd school deemed eligible for sound insulation.

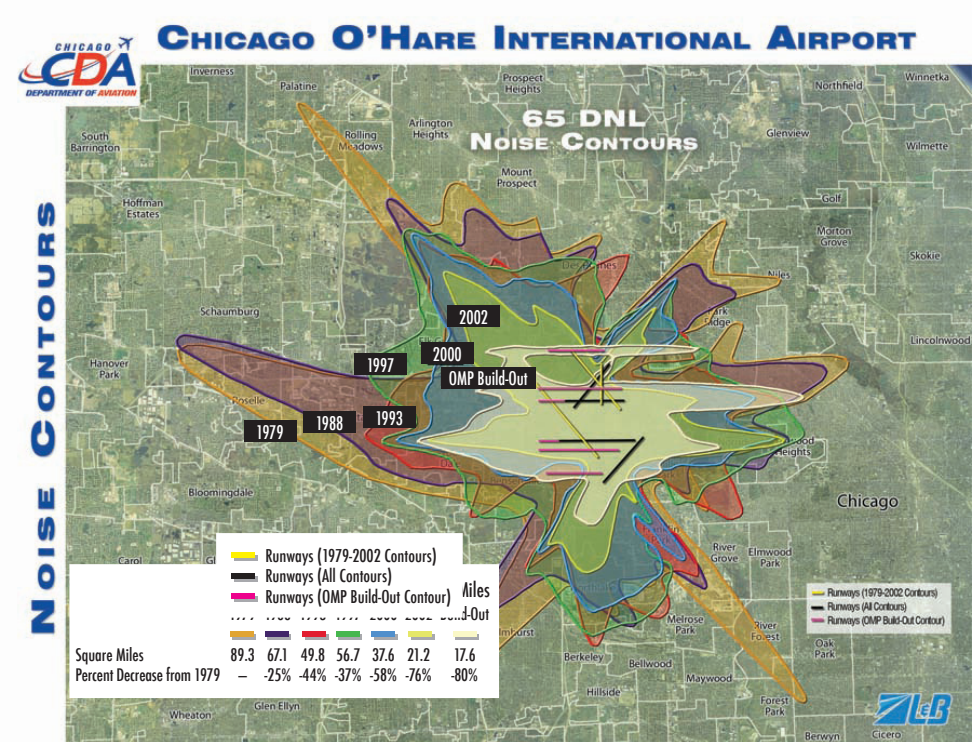
Chicago City Council and Mayor Rahm Emmanuel appoint citizen designees from northwest Wards 36, 38, 39, 41 and 45 to represent approximately 285,000 residents in ONCC.

ONCC hosts compatible land use symposium for 30 city planners and officials from 18 municipalities.

Chairman Arlene J. Mulder receives invitation to represent communities on FAA NextGen Advisory Committee.

2012

Elk Grove High School celebrates completion of its $15.5 million sound insulation project. Acoustic windows and other sound insulation installations provide a quiet learning environment for 2,000 students and 180 faculty.



St. Tarcissus and Farnsworth elementary schools in Chicago receive $9.3 million for sound insulation.

The CDA and the FAA update ONCC on construction progress for Runway 10C/28C, a new parallel runway.

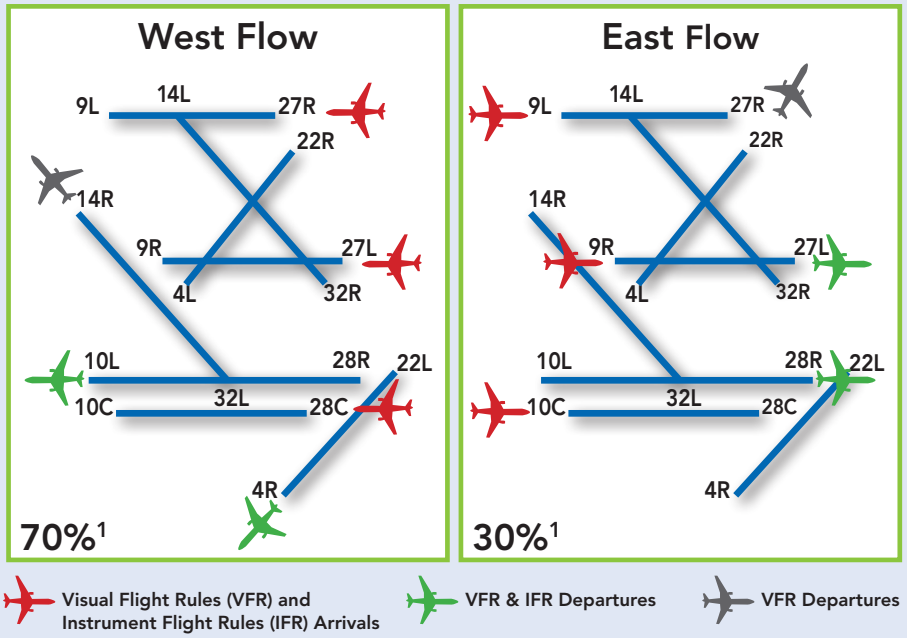
ONCC launches a comprehensive community outreach initiative to inform legislators, local leaders and residents about new runways, forecasted noise contours and noise mitigation efforts.

FAA Executive Director of Environment and Energy Lourdes Maurice, Ph.D., presents current research studies about aircraft noise and its results on residents near airports.

O'Hare Air Traffic Control initiates a "good neighbor" policy to adhere to the voluntary nighttime Fly Quiet Program.

ONCC continues to serve as a forum among local governments, CDA, FAA, airlines, pilots, air traffic controllers and aviation stakeholders to reduce and mitigate aircraft noise in the region.

CHICAGO O'HARE INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT



[1] Approximate average percentage during an entire year

Source: Federal Aviation Administration, O'Hare Modernization Final Environment Impact Statement, Appendix D – Simulation Modeling

2013

Village of Morton Grove joins ONCC.

The CDA, FAA and ONCC conduct 34 presentations to local, state and federal leaders, and residents in affected communities about the continuation and progress of O'Hare's modernization; to prepare residents for changes in noise levels; and to build awareness of the forthcoming Runway 10C/28C in October.

Runway 10C/28C introduces east-west flow parallel flight patterns that shift aircraft noise.

Boeing Commercial Airplane representative addresses the Technical Committee on ways the manufacturer works to develop sustainable solutions for quieter and cleaner skies.

Ridgewood High School celebrates completion of its $28 million sound insulation project to mitigate aircraft noise for 900 students and 70 faculty members.

Ebinger Elementary School in Chicago, the last designated school for sound insulation, receives $468,750 from the FAA and airline passenger facility charges to begin the design process.

MOVING FORWARD

As O'Hare International Airport's multi-million dollar expansion moves forward, ONCC will continue to (1) advocate for satellite-based navigation technology to align aircraft on preferential nighttime flight tracks away from residential areas; (2) promote compatible land use planning among municipalities and urban planners; and (3) encourage open dialog among community and aviation stakeholders regarding O'Hare modernization.

ONCC will diligently promote the quality of life for O'Hare communities and strive to reduce the impact of aircraft noise whenever possible.

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P.O. Box 1126 • Des Plaines, IL 60017 • 773-686-3198 • www.oharenoise.org

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