

# O'Hare Monitor



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## American Airlines Named Fly Quiet Award Winner

American Airlines is the winner of the O'Hare Noise Compatibility Commission's 2002 Fly Quiet Award. The airline was cited for its record of cooperation with the O'Hare Fly Quiet Program and the Commission's aircraft noise reduction work.

"It is important to note that all of the airlines at O'Hare participate actively in the Fly Quiet Program's success and have worked hard to help achieve significant aircraft noise reduction over the past six years," said Commission Chair, Arlington Heights Mayor Arlene J. Mulder. "However, American Airlines made outstanding efforts last year and it's important for us to commend them."

At the October Commission meeting, Mulder and Chicago Aviation Commissioner Thomas R. Walker presented the award to American Airlines Vice President for the Chicago Region Bernie DeSena and Managing Director Bill Hood. DeSena thanked the Commission for the award and told the Commission members "you've managed aircraft noise issues better than anyone else in the nation."



American Airlines Vice President for the Chicago Region Bernie DeSena (left) and Managing Director Bill Hood accept 2002 Fly Quiet Award from ONCC Chair Arlington Heights Mayor Arlene Mulder and Chicago Aviation Commissioner Thomas Walker at October 3, 2003, ONCC meeting.

American Airlines won the 2002 Fly Quiet Award based on its performance in several areas as judged by the Commission's Technical Committee, which is chaired by Palatine Mayor Rita Mullins. Committee members looked at the usage of the Ground Runup Enclosure engine testing facility; the use of quieter aircraft at night; participation at Commission meetings; and responsiveness to the Commission's communications.

"American did extremely well in all of these areas," said Mulder. "We were especially impressed by the active participation of its representatives at the Commission's meetings in 2002."

The Fly Quiet Program was started in 1997 and enhanced by the Commission in 2000. It defines special departure procedures and promotes the use of specific runways to reduce aircraft noise over populated areas between 10:00 P.M. and 7:00 A.M.

## Commission Members

### Municipalities

Arlington Heights  
Bartlett  
Bellwood  
Chicago  
Des Plaines  
Elmwood Park  
Franklin Park  
Hoffman Estates  
Melrose Park  
Mount Prospect  
Niles  
Norridge  
Northlake  
Oak Park  
Palatine  
River Grove  
River Forest  
Rolling Meadows  
Rosemont  
Schaumburg  
Stone Park

Unincorporated Cook County

### School Districts

59 Elk Grove Village, Des Plaines, Arlington Heights, Mount Prospect  
63 Des Plaines, Niles, Morton Grove, Glenview  
80 Norridge  
81 Schiller Park  
84 Franklin Park  
84.5 River Grove  
86 Harwood Heights  
87 Berkeley, Northlake, Bellwood  
89 Maywood, Melrose Park, Broadview  
214 Elk Grove Village, Des Plaines, Arlington Heights, Mount Prospect, Rolling Meadows, Prospect Heights, Wheeling, Buffalo Grove  
234 Norridge, Harwood Heights  
299 Chicago Public Schools  
401 Elmwood Park

**Noise Hotline 800-435-9569**

## School Noise Monitoring Results Released

The O'Hare Noise Compatibility Commission's School Sound Insulation Committee has released the results of aircraft noise monitoring at nine schools around O'Hare. In addition, the committee voted to recommend to the full Commission that the top three schools on the list, **Rhodes Elementary in River Grove; Beard Classical Elementary in Chicago; and Socrates – St. Sava Academy in Chicago**, qualify for funding for sound insulation design work.

Upon learning that his school met the criteria to be included in the program, Rev. Dennis Pavichevich of Socrates – St. Sava Academy in Chicago thanked the committee members, Mayor Richard Daley and Chicago Department of Aviation officials. "This is a tremendous gift that will touch so many young lives and will play a big part in fulfilling the dreams for our school."

During the monitoring, which was conducted by the Chicago Department of Aviation's Noise Office, each school selected the rooms that were tested over a four-day period. The selection of the monitoring days was based on predicted maximum aircraft activity in the vicinity of the school as determined by weather conditions and runway usage. Three noise monitors were used for each school. One monitor measured exterior noise levels, one measured noise levels with class-

room windows closed and the third monitored noise levels with classroom windows open.

The O'Hare Noise Compatibility Commission's School Sound Insulation Committee approved the use of an eight hour Equivalent Sound Level (Leq) to determine the impact of aircraft noise during normal school hours. Consistent with FAA guidelines, the ranking of the schools is based on the "windows-open" noise levels.

While being ranked is an important step in securing funding for sound insulation work, it is not a guarantee that funding will be available for a specific school for either the design phase or actual sound insulation work.

The O'Hare School Sound Insulation Program is the World's Largest. It has sound insulated 81 schools to date at a total cost of almost \$200 million with funding from the Airport Improvement Program (AIP), Passenger Facility Charges (PFC) and Non-Passenger Facility Charges. There are currently 22 schools in the design/construction phase of the program. AIP and PFC disbursements for the 103 schools with executed grant agreements total \$240.3 million.

Rank	School	Monitoring Date	Outdoor Leq(8)	Windows Open Leq(8)	Windows Closed Leq(8)
1	Rhodes Elementary — River Grove	August 3, 2003	61.3	51.3	38.7
2	Beard Classical Elementary — Chicago	August 21, 2003	63.3	51.1	31.0
3	Socrates – St. Sava Academy — Chicago	July 11, 2003	66.3	50.0	38.4
4	George Washington Elementary — Park Ridge	July 18, 2003	63.0	49.2	31.7
5	East Leyden High School — Franklin Park	September 11, 2003	57.5	47.8	43.0
6	St. Andrews Lutheran School — Park Ridge	June 12, 2003	50.7	47.0	10.8
7	George B. Carpenter Elementary — Park Ridge	July 18, 2003	63.7	44.9	34.5
8	Zion Evangelical — Bensenville	September 13, 2003	59.4	44.7	34.4
9	Brentwood Christian Academy — Des Plaines	August 28, 2003	53.2	44.0	28.6

## More Homes to Qualify for Sound Insulation

The O'Hare Noise Compatibility Commission is extending the nationally recognized O'Hare Residential Sound Insulation Program to more homes around the airport. For the first time, homes located in areas with noise levels lower than 70 DNL\*, as defined by the 2000 Noise Contour Map, will be systematically insulated.

"The fact that we are now able to move the program to other areas means that we have been successful in insulating all the homes inside the 70 DNL in accordance with our 'worst first' policy," said Commission Chair, Arlington Heights Mayor Arlene J. Mulder. "This is

the most aggressive residential sound insulation program in the nation thanks to the commitment by the City of Chicago to identify funding for the program, even in the midst of an economic downturn for the airline industry."

The O'Hare Residential Sound Insulation Program is funded by the Passenger Facility Charges (PFC), which are paid by airline passengers when they purchase tickets. With fewer people traveling by air, the funding has been reduced. However, in June the City of Chicago

*(Continued on next page)*

## 2003 Meeting Schedule

All meetings are open to the public

O'Hare Noise Compatibility Commission	Residential Sound Insulation Committee	School Sound Insulation Committee	Technical Committee
<b>November 7, 2003</b> Donald E. Stephens Convention Center 5555 N. River Rd., Rosemont	<b>November 19, 2003</b> Norridge Village Hall 4000 N. Olcott	<b>November No Meeting</b>	<b>November 25, 2003</b> Arlington Heights Village Hall 33 S. Arlington Hts. Rd.
<b>December 5, 2003</b> Donald E. Stephens Convention Center 5555 N. River Rd., Rosemont	<b>December No Meeting</b>	<b>December 10, 2003</b> School District 59 2123 S. Arlington Hts. Rd., Arlington Hts.	<b>December No Meeting</b>

## 2004 Meeting Schedule

Full Commission

<b>January No Meeting</b>	<b>February 6, 2004</b> Donald E. Stephens Convention Center 5555 N. River Rd., Rosemont	<b>March 12, 2004</b> Rosewood Banquets 9421 West Higgins, Rosemont	<b>April No Meeting</b>
<b>May 7, 2004</b> Donald E. Stephens Convention Center 5555 N. River Rd., Rosemont	<b>June 4, 2004</b> Donald E. Stephens Convention Center 5555 N. River Rd., Rosemont	<b>July No Meeting</b>	<b>August No Meeting</b>
<b>September 3, 2004</b> Donald E. Stephens Convention Center 5555 N. River Rd., Rosemont	<b>October 1, 2004</b> Donald E. Stephens Convention Center 5555 N. River Rd., Rosemont	<b>November 5, 2004</b> Donald E. Stephens Convention Center 5555 N. River Rd., Rosemont	<b>December 3, 2004</b> Donald E. Stephens Convention Center 5555 N. River Rd., Rosemont

**Meeting schedules are subject to change. Please check [www.oharenoise.org](http://www.oharenoise.org) for updates. Committee meeting schedules will appear in the next issue of *O'Hare Monitor***

### Residential Sound Insulation

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announced that it would be able to fund the Residential Sound Insulation Program at the significant level of \$16.6 million.

Under the guidelines approved by the Commission, the 2003 O'Hare Residential Sound Insulation Program will operate in three priorities and with some new modifications to extend the funding to more homes. The first priority will be given to eligible homes in areas covered by the 2000 Noise Contour Map, but not included in the earlier years of the program because the owners at the time declined to participate. New owners of those homes were given an opportunity to request reconsideration for sound insulation work. The next priority will go to remaining homes in the 69 and greater DNL as defined by the 2000 Noise Contour Map. The Commission's goal is to round off the blocks that were only partly covered by previous phases of the program. The final priority for the 2003 O'Hare Residential Sound Insulation Program is to begin sound insulating homes within the 68 DNL as defined by the 2000 Noise Contour Map.

In addition, homeowners will now be given some options for sound

insulating their homes. In previous years, many homeowners said they would have preferred replacement of just windows and doors instead of the full sound insulation construction work that was usually required to achieve the desired noise reductions. Others preferred the installation of central air conditioning and wanted to leave their doors and windows in place. The program will now allow homeowners to make those choices. A savings to the program is expected, allowing more homes to be included in the program.

Initial estimates indicate that the 2003 Residential Sound Insulation Program will cover about 600 homes in 10 communities, plus unincorporated Cook and DuPage Counties. With the completion of the 2003 Residential Sound Insulation Program, more than 5,300 homes will have been sound insulated at a total cost of nearly \$173 million.

<sup>\*</sup> DNL = Day-Night Average Sound Level. A noise measure used to describe average aircraft noise levels over a 24-hour period, typically an average day over the course of a year. DNL penalizes aircraft operations that occur between the hours of 10 p.m. and 7 a.m. by 10 decibels to account for increased annoyance when ambient noise levels are lower and people are trying to sleep. DNL may be determined for individual locations or expressed in noise contours. DNL is currently the only measure for aircraft noise analysis that is accepted by the Federal Aviation Administration.

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**Executive Director**

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## FAA Center of Excellence to Focus on Aircraft Noise Solutions

The U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) has created a new Air Transportation Center of Excellence for Aircraft Noise and Aviation Emissions Mitigation. The Center of Excellence is a world-class partnership of academia, industry and government created to identify solutions for existing and anticipated aircraft noise and emissions-related problems. The center will conduct basic research and engineering development and will develop prototype solutions.

The partnership will be led by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT). The other members from academia are Boise State University; Florida International University; Pennsylvania State University; Purdue University; Stanford University, University of Central Florida and University of Missouri – Rolla. The Center also has 18 industry partners including the world's major aircraft engine manufacturers.

The Center's research and development efforts will concentrate on a broad spectrum of noise and emissions mitigation issues, including: socio- economic effects, noise abatement flight procedures, compatible land-use management, airport operational controls, and atmospheric and health effects.

The FAA will share in the cost of the Center, its share spanning three to 10 years and totaling \$900,000 to \$1.75 million in the first year, with a minimum of \$800,000 per year for the next two years. The Center began operations in September.