O'Hare Noise Compatibility Commission (ONCC)

Executive Committee Strategic Planning Meeting Final Report

August 2024

O'HARE NOISE COMPATIBILITY COMMISSION

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INTRODUCTION

The O'Hare Noise Compatibility Commission (ONCC) convened an Executive Committee Strategic Planning Meeting on August 13, 2024, to refine its strategic priorities and set the direction for the coming year. Reflecting on the progress made, ONCC Chair Joe Annunzio expressed, "I am proud of the progress we have made and of our accomplishments over the past year, as we continue to build a solid foundation of education and knowledge for our members. Aircraft noise is a complicated subject; the more our members understand, the more productive we can be as an organization." The meeting focused on **enhancing member engagement, improving educational resources** and **clarifying the ONCC's roles and responsibilities.** The Committee emphasized the importance of including their commitments to key plans and programs central to the organization's mission: **reducing aircraft noise in communities,** and **actively supporting and promoting these efforts with the involved stakeholders.** This report summarizes the key takeaways, outlining actionable steps to strengthen the commission's effectiveness and address the complexities of noise management.

For 2025, the ONCC aims to reach the following internal and external goals:

Internal Goals:

Enhance member engagement through targeted educational initiatives.

Increase active participation and **attendance,** particularly from elected officials.

Develop and **disseminate** clear, accessible **public information materials.**

Advance progress on RSIP, SSIP, Fly Quiet programs and balanced use of the airfield.

External Goals:

As part of the organization's mission to reduce aircraft noise in the communities around O'Hare International Airport,the ONCC Executive Committee is dedicated to advancing progress on the Fly Quiet Proposal, Residential Sound Insulation Program (RSIP), School Sound Insulation Program (SSIP) and continuing to advocate for balanced use of the airfield.

- **Fly Quiet Plan Progress –** The ONCC will continue to work with the Chicago Department of Aviation (CDA) and Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) towards timely progress on the Fly Quiet Plan. All parties are determined to move forward with transparency and expect regular updates to be shared with the ONCC regarding any new developments. The Executive Committee is strongly committed to seeing the program through to implementation.
- **Sound Insulation Programs –** The ONCC will collaborate with the CDA and FAA to ensure the continuaton of the Residential and School Sound Insulation Programs.
- **Balanced Runway Use –** The ONCC will continue to advocate for more balanced distribution of runway usage between the north and south airfields.

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MEMBER ENGAGEMENT INITIATIVES

The ONCC is prioritizing the enhancement of member engagement for 2024/2025, with a focus on both education and active participation.

Key Takeaways:

Toolkit Development:

The commission discussed creating a toolkit to provide members with tangible resources that can enhance their understanding and participation. This toolkit would aim to educate new members on ONCC's goals, objectives and history.

Engagement Challenges:

Although members routinely attend meetings, there is a recognized need to improve their level of engagement. Clarifying the purpose of the meetings and the role of the ONCC could help address this issue.

Member Empowerment:

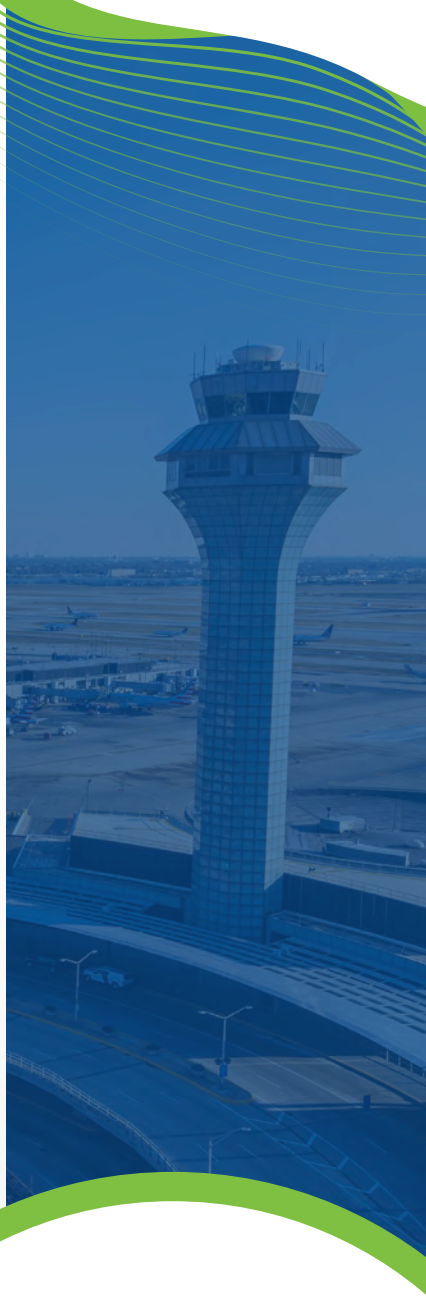
There is a focus on empowering members by positioning them as experts within their communities, shifting from a reactive to a proactive approach to engagement.

Tracking and Accountability:

The commission tracks attendance to promote accountability and ensure that communities are adequately represented.

Educational Presentations:

To enhance member understanding and better equip members to be ambassadors for ONCC in their communities, the ONCC plans to develop a series of educational presentations. This will include creating a timeline infographic detailing the history of the ONCC and its accomplishments, and establishing an online library covering key topics such as noise basics, an overview of the RSIP, and noise contour education.



> "A sheet outlining the **"who's"** and **"what's"** for the different political representative and organizations advocating for residents."
>
> — Survey Response

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Next Steps:

The commission plans to enhance educational resources to improve understanding of noise mitigation programs and airport noise.

A baseline survey is recommended to establish a starting point for engagement goals.

Efforts will be made to increase attendance and active participation, particularly among elected officials and representatives from noise-impacted communities.

The development of educational tools that will include fact sheets, videos and presentations to support members in their role as informed advocates and improve overall member engagement and understanding.

SUGGESTION: CREATE A PUBLIC INFORMATION WORKING GROUP

An added goal, based on survey feedback and discussions during the strategic planning meeting, is to assess the need for a working group dedicated to developing clear and accessible educational materials for public distribution.

Key Takeaways:

Development of One-Pagers:

Educational materials in the form of one-page documents will be created. These will be less formal than typical committee reports and will clarify ONCC's roles and responsibilities.

Development of Animated Videos:

Create animated educational videos to explain airport noise and highlight noise mitigation strategies.

> **A fact sheet is always useful and would be easy for me to refer residents to or to email.**
>
> — Survey Response

CONCLUSION

The strategic planning session highlighted the importance of **enhancing member engagement, improving educational resources and clarifying the ONCC's roles and responsibilities.** The commission is committed to proactive engagement, particularly in educating members and the public, while remaining adaptable to the political landscape and the evolving needs of noise-impacted communities.