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Chicago Ward 40 Joins O'Hare Noise Compatibility Commission To Seek Aircraft Noise Relief

Des Plaines, Ill., October 22, 2014—Chicago's 40th Ward is the most recent community to join O'Hare Noise Compatibility Commission (ONCC) as the 54th member of an organization dedicated to seeking relief from aircraft noise near O'Hare International Airport.

Ward 40 Alderman Patrick O'Connor has met with ONCC and Chicago Department of Aviation (CDA) representatives and aldermen from other northwest Chicago wards to review options related to air traffic noise. In addition, CDA and ONCC are in the process of identifying locations for eight permanent noise monitors approved recently by Mayor Rahm Emanuel for installation throughout the O'Hare region.

A shift in aircraft noise began in October 2013 when O'Hare air traffic moved to an east/west flow parallel runway pattern with the opening of south Runway 10C/28C. A second south Runway 10R/28L will be commissioned in October 2015. The airport's complete build out is projected for 2020.

In September ONCC set a January 2015 deadline for the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) to re-evaluate the impact of interim aircraft noise generated when O'Hare modified its modernization schedule. "Residents are looking for relief from noise now. The re-evaluation may disclose environmental differences," said ONCC Chairman Arlene J. Mulder.

In November, Chicago and other communities will include aircraft noise questions on general election ballots in an effort to gain attention and support from Congress and the FAA.

Residents in Chicago wards 36, 38, 39, 40, 41 and 45 are among 38 city and suburban communities represented in ONCC, in addition to 16 school districts in Chicago and suburbs near O'Hare.

ONCC is recognized internationally as a leading community-based organization that strives to reduce the impact of aircraft noise near O'Hare through its residential and school sound insulation programs and to reduce aircraft noise, whenever possible, at its source. For more information, contact Jeanette Camacho, 773-686-3198, or visit www.oharenoise.org.

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ONCC member communities: Arlington Heights; Bartlett; Bellwood; Bensenville; Bloomingdale; Chicago including Wards 36, 38, 39, 40, 41, 45; Des Plaines; Downers Grove, Elmwood Park; Franklin Park; Harwood Heights; Hoffman Estates; Itasca; Maywood; Melrose Park; Morton Grove; Mount Prospect; Niles; Norridge; Northlake; Oak Park; Palatine; Park Ridge; River Forest; River Grove; Rolling Meadows; Rosemont; Schaumburg; Schiller Park; Stone Park; Wood Dale and Cook County. ONCC member school districts: 59; 63; 64; 80; 81; 84; 84.5; 85.5; 86; 87; 88; 89; 214; 234; 299; and 401.

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