

**Port of Portland
 Citizen Noise Advisory Committee
 February 12, 2009
 Meeting Summary**

CNAC Members in Attendance (Alpha Order by First Name)

Anne Holbert	Clark County	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Beverly Bruender	Portland At-large	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Dave Benfield	Clackamas County	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Dick Goldie	Fairview/Troutdale/Wood Village	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gary Thornton	City of Vancouver	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Joe Smith	Multnomah County	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Kelly Sweeney	City of Portland	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Maryhelen Kincaid	City of Portland	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mike Yee	City of Vancouver	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Paul Speer	City of Vancouver	<input type="checkbox"/>
Steve Kerman	Washington County	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Vicki Thompson	City of Gresham	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Noise Management Staff in Attendance (Alpha Order by First Name)

Chris Blair	Noise Management Department	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Debbie Bishop	Long Range Planning and Noise Department	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Erica Muse	Noise Management Department	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Gregg Maxwell	Noise Management Department	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Jason Schwartz	Noise Management Department	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Jerry Gerspach	Noise Management Department	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Dennis Sandstrom Community Affairs

1 **THE FOLLOWING IS A SUMMARY OF THE FEBRUARY 12, 2009 CNAC MEETING**

2
3 **THE MEETING BEGAN AT 6:00 PM AND ENDED AT 8:05 PM.**

4
5 **START OF MEETING, REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF JANUARY MEETING SUMMARY – MARYHELEN**
6 **KINCAID**

7
8 One edit and one policy change request were made regarding the January 2009 meeting
9 summary, as follows:

10
11 Line 24; fifth word reads “manger.” It should read “manager.” Additionally, chair Maryhelen
12 Kincaid requested the meeting summary reflect what—if any—edits are made to the previous
13 month’s summary. A motion was made to accept the meeting summary with these edits.
14 Motion was seconded and passed.

15
16 **U.S. GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICE (GAO) VISIT AND COMMUNITY OUTREACH – JASON**
17 **SCHWARTZ**

18
19 Jason introduced two guests from the Government Accountability Office; Heather May (Analyst)
20 and Dr. Rosa Leung, Ph.D. (Analyst). Ms. May and Dr. Leung attended to interview CNAC
21 members as part of nationwide research project on airports’ response to community concerns.
22 Portland is one of several airports included in the study. Questions for CNAC included asking
23 how well the Port responds to questions and concerns of both the committee and the
24 community at large. The following represents a sample of the comments/responses made by
25 CNAC members. *Please note these comments are from CNAC members only – Port staff did*
26 *not contribute. Also, each speaker may not be individually identified.*

27
28 Maryhelen Kincaid opened by addressing the Noise Department website. She said it is always
29 kept current with Noise “Alerts” and future events that members may be interested in attending,
30 additionally; posted information is extremely helpful to both the committee and the community.

31
32 Another member said that the Port’s new WebTrak program is an extremely useful tool for the
33 community because it enables them to understand the location of the flights they are curious
34 about and provides detailed information such as type of aircraft, altitude and other useful
35 information.

36
37 Both Vicki Thompson and Beverly Bruender mentioned that Noise Department staff members,
38 and CNAC members, have begun to attend neighborhood meetings in an effort to answer
39 questions, keep the public informed and discuss noise events that impact neighboring
40 communities. They stated this keeps the lines of communication open between the Port and the
41 citizens who are impacted by the airport.

42
43 Communication and collaboration between the Port and committee members was mentioned
44 several times. “This type of relationship has never existed between the Port and CNAC” stated
45 one member. It was further stated that when the Port’s Noise Management Department staff
46 says they are going to do something, it gets done. Results of noise complaint investigations are
47 provided to the individual who made the initial inquiry in a timely manner and include good, solid
48 information which is explained to everyone who is interested. This information can then be
49 shared with the member’s jurisdiction at their next neighborhood meeting.

50

51 Another example of open communication is when the Noise Management Department contact
52 members regarding issues directly related to CNAC prior to taking the issue to Port
53 management. Phone calls are made to each member by the Noise Department staff to obtain
54 their input and this input is used in decision making whether by the Port or [local] FAA [air traffic
55 control personnel]. The recent issue of the CDA Overhead approach is a good example of this
56 collaborative process. In the end CNAC voted in support of a six month trial period of the CDA
57 overhead. Had they voted against the overhead approach testing, it would not have been
58 approved by the Port.

59
60 Other examples include education and training; the Noise Management staff, and/or guest
61 speakers provide informative and educational presentations on a variety of topics of interest to
62 CNAC; last year's reverse thrust study is a prime example. Neighbors close to the airport had
63 concerns as to why the use of reverse thrust, when aircraft are landing, is so noisy. Research
64 into the mechanics of the reverse thrust was done and a detailed presentation was made to the
65 committee as well as those public members in attendance on this topic. Once the mechanics of
66 the reverse thrust was explained, committee members had a greater understanding as well as
67 detailed information they could take back to their neighborhoods.

68
69 The Port's North Runway Extension (NREX) project is another example of the communication
70 between the Noise Department and CNAC. This project – scheduled to begin spring 2009 - has
71 been presented and discussed with the committee a number of times since its inception. Jason
72 brought the issue to CNAC in an effort to be transparent about what the project will entail and
73 how it may affect the community. The Noise Department has kept CNAC informed about the
74 process and listened to member concerns, as well as their recommendations, all of which were
75 taken into serious consideration by the project team. In years past, this may not have been the
76 case but the open communication has allowed this to happen and has been extremely helpful
77 and appreciated. (The issue of good communication was reiterated a number of times
78 throughout the discussion.)

79
80 Another example given related to public outreach were the community open house events
81 hosted by the Port. Projects at the Portland Airport that may impact the community are often
82 communicated to the public through neighborhood association meetings and open houses. Port
83 employees come "armed with a lot of information so the community understands what is going
84 to be happening at the airport and why." The Port answers questions; give demonstrations;
85 provides information; and explains, in detail, anticipated project progression. "They care enough
86 to do this in the evenings after working all day, both in Vancouver and in Portland. They go the
87 extra mile for the community."

88
89 Working collaboratively with the Port of Portland, the City of Vancouver, the City of Portland, the
90 FAA and CNAC, a policy was developed that is implemented once a year and is a direct benefit
91 to area residents. The Vancouver symphony puts on an outdoor concert in Esther Short Park
92 annually and the Mayor of Vancouver made a request to the Port that flights be diverted from
93 flying over the park during the two-hour concert. The request was discussed with CNAC and a
94 policy established based on CNAC's input. "All the "pieces" came together so the residents of
95 Vancouver can enjoy their outdoor symphony without overhead flights overriding the sound of
96 the music."

97
98 CNAC vice-chair Steve Kerman stated that even though this is a Citizens Noise "Advisory"
99 Committee, the Port "shows enormous respect to the members by asking their opinions on a
100 multitude of topics and they truly listen to what we have to say and what our opinions and

101 concerns are.” They don’t just go off and do what they want; they consult CNAC and
102 collaborate on issues; decisions are reached that work for everyone.

103
104 CNAC members take the things they learn during the meetings back to their individual
105 jurisdictions and share the knowledge. It isn’t as if the Port comes in and educates the
106 committee on something and then it ends there. The topic of discussion gets passed onto the
107 neighborhoods from each CNAC member during their neighborhood meetings.

108
109 The visitors from the GAO stated that they had looked forward to coming to Portland because
110 the Port of Portland has a reputation of great response to community concerns and a good
111 working relationship with the Citizen Noise Advisory Committee. They indicated that it is known
112 in the industry how the Port respects the community, works with CNAC, and is setting an
113 example for the rest of the country.

114
115 **PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

116
117 Fred Stoval (Portland resident) addressed the committee regarding a cargo feeder aircraft that
118 woke him at 6:00 am the morning of the meeting. He said that on departure, the plane made an
119 immediate turn to the south flying directly over his home. He said he got onto the WebTrak
120 program and discovered the plane had turned too early which is not in accordance with the
121 procedure developed during the cargo feeder study.

122
123 He further stated that planes arriving from the east are not flying the Mill Visual Approach; that
124 they are instead turning left and flying directly over populated areas.

125
126 In both cases, if the planes had followed procedure, he would not have been disturbed and the
127 area directly under where the early turns occurred would not have impacted neighbors.

128
129 Koto Kishida (Cully Neighborhood) spoke to the fact there were no Technical Advisory Group
130 members (TAG) at the CNAC meeting, nor were they mentioned in meeting summaries posted
131 on the Port website as being present at any meetings in at least the past year. She asked why
132 there is no representation from the City of Portland, the City of Portland’s Noise Office, and
133 FAA, any environmental groups, any county representatives or neighborhood representatives.
134 It was explained to her that people from each and every one of the groups she mentioned had,
135 on numerous occasions, been invited to CNAC meetings. No one has accepted the invitations.
136 It was further explained that CNAC has an open door policy and anyone is invited to attend a
137 meeting at any time. Meeting dates and times are regularly posted on the Port website, and a
138 press release is sent to local newspapers each month.

139
140 Ms. Kishida suggested the Port should send emails advising people of upcoming meetings.
141 Staff advised her that that emails are sent to anyone who has signed up on the Port website for
142 email notification alerts.

143
144 **NOISE MANAGEMENT UPDATES & FLY QUIET UPDATE – JASON SCHWARTZ**

145
146 Two project taskforces have been formed and will begin meeting; the Communications and
147 Outreach taskforce and the Fly Quiet taskforce. The Communications and Outreach taskforce
148 is made up of members Vicki Thompson, Beverly Bruender, Joe Smith and Kelly Sweeney.
149 Their kick-off meeting is planned for later in March.

150

151 Members Gary Thornton, Steve Kerman and Paul Speer volunteered for the Fly Quiet taskforce.
152 The taskforce will be working with Port staff on the development of the PDX Fly Quiet program.
153 Both committees will be meeting with Noise manager Jason Schwartz in the next several weeks
154 to begin to plan goals and objectives for these important committees.

155
156 **NEIGHBORHOOD REPORTS, AIRPORT NOISE REPORT, NEXT MEETING'S AGENDA – MARYHELEN**
157 **KINCAID**

- 158
- 159 • Port staff will accompany Beverly Bruender at the Concordia Neighborhood Association
160 meeting in March. Information about NREX, the CDA overhead approach and cargo
161 feeder study update will be presented.
 - 162 • The Airport Futures team attended a meeting at Maryhelen Kincaid's neighborhood
163 association to discuss the progress of that project.
 - 164 • Other community outreach events are being planned and will be scheduled in upcoming
165 months.
- 166

167 Vicki Thompson suggested that a copy of neighborhood coalition maps for both Portland and
168 Vancouver would be helpful in planning outreach events. The Noise Management Department
169 will provide these at the March meeting. Gary Thornton suggested it would also be helpful to
170 have a copy of a map that clearly identifies all of the DNL contour boundaries; that too will be
171 provided at the March meeting.

172
173 **OPEN DISCUSSION – ALL MEMBERS**

174
175 Maryhelen spoke about the 2009 CNAC Annual Planning meeting. She felt, as did others on the
176 committee, that it was a good planning session and now the work of follow-up on identified
177 issues begins. The committee was especially grateful for the time and effort it took to arrange
178 for a demonstration by the Oregon Air National Guard of the CDA Overhead Approach. "It was
179 an "11th hour" request made to the Guard and after a series of phone calls to the FAA and
180 ORANG; CNAC was able to witness firsthand the CDA Overhead Approach." Many of the
181 members were surprised that other noise sources were significantly louder than the CDA
182 overhead approach. All agreed it was an excellent opportunity for them to experience the noise
183 levels firsthand.

184
185 There being no further business, a motion was made to adjourn the meeting. The motion was
186 seconded and passed. Meeting adjourned at 8:05 pm.

187
188 *Meeting summaries and information about CNAC and the Noise Management Department are*
189 *available on the Port of Portland webpage at www.portofportland.com. Copies of materials*
190 *referenced at the meeting or in the meeting summaries may be obtained by contacting the*
191 *Noise Management Department at (503)460-4543 or (800) 547-8411 ext 4543.*