

## Meeting Minutes

### RMMA Community Noise Roundtable – Regular Meeting No. 11

November 8, 2021 - 11:00 AM

*Approved at the December 13, 2021 Regular Meeting*

#### **1. Call to Order, Roll Call**

The October 12, 2021, RMMA Community Noise Roundtable Regular Meeting was called to order by Chairperson Mark Lacis at approximately 9:00 A.M. A quorum (at least 4 Members present) was Present, the roll was as follows:

Town of Superior	Mark Lacis, Mayor Pro-Tem
Town of Arvada	John Marriott, Council Member
Boulder County	Matt Jones, County Commissioner
City and County of Broomfield	Deven Shaff
Jefferson County	Tracy Kraft-Tharp, County Commissioner
City of Westminster	Kathryn Skulley, Councilor
City of Louisville	Jeff Lipton, Council Member

#### **2. Approval of the Agenda**

Agenda approved unanimously

#### **3. Approval of the Minutes for October 11th, 2021 RMMA Community Noise Roundtable Regular Meeting No. 10**

Jeff Lipton motioned to approve the minutes.

Mark Lacias seconded the motion to approve.

Minutes approved unanimously.

#### **4. Public Comment**

Chairperson Lacis opened the Meeting for public comments. He noted the comment period is limited to 30 minutes and 3 minutes per speaker.

Bree Lemen, Lafayette  
Brad Walker, Town of Superior  
Charlene Wiley, Westminster  
Elizabeth Hydell, Skystone  
Robert Brutel, Superior  
Besty Ellis, Lafayette  
Sharon Harden, Westminster

## **5. Roundtable Agenda Items**

### *A. Proposed process for developing potential alternative VFR arrival/departure routes – Ben Miller EMMA*

- i. Discussion of whether Roundtable would like to hire an independent aviation consultant to help work through the process

Ben Miller presented the proposal for developing potential alternative VFR arrival/departure routes. A summary of his presentation can be found below.

### **Miller Presentation - Background and Context**

#### **Strategy:**

Identify and implement voluntary VFR arrival and departure routes

#### **Objective:**

To achieve stakeholder consensus regarding voluntary routing procedures for Visual Flight Rules (VFR) traffic arriving and departing Rocky Mountain Metropolitan Airport

The development of routes would focus on mitigating the noise of aircraft operations to and from RMMA by recommending routes that impact adjacent communities the least as defined by the priorities of the RMMA Community Noise Roundtable.

These routes would still need to satisfy the safety and operational requirements of pilots and air traffic control as determined by RMMA Noise Task Force and Federal Aviation Administration.

#### **Stakeholders**

- RMMA Community Noise Roundtable members
- RMMA Noise Task Force
- Airport Advisory Board representatives and other airport users
- Aviation consulting firm (optional, but recommended)
- Local land use planning members
- Surrounding public

#### **Aeronautical Considerations**

- Would the route serve a significant amount of demand in that direction?
- Would the route be practical to fly from a performance/routing perspective?
- Would the route conflict with controlled airspace?
- Would the route conflict with other airport procedures? (IFR arrivals/departures, other airports' traffic patterns, etc)

#### **Community Considerations**

- Does the route significantly alleviate noise impacts by avoiding noise-sensitive areas?

- Will the route reduce noise impacts or simply transfer noise complaints from one area to another?
- Will community plans/zoning continue to preserve the noise compatibility of the route?

### **Miller Presentation continued - Recommended Process**

Below is the step-by-step process recommended by Mr. Miller and a brief description of what each stage in the process would entail. The parenthesis note how much time each particular stage would likely need to be executed.

1. Defining Desirable Routing Conditions Stage (1 month)
  - RMMACNR should discuss and reach consensus on routing and noise-abatement priorities
2. Aviation Stakeholders Stage (2 months)
  - Workshops with the RMMA Noise Task Force to draft initial routes, preferably these workshops would be facilitated by an aviation consulting firm; and if not, then by airport staff.
  - Mr. Miller estimated this phase would require three meetings:
    - One meeting focused on VFR departures/arrivals to the north/west
    - One meeting focused on VFR departures/arrivals to the south/east
    - One final meeting to review initial routes and make final adjustments based on input
  - *Focus will be on identifying routes that address the **most common departure/arrival scenarios***
3. Community-Planning Stage (1 month)
  - Review VFRs in the context of future land-use plans
  - Meeting of RMMACNR members, local land use agencies, and EMMA Noise Task Force members
4. Public workshop(s) (1-2months)
  - Host public workshop to present recommended routes
  - Post recommended routes on project website for review and comment
  - Would be led by RMMACNR members and aviation consulting firm
5. Decision Stage
  - A final presentation of VFR recommendations will be made to RMMACNR
  - RMMACNR will then decided whether to approve the recommendations
6. Forwarding Stage (18-24 months)
  - **If consensus is found, RMMACNR will forward recommendations to FAA for environmental and procedural review (18-24 months)**

### **Miller Presentation - Q & A**

- John Marriott voiced support for the process that was presented saying it captures the three most important elements: users/pilots affected, impact on community members, and collaboration with local governments. He also expressed support for hiring a consultant to lead on this work.
- Matt Jones expressed confusion about what EMMA is responsible for doing? He raised the question - if the goal is to reduce, how can you reduce when it is the same number of flights. He further noted that there is a fairness factor here.
- Ben Miller responded by saying that the established topic of discussion was about routing changings not reducing aircraft flights. He stated that we cannot limit flights because that was a political and policy discussion for the FAA to determine.
- Kraft-Tharp noted that this is not a discussion regarding routes and that the focus should be on the change in egress/digress. She suggested that if Commissioner Jones wants to have a discussion on routes, then that should be addressed separately so the roundtable could stay within the scope of the agenda item.
- Jeff Lipton inquired about where the interface is with the technical committee, the roundtable, and the public.
- Miller responded that the interface includes roundtables on less noise sensitive areas, taking that input to aviation stakeholders. The process could accommodate Commissioner Kraft Tharp's recommendation for public input and he would like to have RMMACNR members and community members with aviation expertise included.
- Jeff Lipton suggested that it seems as if the roundtable still has control over this process and asked if there was a list of goals.
- Miller said the roundtable can and should ultimately determine the goals
- Lipton stated that it would be great to have additions in terms of membership and opportunity to the public. He emphasized that this is a technical process which requires input from technical people. He asked if it would be possible for these technical meetings to be available to the public?
- Miller expressed reservations about whether that should be done but said that it could be arranged
- Lacis indicated that he agrees with many aspects of what Matt Jones highlighted and said that believes this is a step forward to solving this issue. Lacis asked Miller how RMMA would send out an RFP (request for proposal) with interested consultants.
- Miller stated that he doesn't anticipate an RFP would be needed. He noted that he does not have a great sense of available consultants and that the FAA suggests firms like ABCx2. There could be discussion about hiring them again.

- Kraft-Tharp asked if a motion was needed.
- Lacin stated that he did not believe a motion was necessary.
- Kraft-Tharp suggested that a financial report was needed by the RMMACNR
- Miller agreed to have a develop a financial report.
- Matt Jones mentions MOU and his opposition noting that it is not building consensus.
- Lacin acknowledged Jones' concerns.
- Lacin noted that he believed there was a consensus around hiring consultants and asked if the roundtable wants to interview proposed consultants or go a different direction?
- Marriott stated that the roundtable needs to weigh in on 4 things:
  - Come up with the general conditions we are looking for with consultants
  - Decide whether or not to hire consultants
  - What the makeup of this subcommittee will be
  - Process by which this subcommittee operates.
- Lipton suggested that Miller put together a work plan for the RMMACNR to review and ensure that everyone is on the same page.
- Jones expressed opposition to this proposal and disappointment in the way things are going. He stressed that the Public is critical to this process.
- Lacin said that he sees a path forward to this and then concluded the discussion.

*B. Discussion on next steps on the creation of workgroup/subgroup to evaluate additional ABCX2 recommendations*

- Lacin noted that he would like to continue the progress on this front and create a subgroup to review the recommendations.
- Kraft Tharp expressed desire to be part of the committee.
- Shaff stated that he believed this group would need to meet outside of the regular RMMACNR monthly meeting.
- Lacin expressed support and noted his belief that a separate working group is necessary to produce results.
- Kraft Tharp noted that she sees at least two members who have already expressed initial interest in joining.

## **Roll Call - Offered Motion to Create Work Group ABCx2 Recommendations**

- Kraft Tharp motioned to create work group ABCx@ recommendations
- Lipton seconded the motion
- Motion passed unanimously

### *C. Discussion on retaining a RMMACNR facilitation consultant for 2022*

Lacis stated that the RMMACNR-PSG contract expires December 31<sup>st</sup>.

Emily Tranter (PSG) stated that she has been great working with the roundtable, a lot of action has been happening, and that it is up to the roundtable if they wish to continue working together.

Kraft-Tharp requested a financial report.

Marriott expressed not knowing what has been going on with Primacy and unsure about the need for PSG in this process. He suggested that RMMACNR dollars would be better spent elsewhere.

Lacis noted that he is mindful that issues are not too controversial or political and there are other things that are asked of Primacy that can help guide the direction.

### **6. Committee or Board Member Reports**

Boulder County – Lafayette is joining the roundtable

Jefferson County – Thanks Lipton and Skulley as it is their last meeting

### **7. Future Agenda Items**

1. Update on the Strategic Business Plan
2. IGA Review & Implications/considerations for Lafayette membership
3. Hybrid Meetings

**Mr. Lacis adjourned at 11:26 a.m.**