

Consultation

Introduction

The Centennial Airport FAR Part 150 Noise Exposure and Land Use Compatibility Study involved an extensive public participation process, with several components exceeding the requirements of the regulation. An inclusive tone was set by the Airport Authority from the very beginning by requesting that the Community and Technical Advisory Committees membership be broadly representative of all stakeholders.

The elements of the public involvement process were:

- Public Involvement Program
- Technical Advisory Committee
- Community Advisory Committee
- Initial Public Information Meeting
- Three Open Houses
- Meetings with Individual Citizens
- Project Information Brochure
- Project Newsletters
- Project Website
- Numerous Working Papers
- Project Workbooks
- Public Hearing

The Public Involvement Plan is found in Appendix Ten. The following is a brief description of the activities conducted in each of those categories

Advisory Committee

The public involvement process began with the establishment of two committees: Community and the Technical Advisory Committees. Composition of the Community Advisory Committee (CAC) was developed to include representative from neighborhoods surrounding the Airport, business interests and civic organizations. Members of the CAC are listed in Appendix Eleven. Composition of the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) was developed to include associated agencies, representatives of the jurisdictions immediately surrounding the airport,

airport users, airport staff, the Cherry Creek School District, public health interests, and Cherry Creek State Park. Members of the TAC are also listed in Appendix Ten.

These two committees met separately at the beginning of the Study. Then, in order to facilitate information exchange, the decision was made to have joint meetings for the remainder of the process. The committees met seven times. All meetings were open to the public.

One of the major components of the Part 150 Study is the evaluation of reasonable alternatives, both land use and operational/facility alternatives, to reduce noise impacts and achieve greater land use compatibility. Alternatives were developed based on several factors:

- FAR Part 150 requirements,
- Input from the Committee members,
- Input from the public during open houses,
- Consultant recommendations.

Each alternative was presented to the Advisory Committees for evaluation and comments. Members of the committees considered technical papers and presentations carefully on each subject matter. The type of analysis conducted was heavily influenced by the comments and questions from the committee members.

Summaries of all Advisory Committees meetings appear in Appendix Nine.

Initial Public Information Meeting

A public information meeting was held at the beginning of the Part 150 Study to let members of the community know the purpose and elements of the study and the study schedule. Members of the consultant team were introduced and those attending were encouraged to make comments and ask questions. Handout material was available. A summary of the meeting appears in Appendix Nine.

Project Brochure

A brochure was published and made available at all public meetings that explained the purpose and process of the study, outlined the schedule and named the participants and sponsors.

Open Houses

Three Open Houses were held during the Study where members of the public were able to interact directly with Airport and consulting staff on their noise related concerns. Display boards were available to present information being discussed among the advisory committees. At each Open House, members of the public were afforded the opportunity to have their questions answered and provide written comments. Public input from these Open Houses was influential in prioritizing issues during the Study.

The Open Houses took place at Holiday Inn Centennial, across the street from the Airport and were advertised in local daily and weekly newspapers and announced on the Study's Website.

In addition to the scheduled Open Houses, Airport Staff and Consultants attended numerous community and civic meetings to update and explain the Study findings, recommendations and process. These meetings were attended by citizens, elected officials, civic groups, and community organizations, and were organized to present the Study findings to date.

Newsletters

Three Project Newsletters were developed to distribute information concerning important Study milestones to the public.

Website

Early in the Study a website was created to provide broad access to technical data, meeting summaries, schedules, and other pertinent information. Among the items posted on this website were:

- Questions and answers
- Public Involvement Plan
- Technical Papers
- CAC/TAC meeting summaries
- Schedules
- Notices of Open Houses
- Public Meeting summaries

Working Papers

Several Working Papers were prepared and presented throughout the course of the Study. These Working Papers were presented as Chapters to the final document and were discussed at the committee meetings. Input was obtained from both the committee members and the general public on the Working Papers.

Public Hearing

A public hearing was held in conjunction with this Study on October 11, 2001 at the Holiday Inn Centennial. An open house was held prior to the hearing from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm. A review of the process was presented. Approximately ninety-one (91) people attended the hearing with twenty-seven (27) people providing public testimony. A transcript of the Hearing is found in Appendix Six, along with Proof of Publication. Written comments were taken for two weeks after the hearing and are found in Appendix Seven. Responses to these comments are found in Appendix Eight.

The Arapahoe County Public Airport Authority continued the Hearing on November 15, 2001. At that time the Authority considered the Recommendations and unanimously adopted them on that date. See Agenda in Appendix Twelve.