



ANNEMARIE FAGAN
TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
TOWN OF MILTON
OFFICE OF SELECTMEN

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SELECTMEN

J. THOMAS HURLEY
CHAIRMAN

DAVID T. BURNES
SECRETARY

KATHLEEN M. CONLON
MEMBER

March 22, 2016

VIA EMAIL AND U.S. MAIL

Ms. Amy Lind Corbett
Regional Administrator
New England Region
Federal Aviation Administration
12 New England Executive Park
Burlington, MA 01803-5299

Mr. Thomas P. Glynn
Chief Executive Officer
Massport
1 Harborside Drive
East Boston, MA 02128

Re: Overuse of Logan Airport Runways 4L and 4R from 3/13/16 to 3/17/16

Dear Ms. Corbett and Mr. Glynn:

We write to inform you that from approximately 5:00 a.m. on Sunday, March 13, 2016, until midnight on Wednesday, March 16, 2016, the Town of Milton experienced virtually constant noise as a result of aircraft departing from Runway 27 (7 hours) and then arriving on Runways 4R and 4L (84 hours) at Logan Airport. Many Milton residents complained to us about interrupted sleep, anxiety and other health impacts during this 91-hour period that brought far too many low-flying airplanes over our Town. At 5:15 a.m. on Thursday, March 17, after only five (5) hours of rest from landings on Runways 4R and 4L, the FAA again used Runway 4R for three more hours, this time in calm and southeast winds. The constant noise that was inflicted upon our Town by the FAA's overuse of these runways last week is unacceptable. We are seeking immediate relief to ensure that it is never repeated.

On March 17, Milton's Town Administrator, Annemarie Fagan, telephoned Ms. Corbett to discuss the situation and left a message. Ms. Fagan has not yet received the courtesy of a reply. On March 18, Ms. Fagan spoke with Frank Iacovino of Massport's Noise Abatement Office and received a routine response that was completely inadequate in light of the circumstances.

On many occasions, we have notified the FAA and Massport about the adverse effects that the RNAV system, which places an increased number of aircraft over Milton in concentrated flight paths, has had upon the people we represent. Noise is only one problem, albeit a very serious


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one. The public health risk from pollution that is associated with concentrated superhighways in the sky is also a very serious concern for the Milton Board of Selectmen. We have repeatedly asked the FAA to distribute air traffic equitably by redistributing some arrivals on runways 4R and 4L and departures on runways 27 and 33L. To date, we have received no assistance from the FAA or Massport to remediate the situation.


The implementation of the RNAV system has unduly burdened the Town of Milton. As you know, four (4) runways (arrivals on 4R and 4L and southbound departures on 27 and 33L) place air traffic over Milton. Currently, three (3) RNAVs (for runways 4R, 27 and 33L) fly over Milton. Last year, the FAA proposed to add two (2) more RNAVs, each for runway 4L, to the sky over Milton. If implemented, the FAA's proposal would result in five (5) RNAVs over Milton, a scenario that is wholly unacceptable to us. Our Town receives a disproportionate share of air traffic while some communities near Logan Airport receive little air traffic. That is inequitable and unsustainable over the long term.

We are once again respectfully requesting a meeting in person with senior level representatives of the FAA and Massport to discuss the problems that Milton has experienced since the RNAV system was implemented. Town Administrator Fagan will contact you to arrange a meeting. We look forward to your response and to achieving a permanent solution to the current inequitable conditions. Thank you for your anticipated cooperation.

Sincerely,



J. Thomas Hurley, Chairman



David T. Burnes, Secretary



Kathleen M. Conlon, Member

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cc: Governor Charlie Baker
U.S. Senator Edward J. Markey
U.S. Senator Elizabeth Warren
Congressman Stephen F. Lynch
Congressman Michael E. Capuano
State Senator Brian A. Joyce
State Representative Walter F. Timilty
State Representative Daniel R. Cullinane
Cindy L. Christiansen, Ph.D., Massport and Logan CAC Representative
Milton Airplane Noise Advisory Committee
Milton Board of Health
John P. Flynn, Esq., Milton Town Counsel
Karis L. North, Esq.