Quiet Communities Inc.

Quiet American Skies Program

ROUNDTABLE OF ROUNDTABLES

Meeting Notes

FEB 12, 2026 / 7-9pm EST



Attending:

Roundtable Representatives
Boston: Aaron Toffler, Alan Wright
Chicago: Maura El Metennani, Joe Anunzio
DC Metroplex BWI: Absent
Los Angeles: Denny Schneider, Jonathan Loewenberg
Minneapolis: Loren Olsen
New York (LGA): Maria Becce
New York (JFK): Barbara Brown
Washington National Airport: Janelle Wright, Ken Buckley
Seattle: Marco Milanese, Ryan McMullan, Joe Dusenbury

Quiet Communities Inc/Quiet American Skies Program
Jamie Banks
David Sykes
Anne Hollander
Lara Rabiee

Strategy Matters: Meeting Facilitator
Liz O'Connor

I. Updates and segue into proposed unified projects

Here are a few things the members suggested in November

- Strategies for working with the FAA;
- Fly Quiet programs/other incentive programs;
- Advocacy – Legislative/administrative/airlines;
- Economic vs. public health impacts of aviation;
- Data/monitoring

II. Possible Other Unified Projects

The group spent most of the meeting proposing additional areas for collaborative work. Open discussion on possible projects.

A. What are you working on now or would like to work on with others?

1. Air pollution and ultrafine particles emitted by planes (Barbara, Loren)
2. Reduce nighttime noise – resulting sleep problems and impacts on learning (Loren)
3. Data collection and the Fly Quiet program - improving the way we track noise (e.g., EnviroSuite's ANEEM [Aircraft Noise Event Extraction Methodology]). NY are currently working with HMMH on this (Maria)
4. Noise abatement procedures with airline opt-in (Maria)
5. Virtual noise monitoring, reducing equipment needs and linked to EnviroSuite programs to enhance monthly reporting (Maria)
6. Data analysis on cargo and other uses and see what trends might be useful to look into - who are the top offenders? (Jon)
7. Fighting back to protect/restore the Clean Air Act, other EPA protections (e.g., Noise Control Act) (Joe/Maura)
8. Change the public narrative from "noise as annoyance," to "noise as public health hazard" or some other more accurate description which connects meaningfully to health outcomes (Joe/Maura)
9. Revitalizing our formerly powerful Fly Quiet program(s) (Joe/Maura)
10. Updating and Implementation of existing FAA Noise Policy review and review of the (in)appropriateness of the 65 DNL - find out what progress has been made/get restarted (Marco, Denny)
11. FAA programs that are intended to be helpful on noise, e.g.,Part 150 studies (sound insulation). Find out who qualified for that assistance 12 years ago – who got it and those who did not get it but are entitled to it (Barbara, Ryan)
12. Tax credits for sustainable aviation fuel and action at the Port Authority to implement it - get a sense of how widespread this might be (Aaron, Maria)
13. Congresswoman Meng's legislative efforts (Quiet Communities Act, Bill HR 5151) It has 25 co-sponsors now (Maria)
14. Keeping track of emerging aviation technology, i.e., Blended Wing Body (BWB) aircraft (Maria)

15. Local special district status for tailored protections (Denny)

III. Information and Resources to share

- Cost of the Fly Quiet program and related consulting from HMMH - from Kenneth
- HMMH report
- Info on SAF Tax Credit Programs
- Motion to make LAX gather different data, etc.
- OAG: may have data on users of airlines/flying
- Barriers to Implementing Sustainable Aviation Fuel in MA (report)

- Flight-path study by Dr. R. John Hansman of MIT in conjunction with FAA to reduce overflight noise; flight-paths are exclusively governed by the federal government and little local control or input (Alan)

IV. Strategic Advice for Engaging the FAA

- Successful engagement with the FAA requires that Roundtables: (Janelle)
    - Get the attention of politicians to see the importance, perhaps through constituent testimony,
    - Understand that the FAA is under-resourced
    - Get airspace experts to do the technical work (ex-FAA is good, make it a win-win for them or at least understand their issues, e.g., safety and efficiency - DC used Jim Allerdice at Vianair)
    - Engage the air traffic controllers
    - Develop a cordial working relationship with the FAA

V. Contact Medical Societies

- Shifting paradigm away from noise as an annoyance to noise and its relationship to stress
- First Joint Statement by the American College of Cardiology, the American Heart Association, the European Society of Cardiology and the World Heart Federation on environmental risk factors, including excessive noise, linked to cardiovascular disease:
    - https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jama/fullarticle/2845183

VI. Next:

A. Develop options for project selection Perhaps consider projects that have:

- Current activity in the relevant sector (outside of roundtables), e.g. the FAA active on it, or there is crossover with other active public health movements
- There is some hope of making change in the next few years because the nature of the project offers a visible timeline

B. RoR organizers will

- Set up next meeting time

- Work with interested members of this group to consider starting smaller workgroups on possible unified projects.

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Notes + Resources

We can begin to keep track of resources for this group through a simple running notes / resources document. Here is a first attempt at that, including notes from our first meeting, and contact lists, survey responses.