

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

February 13, 2024

Michael Whitaker
Administrator
Federal Aviation Administration
800 Independence Avenue SW
Washington, DC 20591

Dear Administrator Whitaker:

We, the undersigned members of congress, are writing to highlight the progress of the Fly Quiet program and urge its full consideration.


As members of Congress who represent thousands of constituents under the direct flight path of aviation traffic arriving at and departing from O'Hare International Airport, we are attuned to the concerns of those who experience troubling levels aviation noise, especially during the late hours of the night. Since the 1970s, the Chicago Department of Aviation (CDA) has operated a nighttime noise abatement program at O'Hare to help mitigate this concern, and in 1996 the O'Hare Noise Compatibility Commission (ONCC) was formed to provide input and oversight to the implementation of all noise programs.

In an effort to further reduce the impacts of aircraft noise on neighborhoods, students, and families living near airports, the Fly Quiet Program was implemented. This program encourages pilots and air traffic controllers to use designated nighttime preferential runways and flight paths developed by the CDA and ONCC. These preferred routes are intended to direct aircraft over less-populated areas, such as commercial and industrial zones, rather than residential areas where aircraft noise remains a significant source of strife for thousands of our constituents.


We commend the organizations dutifully working to reimagine the Fly Quiet program for the current needs of our impacted constituents. ONCC has been globally recognized as the standard bearer for aircraft noise community groups that advocate for the reduction of aircraft noise impacts on students and families living near airports. Over the course of seven years and hundreds of public meetings, the CDA and ONCC have diligently worked with stakeholders to create a program that will benefit our communities.

We urge full and fair consideration of their submission and ask for a timely response from the FAA on this matter. Thank you for your part in this effort, and we look forward to your prompt response to the program application.

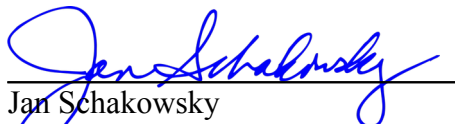
Sincerely,



Raja Krishnamoorthi
Member of Congress



Mike Quigley
Member of Congress



Jan Schakowsky
Member of Congress



Delia C. Ramirez
Member of Congress