

## SECTION 6

### CONSULTATION AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

#### 6.1 INTRODUCTION

Title 14 CFR part 150 §150.21(b) requires that each Noise Exposure Map (NEM) must be developed and prepared in consultation with FAA regional officials, the officials of the state and of any public agencies and planning agencies whose area, or any portion of whose area, of jurisdiction is within the DNL 65 dB contour depicted on the NEM, and other federal officials having local responsibility for land uses depicted on the map. This consultation must include regular aeronautical users of the airport, including air carriers and other aircraft operators.

Monroe County, the owner and operator of EYW, certifies that it has afforded interested persons adequate opportunity to submit their views, data, and comments concerning the correctness and adequacy of the revised NEMs and descriptions of forecast aircraft operations. Documentation describing the consultation accomplished during the development of the NEMs, and the opportunities afforded the public to review and comment, are included in this section and associated appendices. Copies of all written comments received during consultation are also included.

#### 6.2 IDENTIFICATION OF CONSULTED PARTIES

As described above, title 14 CFR part 150 §150.21(b) specifies the parties that must be consulted during development of the NEMs. Accordingly, the following parties were contacted and requested to provide input as appropriate:

- Federal Aviation Administration (FAA)
  - Orlando Airports District Office (ORL ADO)
  - Southern Region Office of Airports, Planning & Programming Branch (ASO 610)
  - Air Traffic Organization, Eastern Service Center (ATO)
- Naval Air Station Key West
- Florida Department of Transportation
  - FDOT Aviation Office
  - District 6 Aviation Coordinator
- Florida State Clearinghouse, Office of Intergovernmental Programs, Department of Environmental Protection
- State Historic Preservation Officer, Bureau of Historic Preservation
- Bureau of Public Land Administration, Department of Environmental Protection, Division of State Lands

- City of Key West
  - City Manager
  - Planning Department
- Monroe County Administrator
- South Florida Regional Planning Council
- Key West Art and Historical Society
- Monroe County School District Superintendent
- Monroe County Comprehensive Plan Land Authority
- EYW Airport Traffic Control Tower Manager
- Signature Flight
- Key West Seaplane Adventures
- Seaplanes in Key West
- Silver Airways
- American Airlines
- United Airlines
- Delta Airlines
- Federal Express
- Mountain Air Cargo
- Ameriflight
- Air Adventures
- Allegiant Air
- Jet Blue Airways Corporation

A summary of consultation and copies of notable correspondence with these parties are included in **Appendix C**.

### **6.3 MONROE COUNTY AD HOC COMMITTEE ON NOISE**

Monroe County established the Ad Hoc Committee on Noise on May 16, 1995, by board motion. The members of the Ad Hoc Committee are appointed by the Monroe County Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) and represent the community and the aviation industry. Four members and one alternate represent airport neighbors, and four members and one alternate represent airport users. The members serve for the duration of the committee. The committee chairperson is the BOCC representative from District 1, which includes the eastern portion of Key West, Stock Island, and Raccoon Key (aka Key Haven). Staff representatives, including the Assistant Director of Airports and the Airport Noise Program Coordinator, attend meetings, provide information, and answer questions. The members of the Ad Hoc Committee changed somewhat over the course of the NEM Update. The current members of the Ad Hoc Committee are shown in [Table 6.1](#).

**TABLE 6.1**  
**MEMBERS OF THE AD HOC COMMITTEE ON NOISE**

NAME	REPRESENTING
Commissioner Craig Cates, Chair	Monroe County Board of County Commissioners (BOCC)
Marlene Durazo	The Community
Alfred "Sonny" Knowles	Aviation Industry
Peter Horton	The Community
Nikali Pontecorvo	Aviation Industry
Dr. William "Sandy" Quillen	The Community
Dr. Julie Ann Floyd	Aviation Industry
Nathaniel Harris	The Community
Andrea Haynes	Aviation Industry
Norma Faraldo	Community Alternate
James Seadler	Aviation Industry Alternate

Source: Deborah Murphy Lagos & Associates, 2022

Prepared by: Deborah Murphy Lagos & Associates

Key West is a small, densely populated island (approximately 2 x 4 miles). All areas of Key West are affected by noise, including civilian and military aircraft, motor scooters, wild free-range roosters and chickens, and parties. The members of the Ad Hoc Committee, including Airport Neighbors, Airport Users, and the Monroe County BOCC representative, reside in Key West. Certain members live in areas more directly affected by aircraft noise, such as Key West by the Sea, Las Salinas, Old Town, New Town, etc. However, the Committee has a collective and purposeful mission to not only represent the views of their immediate neighbors and/or aviation entity, but offer insights and comments related to noise issues affecting all Key West neighborhoods and aeronautical users.

The Ad Hoc Committee generally meets four times each year. During the NEM Update, the Committee met on the following dates to discuss issues related to the NEM Update:

- October 6, 2020
- December 1, 2020
- March 2, 2021
- June 1, 2021
- October 5, 2021
- December 7, 2021
- March 1, 2022
- June 7, 2022
- October 4, 2022

Meetings started at 2:00 pm and were held at the Harvey Government Center, 1200 Truman Avenue, upstairs in the Commission Chambers and via a virtual meeting connection (<https://mcbocc.zoom.us/>). It is the view of the Committee that this time of day allows the best level of citizen involvement due to the unique demographics of the local population and the availability of the full spectrum of aeronautical users. The Committee's view is that the public at large is comprised of many retired persons and persons who earn their living in the leisure business industries including restaurants and hotels whose availability to attend public meetings is better suited to afternoon rather than evening hours.

The meetings listed above were advertised in *The Key West Citizen* as well as keysnews.com, and documentation is included in **Appendix D**. Agenda packages are distributed via email in advance of each meeting to all committee members as well as approximately 40 interested parties. Minutes of each meeting were prepared and approved by the committee. All meetings were open to the public.

The meeting schedule, agenda packages, and meeting minutes are posted on the airport's website at <https://eyw.com/noise-concerns>. The website provides contact information for the Airport Noise Program Coordinator, as well as the phone number for the Key West International Airport Noise Hotline and the number to call for military aircraft noise complaints.

The Ad Hoc Committee played an important role during the NEM update. Each of the members represented one or more constituent interests: neighborhood residents, public agencies, and aviation users. The committee members brought together the study team and the people they represented. The study team benefited from the unique viewpoints and had access to the people and resources each committee member represented. In addition, the study team needed a forum in which to present information, findings, ideas, and recommendations during the study. The committee members informed their constituents about the study as it progressed and brought into the committee the views of others. The study team needed their work scrutinized closely for accuracy, completeness of detail, clarity of thought, and intellectual honesty. The committee brought suggestions to improve the study and documents. A summary of the public comments received during the meetings is documented in the meeting minutes. Documentation of these meetings is contained in **Appendix D**.

#### **6.4 DRAFT NOISE EXPOSURE MAPS AND SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION**

A Notice of Availability of the Draft Noise Exposure Maps and Supporting Documentation (the Draft NEM document) was published in *The Key West Citizen* as well as keysnews.com during the week of September 17, 2022. The Notice was also placed on the airport's website at <https://eyw.com/public-notices>. The Draft NEM document was made available electronically (in PDF format) for download on the airport's website at <https://eyw.com/public-notices>. All interested parties that are included on the Ad Hoc Committee and study email distribution lists were notified via email of the availability of the Draft NEM document. The Draft NEM document was available for public review at the Key West Public Library, EYW Administrative Office, and the office of Mayor Pro Tem Craig Cates. A printed copy of the Draft NEM document and a limited number of flash drives containing the Draft NEM document were available at each location. The comment period started on September 19, 2021, and ended on October 20, 2021, at 5:00 p.m. The Draft NEM document was available throughout the comment period and will remain available on the airport's website at <https://eyw.com/public-notices>.

A presentation on the Draft the Noise Exposure Maps and Supporting Documentation was made during the regular meeting of Monroe County's Ad Hoc Committee on Noise on October 4, 2022. The public was invited and encouraged to attend. There was an opportunity to ask questions, receive answers in real-time, and provide written comments. A copy of the meeting agenda, presentation, meeting minutes, Notice of Availability and Public Meeting, and proof of publication are included in **Appendix D, Section D.10**.

## **6.5 PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT**

The Ad Hoc Committee meetings served as the primary mechanism for receipt of public input for the NEM Update. Issues were raised, comments and suggestions were made, and all were discussed during the Ad Hoc Committee meetings.

All public comments received throughout the EYW NEM Update are included in **Appendix E**. All comments and questions received during the development of the NEMs were received during Ad Hoc Committee meetings. They are summarized in **Appendix E, Section E.2**. Comments received during the comment period on the Draft EYW NEM Update Report identified in **Section 6.4** are included in **Appendix E, Section E.3**. The most common themes identified in the public comments to date include the following:

- The consecutive 12-month period to be used for the existing condition noise contours
- The source(s) of data used to determine the number of aircraft operations, aircraft types, day/night distribution, runway utilization, and flight tracks
- The use of stage length to determine aircraft weight / departure profile since load factors at EYW are typically higher than average.
- The use of a "hold-down" procedure for departures on Runway 09
- The use of back taxi procedure for departures on Runway 09
- The use of "standing takeoff" procedure
- The size and shape of the updated noise contours

**Appendix E** contains a copy of all written material submitted by the public during the NEM Update, as required by part 150 §150.21(b).

## **6.6 MONROE COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

The Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) oversees the management and operation of all civilian airports within the County, including EYW. It is comprised of five elected officials, each representing a different district. The BOCC meets monthly in Key Largo, Marathon, or Key West. During their regular meeting on November 15, 2022, the BOCC voted to ratify and approve the Draft Noise Exposure Maps (NEMs) and Supporting Documentation for Key West International Airport. Ratification included approval to transmit the document to the FAA for review and compliance determination.

## **6.7 AIRPORT OPERATOR'S CERTIFICATION**

The Noise Exposure Maps (NEMs) for Key West International Airport, which will be submitted to the FAA in accordance with title 14 CFR part 150, were prepared with the best available information and are certified as true and complete to the best of the airport operator's knowledge and belief. Each map and related documentation were developed and prepared in accordance with Appendix A of 14 CFR part 150.

The assumptions and activity levels used to develop the 2022 Existing Condition NEM are based on data from October 1, 2020, through September 30, 2021 (FFY 2021).

Because the data used to develop the existing condition noise contours does not match the year that will be on the airport operator's planned NEM submittal letter to the FAA (2022), the airport operator must verify in writing that data in the documentation are representative of the existing condition as of the date of submission. Data for the most recent 12-month period of operations at EYW were examined and support the airport operator's certification that the FFY 2021 data is representative of the year on the airport operator's planned NEM submittal letter (2022). The analysis of recent data shows there has not been a substantial change in aircraft activity. The yearly day-night average sound level contours depicted on the 2022 NEM accurately represent the cumulative noise exposure resulting from the operation of EYW as of the airport operator's planned NEM submittal letter (2022).

The assumptions and activity levels used to develop the Future Condition NEM are based on reasonable forecasts and other planning assumptions. The Future Condition NEM is based on data generated for a timeframe at least five years in the future from the year of submission (2022). The Future Condition NEM developed for 2028 accurately represents the FAA's forecast for 2028. The noise contours representing the future condition are identified as the 2028 Future Condition Noise Exposure Map.

The NEMs were prepared in consultation with state, and public agencies and planning agencies whose area, or any portion of whose area, of jurisdiction is within the DNL 65 dB contour depicted on the NEMs. The consultation also included federal officials having local responsibility and regular aeronautical users of the airport. It is further certified that adequate opportunity has been and will be afforded interested persons to submit their views, data, and comments concerning the correctness and adequacy of the Noise Exposure Maps and the supporting documentation and forecasts.

A copy of the draft transmittal letter to the FAA and signed Airport Operator's Certification are included in **Appendix F**.

## **6.8 FAA REVIEW AND ACCEPTANCE OF NEMS**

Pursuant to § 150.21 (a), Monroe County (the airport operator) will submit to the FAA the specified number of copies of the noise exposure map with accompanying documentation which identifies each noncompatible land use in each area depicted on the map, as of the date of submission. The accompanying documentation will include (1) the noise exposure based on forecast aircraft operations at the airport for a forecast period that is at least 5 years in the future, beginning after the date of submission (based on reasonable assumptions concerning future type and frequency of aircraft operations, number of nighttime operations, flight patterns, airport layout including any planned airport development, planned land use changes, and demographic changes in the surrounding areas); and (2) the nature and extent, if any, to which those forecast operations will affect the compatibility and land uses depicted on the map.

Pursuant to § 150.21 (c), the FAA will acknowledge receipt of the noise exposure maps and descriptions and will indicate whether they are in compliance with the applicable requirements. Following their determination that the NEMs submitted by EYW are in compliance with applicable requirements, the FAA will publish in the Federal Register a notice of compliance for each such noise exposure map and description, identifying the airport involved. Such notice will include information as to when and where the

map and related documentation are available for public inspection. The Federal Register Notice will also be included in **Appendix F**.

As described in §47506(b)(1) of the *Aviation Safety and Noise Abatement Act of 1979*, a legal notice will be advertised in the local newspaper, ***The Key West Citizen*** and keysnews.com announcing the existence of the noise exposure maps. Pursuant to §47506(b), the legal notice will be published at least three times in a newspaper of general circulation in the county in which such property is located. The purpose of this notice is to provide constructive knowledge of the existence of the noise exposure maps. Copies of the notice and the affidavit of publication will be included in **Appendix F**.