

28

Lopez, Donna

From: Carol O'Hare <cbo1066@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, August 09, 2015 1:19 PM
To: Kelley, Craig; Cheung, Leland
Cc: Maher, David; Benzan, Dennis; Carlone, Dennis; Mazen, Nadeem; McGovern, Marc; Simmons, Denise; Toomey, Tim; Rossi, Rich; Farooq, Iram; Rasmussen, Susanne; Deignan, Bill; Lopez, Donna
Subject: Airplane Noise Policy Order #12, 8/10/15 City Council

Dear Councillors Kelley and Cheung:

I applaud your efforts to put more heft behind efforts to address the noise resulting from the new air traffic patterns mandated by the FAA and implemented by Massport that have so disrupted the lives of residents in North Cambridge, Belmont, Watertown, Somerville and elsewhere.

But, please amend/expand your Policy Order 12 to include the longer-existing other sources of intrusive, loud and continual aviation noise that have been dramatically increasing (in number, duration, frequency and noise levels) over recent years, namely:

- Noise from banner-planes flying loudly into the wind, advertising services (like GEICO Insurance & job placement), products, travel (like Emirates Airline), etc., each circling for hours at low altitudes over residential neighborhoods on both sides of the Charles and not just on "game days";
- Noise from non-emergency, non-security helicopters regularly flying low and loud over residential neighborhoods;
- Noise from small, sight-seeing and pilot-training airplanes flying low and around over residential neighborhoods.

Rather than addressing only a single source of aviation noise that destroys our quality-of-life and continues to expand, let's get the whole picture from all sources and affecting all residential neighborhoods by broadening your Policy Order now.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Carol O'Hare
172 Magazine St.

Cc: Those list above, including Donna Lopez for filing with the Official Record.

Proposed
Policy Order Resolution

O-12
IN CITY COUNCIL

August 10, 2015

COUNCILLOR KELLEY
COUNCILLOR CHEUNG

WHEREAS: Airplane traffic over Cambridge has increased considerably in recent months; and

WHEREAS: Noise associated with new air traffic patterns can be as high as 75 decibels or more beneath the planes at all hours of the day; and

WHEREAS: There is an ongoing discussion about the noise impacts of these new patterns; and

WHEREAS: Cambridge could better participate in these discussions if it had relevant data about the decibel levels and times associated with overhead planes; and

WHEREAS: Equipment exists to provide ongoing noise measurement for relatively low cost; now be it therefore

ORDERED: That the Council go on record expressing concern about the increased noise in Cambridge due to new airplane patterns and the lack of solid data about the level and times of these noise disturbances; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to confer with relevant City staff to design, fund and implement an ongoing noise management program in the current budget year; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to report back to the City Council on this matter.