



AGENDA ITEM: 07

TRUCKEE TAHOE AIRPORT DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS STAFF REPORT

AGENDA TITLE: Noise

MEETING DATE: Wednesday, April 23, 2025

PREPARED BY: Jeff Menasco, Director of Aviation

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Seek Board feedback on proposed changes to how TTAD approaches noise outreach communications going forward.

DISCUSSION:

In March 2025, a delegation comprising of a Board member, General Manager, Noise/IT Technician, and a Community Member attended the UC Davis Aircraft Noise and Emissions Symposium. Following this, the group met several times throughout March and April with additional staff to explore opportunities for improving communication and policy strategies to address community noise concerns. Several key themes emerged from these discussions:

- **Noise Abatement:** TTAD has successfully implemented Noise Abatement Procedures (NAP) over the years, which have contributed to managing the region's noise footprint. However, there may still be some limited opportunities to further refine these efforts.
- **Technology Integration:** There is a consensus that TTAD can better leverage modern technology to enhance communication with both residents and pilots in a more proactive and transparent manner.
- **Community Education:** Increasing public understanding of TTAD's noise management practices could improve resident engagement and the overall effectiveness of communication.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff proposes a three-phase plan based on the themes identified above to be implemented over the next 18 months. The goal is to enhance proactive communication with the community and communicate more consistently with pilots.

Phase 1: Exploration (May – September 2025)

- (A) Research and evaluate modern complaint/inquiry systems, including AI integration.
- (B) Explore implementation of a virtual noise modeling program.
- (C) Automate a near real-time, targeted response system for resident noise inquiries.
- (D) Leverage the landing fee RFP (September 2025) to on-board new technologies.
- (E) Initiate quarterly Airport Community Team (ACT) meetings dedicated to Noise.
- (F) Explore the future of a full-time Noise position based on evolving technology.

Phase 2: Implementation (September 2025 – April 2026)

- (A) Launch automated response system for noise inquiries.
- (B) Utilize virtual noise modeling to assist with inquiries.
- (C) Implement near real-time response mechanisms.
- (D) Explore automated communications with pilots using landing fee system data.
- (E) Continue quarterly ACT meetings
- (F) Determine the future of Noise position and whether a full-time position is warranted.

Phase 3: Integration & Potential Expansion (May – October 2026)

- Evaluate the performance and impact of newly implemented systems (A through F).
- Consider commissioning a region-wide noise study.
- Evaluate potential deployment of a Noise Operations Monitoring System (NOMS).
- Launch the new ADA compliant website to support improved public engagement.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Costs are currently being researched across multiple products and vendors. The current cost for TTAD's noise registry and tracking system (Plane Noise) cost \$27K annually.

PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS:

An active public communications campaign will accompany the rollout of new systems, focusing on informing residents and stakeholders about enhancements and how to engage with the updated tools.