

THE CITY OF WARWICK
STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL

NO..... DATE.....

APPROVED.....MAYOR

RESOLUTION REQUESTING THAT THE RHODE ISLAND AIRPORT
CORPORATION CONSIDER ADDITIONAL FACTORS IN ITS
2019 14 CFR PART 150 NOISE STUDY

Resolved that,

WHEREAS, the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of the City of Warwick are matters of paramount importance to the City Council; and

WHEREAS, many homes in Warwick in close proximity to T.F. Green Airport that are not currently eligible for soundproofing in accordance with T.F. Green Airport's Residential Sound Insulation Program and may not have been eligible for such services immediately prior to such program being placed on hold by T.F. Green Airport, were constructed prior to the expansion of T.F. Green Airport and its runways in recent decades; and

WHEREAS, many of those same homes in Warwick that are in close proximity to T.F. Green Airport as referred to above, were purchased by their current owners prior to the expansion of T.F. Green Airport and its runways in recent decades; and

WHEREAS, on September 20, 2018, representatives of T.F. Green Airport attended a community meeting held at the Pilgrim Senior Center with persons who live in homes near the Airport that have not received sound insulation services and who expressed concern about noise in relation to flights to and from T.F. Green Airport; and

WHEREAS, neighbors of the Airport, whose homes have not received such sound insulation services expressed concerns at said community meeting about noise levels in general at or near their homes, and, noise levels at certain times of day, including frequent apparent violations of the curfew, causing such persons and their neighbors to be awoken in their respective homes by noise caused by flights late at night or early in the morning before 6:00 a.m.; and

WHEREAS, geographic factors, such as open fields that allow sound to travel with few impediments, or variations in elevation that may reflect sound, including the Pawtuxet River Valley, may result in particular homes experiencing a greater share of noise than may be assumed by a computer model that does not properly account for such factors; and

1 WHEREAS, weather conditions affecting noise circulation may cause sound produced by
2 aircraft to be directed in ways that impact particular homes to a greater degree than may be
3 assumed by a computer model that does not properly account for such factors; and
4

5 WHEREAS, some additional factors, which may not otherwise be accounted for by the
6 computer model used relative to 14 CFR Part 150 noise studies may cause sound produced by
7 aircraft to impact particular homes to a greater degree than may be assumed by a computer model
8 that does not properly account for such factors; and
9

10 WHEREAS, proper noise monitoring at sites of particular concern is necessary to account
11 for such additional factors; and
12

13 WHEREAS, currently, a document posted on the web site of T.F. Green Airport states
14 "At this time, the Residential Sound Insulation Program has been temporarily placed on hold
15 pending completion of the Voluntary Land Acquisition Program." See
16 <https://www.pvdairport.com/documents/environment/noise-management/rsip%20web.pdf>
17

18 WHEREAS, representatives of T.F. Green Airport stated at the community meeting on
19 September 20, 2018 that they would reach out to members of the Warwick City Council prior to
20 any public meetings concerning a 14 CFR Part 150 noise study; and
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22 WHEREAS, as of May 23, 2019, members of the Warwick City Council who expressed
23 interest in receiving notices of future public meetings have not received any notices of public
24 meetings concerning a 14 CFR Part 150 noise study; and
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26 WHEREAS, the regulations contained in 14 CFR Part 150 require and govern noise
27 studies by airports, including T.F. Green Airport; and
28

29 WHEREAS, section 150.9 of 14 CFR Part 150 provides that methods of calculating noise
30 exposure and calculating exposure of individuals to noise shall be in accordance with the criteria
31 prescribed in Appendix A of 14 CFR Part 150; and
32

33 WHEREAS, Appendix A of 14 CFR Part 150, at Section A150.1 entitled "Purpose",
34 states, in relevant part, that the methodology established in such Appendix "includes a single
35 system of measuring noise at airports for which there is a highly reliable relationship between
36 projected noise exposure and surveyed reaction of people to noise along with a separate single
37 system for determining the exposure of individuals to noise."; and
38

39 WHEREAS, Appendix A of 14 CFR Part 150, at Section A150.1 entitled "Purpose",
40 implicitly recognizes that such a system may not always be sufficient and further states, in
41 relevant part, "Noise monitoring may be utilized by airport operators for data acquisition and data
42 refinement, but is not required by this part for the development of noise exposure maps or airport
43 noise compatibility programs. Whenever noise monitoring is used, under this part, it should be
44 accomplished in accordance with Sec. A150.5 of this appendix."; and
45

46 WHEREAS, Section A105.5 of Appendix A of 14 CFP Part 150 provides, in full:
47

1 "(a) Sound levels must be measured or analyzed with equipment having the "A"
2 frequency weighting, filter characteristics, and the "slow response" characteristics as
3 defined in International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) Publication No. 179, entitled
4 "Precision Sound Level Meters" as incorporated by reference in part 150 under §150.11.
5 For purposes of this part, the tolerances allowed for general purpose, type 2 sound level
6 meters in IEC 179, are acceptable.

7 (b) Noise measurements and documentation must be in accordance with accepted
8 acoustical measurement methodology, such as those described in American National
9 Standards Institute publication ANSI S1.13, dated 1971 as revised 1979, entitled "ANSI—
10 Methods for the Measurement of Sound Pressure Levels"; ARP No. 796, dated 1969,
11 entitled "Measurement of Aircraft Exterior Noise in the Field"; "Handbook of Noise
12 Measurement," Ninth Ed. 1980, by Arnold P.G. Peterson; or "Acoustic Noise
13 Measurement," dated Jan., 1979, by J.R. Hassell and K. Zaveri. For purposes of this part,
14 measurements intended for comparison to a State or local standard or with another
15 transportation noise source (including other aircraft) must be reported in maximum A-
16 weighted sound levels (L_{AM}); for computation or validation of the yearly day-night
17 average level (L_{dn}), measurements must be reported in sound exposure level (L_{AE}), as
18 defined in Sec. A150.205 of this appendix."; and
19

20 WHEREAS, the concerns voiced by neighbors whose homes are not currently and have
21 not recently been eligible for the Residential Sound Insulation Program relative to noise
22 produced by aircraft demonstrates that additional noise monitoring in accordance with Section
23 A150.5 is warranted.
24

25 NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Warwick requests
26 that T.F. Green Airport include in its 14 CFR Part 150 study, noise monitoring consistent with
27 that discussed at the September 20, 2018 community meeting to account for factors discussed in
28 this Resolution, and
29

30 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Warwick requests that T.F.
31 Green Airport provide an update to the Mayor of the City of Warwick, each member of the
32 Warwick City Council, each State Representative and State Senator who represents any part of
33 the City of Warwick, and the Governor of the State of Rhode Island, or the designees of the
34 above-named parties, by U.S. mail and email as to the status of the required 14 CFR Part 150
35 study and provide timely notice of any public meetings concerning such 14 CFR Part 150 study.
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37 The City Clerk is hereby directed to forward a copy of this Resolution to the Senators and
38 Representatives from the City of Warwick, to the Governor, and to the members of the Board of
39 the Rhode Island Airport Corporation.
40

41 This Resolution shall take effect upon passage.
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43 SPONSORED BY: COUNCILMAN RIX
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45 COMMITTEE: INTERGOVERNMENTAL