



PHILLIP GOLDFEDER  
Assemblyman 23<sup>rd</sup> District

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February 16, 2016

Michael Huerta  
Administrator  
FAA National Headquarters  
Orville Wright Bldg (FOB10A)  
800 Independence Ave SW  
Washington, DC 20591

Dear Administrator Huerta,

I am writing on behalf of many of my constituents to request that the Federal Aviation Administration lower the current average airplane noise thresholds to ensure a better quality of life for families in Queens.

As you know, many of my constituents in southern Queens and Rockaway live in close proximity to John. F. Kennedy International Airport and, therefore, suffer the considerable nuisance of noise generated by the planes flying overhead. It is my understanding that proposed federal legislation reauthorizing your agency does not revisit the 65 Day-Night Average Sound Level (DNL) that currently serves as the industry standard.

Lowering the airplane noise thresholds from 65 Day-Night Average Sound Level (DNL) to 55 DNL would improve the lives of residents in the flight path of this major transportation hub. This lowering of thresholds would also safeguard against future noise issues, as technology becomes more sophisticated, and planes have bigger and louder engines. Airplane noise, in addition to being a nuisance, can harm the health and well-being of residents over time. If noise thresholds were lower, residents in the area would be protected now, and for years to come.

I respectfully request that you direct the appropriate personnel to investigate this situation and lower the airplane noise threshold from 65 DNL to 55 DNL to provide relief to my constituents. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me or my Communications Director, Jon Greenfield, at (718) 945-9550.

I thank you in advance for your prompt attention and response to this matter.

Sincerely,

Phillip Goldfeder  
Member of New York State Assembly  
23rd District, Queens

Cc: John J. Degnan, Chairman, Port Authority of New York & New Jersey