

Dear Neighbor, On September 6 our neighborhood association sent Dane County Executive Kathy Falk and County Board Chair Kevin Kesterson a letter asking them to encourage airport staff to audit flights on a regular, continuing basis and publish results monthly - to verify that air traffic is complying with the airport's stated policy of directing planes to land and take off to the north - away from the populated isthmus - not to the south - over the populated isthmus. We asked that airport staff do such an internal audit not just as a one-shot deal for a one-or two-month period but 12 months a year as a regular, routine part of operations. A story about this - "SASYNA asks Falk for airport noise audit" - is on Page One of the current [ September / October ] EastsideNews. On Thursday September 30 I received in the mail this reply from the County Executive. DM

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DANE COUNTY Kathleen M. Falk County Executive

September 24, 2004

Mr. Dan Melton  
Chair, SASY Neighborhood Association  
2138 LaFollette Avenue  
Madison, Wisconsin 53704

Dear Mr. Melton and SASYNA members:

I want to thank you for taking the time to write to me on behalf of the Schenk-Atwood-Starkweather-Yahara Neighborhood Association. The airport has worked hard to mitigate aircraft noise impacts to surrounding community residents.

The procedures audit was conducted by the Airport Operations staff for a two-month period encompassing March and April of 2004. As I write, this audit is again being conducted to monitor a typical summer period at the airport and will be reported at the next Noise Abatement Subcommittee meeting. The methodology used for this audit has been verified by an outside consultant. My understanding is that the audits currently show a 97% compliance rate. The airport does follow up with flights that do not follow the proper procedures to achieve compliance.

I would like to extend an invitation for you to meet personally with airport staff to discuss your concerns and the issues involved with mitigation of aircraft noise impacts. I also encourage you to attend the Noise Abatement Subcommittee meetings routinely held by the Airport Commission and airport staff to discuss your suggestions. These meetings are a way for the airport and other affected parties to discuss the issues involved, understand what is being accomplished, and provide a forum for researching possible solutions. The meetings provide information on a regular, continuing basis for tracking short- and long-term changes and as a means of finding ways to improve on noise abatement efforts. The information provided at the meetings is also posted to the airport's website at [www.msairport.com](http://www.msairport.com)

Sincerely,

Kathleen M. Falk  
Dane County Executive

cc: Bradley Livingston, Airport Director  
William White, Chair, Airport Commission