



# Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2A

*“Serving the Foggy Bottom and West End communities of Washington, D.C.”*

November 6, 2015

Mr. Michael Huerta  
Administrator  
Federal Aviation Administration  
800 Independence Avenue SW  
Washington, DC 20591

**RE: Appeal Filed by the Citizens Association of Georgetown, et al. in  
Regards to Flightpaths into and out of Ronald Reagan Washington National  
Airport**

Dear Mr. Huerta,

At its regular meeting on October 21, 2015, Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2A (“ANC 2A” or “Commission”) considered the above-referenced matter. With six of seven commissioners present, a quorum at a duly-noticed public meeting, the Commission voted to adopt the following resolution, which was introduced by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Schrefer, by a vote of **(6-0-0)**:

WHEREAS, over the course of 2015, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) has completed the majority of the national implementation of the Next Generation Air Transportation System (NextGen), which has altered the flightpaths into and out of multiple airports across the nation;

WHEREAS, the implementation of the NextGen system at Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport (National Airport) has led to the realignment of flightpaths into and out of the airport, resulting in the flightpaths being shifted closer to District of Columbia side of the Potomac River, in both the north and south directions of National Airport;

WHEREAS, the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority (MWAA) expects that, by the end of 2015, more passengers will have traveled through National Airport than Washington Dulles International Airport (Dulles) annually, even though Dulles has a significantly larger passenger capacity than National Airport;

WHEREAS, since 2012, the U.S. Department of Transportation has gradually relaxed the perimeter restrictions that limited flights into and out of National Airport to a 1,250 mile maximum flight length, resulting in larger aircraft entering and exiting the airport in order to service the newly approved, longer routes;

WHEREAS, the increase in passenger volume at National Airport has resulted in airlines scheduling more early morning and late night flights into and out of the airport, even though MWAA has restrictions on the airport’s nighttime flight traffic between the hours of 10:00 pm and 7:00 am;



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WHEREAS, the implementation of NextGen, the increase in passenger volume at National Airport, the relaxation of perimeter restrictions at National Airport, and the increase in flights that arrive to and depart from National Airport before 7:00 am in the morning and after 10:00 pm at night has resulted in a significant increase in the noise pollution created by flights entering and exiting National Airport for the District of Columbia communities that border the Potomac River;

WHEREAS, ANC 2A represents multiple communities that have experienced this increased aircraft noise pollution, including the Watergate residential community, which sits directly on the Potomac River, among others;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that ANC 2A fully supports the appeal to the FAA that was filed in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia by the Citizens Association of Georgetown, et al. (No. 15-1285), which asks for the Court of Appeals to review the final decisions made by the FAA to permanently implement certain flight arrival and departure routes at National Airport in violation of the National Environmental Policy Act;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that ANC 2A requests that the FAA work with the communities affected by noise pollution from the flightpaths at National Airport, including the communities within ANC 2A, to find ways to mitigate current noise pollution and prevent further increases.

Commissioners William Kennedy Smith ([2A04@anc.dc.gov](mailto:2A04@anc.dc.gov)) and Patrick Kennedy ([2A01@anc.dc.gov](mailto:2A01@anc.dc.gov)) are the Commission’s representatives in this matter.

ON BEHALF OF THE COMMISSION.

Sincerely,

Patrick Kennedy  
Chairperson

CC: Bob von Eigen, President, Citizens Association of Georgetown  
Eric Langenbacher, President, Burleith Citizens Association  
Bob Avery, President, Foxhall Community Citizens Association  
Luanne Spiller, President, Hillandale Citizens Association  
Colony Hill Neighborhood Association  
Nick Keenan, President, Palisades Citizens’ Association  
Marina Streznewski, President, Foggy Bottom Association



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John DeGioia, President, Georgetown University

Joe Luther, President, Georgetown University Student Association

Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton, District of Columbia

Councilmember Jack Evans, Ward 2