

Reagan National Noise Working Group Recommendation # 1
(Approved on December 10, 2015)

The Reagan National Airport Community Working Group, through the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority, recognizes that a number of factors must be considered in mitigating the impact of aircraft noise on communities along the Potomac River. These factors include, but are not limited to, flight paths, airline fleet mix, the process of determining north or south flow operations, and hours of departure and arrival operations.

Particularly for communities north of the airport -- including Georgetown, Foxhall, Palisades and Arlington -- these factors specifically include changing the current "Lazir" flight path through the relocation of associated waypoints. This flight path has resulted in an increased noise impact on a number of residents of these communities.

The Working Group recommends FAA adjust waypoints along the Lazir flight path with the goal of maximizing the time aircraft spend flying directly over the Potomac River and minimizing the time aircraft spend flying over land in these communities, especially residential neighborhoods, as a way to mitigate aircraft noise impacts on residents.

The Federal Aviation Administration has identified alternative ways to adjust the Lazir to achieve this goal and identified "Lazir B," as presented by the FAA to the Working Group at its October and November meetings, to be the most viable alternative. The Working Group's consensus is that changing the Lazir procedure is an immediate priority and requests that the FAA implement an effective change in the most expeditious timeframe feasible (See attached graphic). Nothing precludes continuous improvement.

The Working Group will continue its dialog with the FAA, the airlines and the Airports Authority on flight paths and the other pertinent operating characteristics cited above, with further recommendations to come.

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