

D.C. METROPLEX BWI COMMUNITY ROUNDTABLE

c/o Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT) Maryland Aviation Administration (MAA)
P.O. Box 8766
BWI Airport, Maryland 21240-0766

January 30, 2019

SUBJECT: 2018 Annual Report of the D.C. Metroplex BWI Community Roundtable

INTRODUCTION

The D.C. Metroplex BWI Community Roundtable (BWI Roundtable) hereby submits its third annual report, as required by the Roundtable charter. This report was approved unanimously by the BWI Roundtable on January 21, 2020. This report includes the following topics: History, Beginning Status 2019, Roundtable Work During 2019, Technical Activities, Legislative Activities. Roundtable Work for 2019, Current Status, and Conclusion.

HISTORY

The BWI Roundtable was formed in 2017 at the request of the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and is hosted by the MDOT MAA. The BWI Roundtable pursues solutions to the negative impacts caused by the D.C. Metroplex project implemented as part of the NextGen program which completed the design, analysis, review and approval of proposed arrival and approach procedure changes for Baltimore/Washington International Thurgood Marshall Airport (BWI Marshall).

During its first meeting, held on March 21, 2017, the BWI Roundtable unanimously adopted the following resolution:

The D.C. Metroplex BWI Community Roundtable requests and recommends that the FAA immediately revert to flight paths and procedures that were in place prior to the implementation of NextGen and the D.C. Metroplex plan. Such reversions will provide urgent relief to residents adversely affected by these new flight paths and procedures while a more deliberate and public facing process to develop and implement NextGen and the D.C. Metroplex plan is undertaken.

The BWI Roundtable has consistently and continuously pursued this objective.

BEGINNING STATUS 2019

At the beginning of 2019, the FAA was no longer interacting with the BWI Roundtable due to the four lawsuits filed by the State of Maryland and Howard County over the BWI Marshall NextGen

Program.

The BWI Roundtable's 2018 Annual Report elaborates on this situation.¹

ROUNDTABLE WORK DURING 2019

In January 2019, the BWI Roundtable assessed the FAA's proposal for procedure changes at BWI Marshall from April 2018, and determined that the proposal, while offering some improvement on certain departure procedures, did not address many of the impacts caused by the implementation of the NextGen program in the D. C. Metroplex.²

In March 2019, the FAA informed the Roundtable that it would not develop any future procedure changes for BWI Marshall, and invited the BWI Roundtable to develop our own proposals for their consideration.³

In May 2019, the FAA informed the Roundtable that it was unable to identify funding or to provide a timeline for implementation of the April 2018 proposal.

In June 2019, the Roundtable Chair reestablished communications with the FAA. The Chair and the FAA Regional Administrator for the Eastern Region instituted monthly teleconferences at that time.

TECHNICAL ACTIVITIES

As a result of the FAA's letter of March 2019, the Roundtable Technical committee, working collaboratively with the MDOT MAA and industry stakeholders developed a proposal for consideration during the 2020 iteration of the Performance Based Navigation 7100.41A process (PBN) Working Group, by which the FAA makes procedural and other changes to the airspace.

In November 2019, the Roundtable completed the design, analysis, review and approval of proposed arrival and approach procedure changes for BWI Marshall. These proposed arrival and approach procedures were developed with technical advisement and support from the MDOT MAA, the MDOT MAA's contractor HMMH, and industry representatives from Southwest Airlines (SWA). The Roundtable-developed procedure changes augment the FAA's proposed

¹BWI Roundtable 2018 Annual Report
https://maacommunityrelations.com/_media/client/anznoiseupdate/2018/2018%20Annual%20Report%20FINAL.pdf

²BWI Roundtable letter to the FAA in response to FAA Proposed Procedures. January, 25, 2019.
https://maacommunityrelations.com/_media/client/anznoiseupdate/2019/1.25.19%20RT%20Letter%20of%20Response%20to%20FAAProposed%20Procedures.pdf

³FAA response to the BWI Roundtable letter of January 25, 2019. March 11, 2019.
https://maacommunityrelations.com/_media/client/anznoiseupdate/2019/3.11.19%20FAA%20Response%20to%20RT%201.25.19%20Letter.pdf

departure procedure changes as presented to the BWI Roundtable on April 24, 2018.⁴

The Roundtable informed the FAA of the proposal⁵, and the FAA is evaluating the proposed procedures during the current iteration of the PBN Working Group process.

LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITIES

Representatives from the Roundtable provided testimony to the Howard County Delegation in preparation for the 2020 legislative session in November 2019.

The Roundtable passed the following motion endorsing potential legislation by the Maryland Legislature in November 2019:

"The BWI Roundtable endorses the efforts by the MDOT MAA, local, state, and federal representatives to conduct environmental studies on health, considering both the physical and mental effects of airport noise on surrounding communities, and to properly fund noise monitoring equipment to validate modeling."

Senator Clarence Lam and Delegate Terri Hill, both of the Legislative District 12, have introduced legislation to have the University of Maryland, Baltimore study the health effects of air traffic noise on communities near BWI Marshall.

The Vice Chair of the Roundtable, who is a member of the Anne Arundel County Council, held a work session with the Council in December 2019, to provide information pertaining to a potential resolution in support of the Roundtable's proposal for flight procedure changes. The Roundtable Chair participated in the work session.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND OUTREACH

The Communications Committee chair maintains a presence for the Roundtable on the BWIQuiet Facebook Group.

The Communications Committee has prepared a number of press releases concerning the activities of the Roundtable. The appendix contains a list of news items on the Roundtable's work.

CURRENT STATUS

⁴BWI Roundtable Technical Committee Notional Design Analysis. November 11, 2019.
https://maacommunityrelations.com/_media/client/anznoiseupdate/2019/111919/Roundtable_Tech_Committee_BWI_Marshall_Notional_Designs_Analysis_v5_2019118.pdf

⁵BWI Roundtable letter to the FAA providing notice of an approved proposal. November 11, 2019.
https://maacommunityrelations.com/_media/client/anznoiseupdate/2019/111919/BWIRoundtableProposalNotice.pdf

The FAA PBN Working Group is currently considering the proposal sent forward by the Roundtable in November 2019. The timeline for completing the proposal evaluation, the outcome of the evaluation, and any resulting implementation is currently unknown.

The Roundtable Chair will be a member of the Stakeholder Advisory Committee (SAC) for the upcoming BWI Marshall Airport Noise Zone (ANZ) update conducted by the MDOT MAA.

The Roundtable recognizes that there are noise impacts in the vicinity of BWI Marshall that may be the result of factors other than the FAA NextGen program. The Roundtable Chair will provide an interim report containing an assessment of this situation with proposed actions in April 2020, coincident with the next election of the Roundtable Leadership.

CONCLUSION

In 2019, the BWI Roundtable has continued to build upon its relationships with stakeholders including the FAA, MDOT MAA, local governments, and Industry. The resulting productive collaboration has produced a very substantial proposal which offers the best hope of significant and timely improvement to the quality of life in surrounding communities.

It remains to be seen whether this proposal will be implemented, and whether the actual experience on the ground once implemented will be consistent with what is suggested by the modeling and simulation work.

The Roundtable recognizes that, even though we have made significant achievements in 2019, our work is not finished. We are prepared to evaluate, adapt, and respond to the environmental conditions around BWI Marshall as they change over time.

APPENDIX A - 2019 ROUNDTABLE MEETINGS

January 15

February 19

April 16

July 9

October 15

November 19

The agenda, presentation materials, and minutes for each meeting may be found on the

Roundtable Meeting Information and Documents page within the MAA Community Relations Web Site.⁶

APPENDIX B - 2019 MEDIA COVERAGE OF ROUNDTABLE ACTIVITIES

1/15, WBAL TV, "Government shutdown could stall progress for BWI-Marshall Roundtable."
<https://www.wbaltv.com/article/government-shutdown-could-stall-progress-for-bwi-marshall-roundtable/25915576>

1/23, WBAL TV "Howard County files petition opposing FAA's approval of BWI Airport expansion."
<https://www.wbaltv.com/article/government-shutdown-could-stall-progress-for-bwi-marshall-roundtable/25915576>

1/26, Capital Gazette. "Anne Arundel delegation hears school issues, BWI flight path woes."
<https://www.capitalgazette.com/news/ac-cn-county-delegation-20190126-story.html>

2/14, Baltimore Sun. "BWI roundtable asks for state legislation action to combat impact of low flying planes."
<https://www.baltimoresun.com/news/maryland/howard/ph-cf-ho-bwi-update-0221-story.html>

8/12, Baltimore Sun. "Ragtag resisters fight for peace and quiet near BWI."
<https://www.baltimoresun.com/opinion/op-ed/bs-ed-op-0812-air-noise-20190812-d5sf3qsbh5c3jk7q3jp4lr7sgu-story.html>

10/14, "BWI Roundtable To Hold Meeting On Proposed Flight Path Changes."
<https://baltimore.cbslocal.com/2019/10/14/bwi-roundtable-to-hold-meeting-on-proposed-flight-path-changes/>

10/15, WJZ TV. "Meeting Held To Discuss Proposed Changes To Flight Paths At BWI."
<https://baltimore.cbslocal.com/2019/10/15/bwi-flight-paths-roundtable/>

11/20, Baltimore Sun. "BWI roundtable group approves proposal to reduce noise pollution, heads to federal agency's desk."
<https://www.baltimoresun.com/maryland/anne-arundel/ac-cn-bwi-vote-20191120-h26v3jcbvbbfj3w5myqb3b2wi-story.html>

11/20, Capital Gazette. "BWI roundtable group approves proposal to reduce noise pollution, heads to federal agency's desk."

⁶ BWI Roundtable Calendar.
<https://maacommunityrelations.com/content/anznoiseupdate/dcroundtablecalendar.php>

<https://www.capitalgazette.com/news/ac-cn-bwi-vote-20191120-h26v3jcbvbbfj3w5myqb3b2wi-story.html>

12/3, Odenton-Severn Maryland Patch. "Officials Hope To Reduce Noise Pollution At BWI."
<https://patch.com/maryland/odenton/officials-hope-reduce-noise-pollution-bwi>