

Hanscom Field Advisory Commission
Minutes
February 24, 2009
Prepared by Massport Staff

1. Minutes: Jeanne Krieger chaired the meeting in the absence of Hank Manz. No corrections to the December Minutes were reported.

2. Monthly Noise Report: Sara Arnold presented the monthly noise report for both December 2008 and January 2009. She also reviewed year 2008 data. In response to questions, S. Arnold explained that:

- Weather may be one factor that contributed to decreased aircraft operations in January and December, but it is assumed that the economy is another major factor.
- Noise levels at the monitors include non-aviation noise.
- Snow removal operations probably contributed to abnormal noise increases at Site 32.
- Many years ago it was agreed by HFAC to focus on changes in civilian noise levels using EXP rather than on total noise or on military noise, although all three noise levels are reported.
- Solutions for downloading data from the Site 31 noise monitor are being explored by Massport and the noise system contractor.

3. Hanscom Projects: Massport's responses to questions:

- The taxiway rehabilitation projects submitted for funding under the federal stimulus package for Hanscom will not alter the current operational capacity of the airport. The projects are necessary to ensure the safety of all airport users including private, emergency and Air Force related operations. Dorothy Steele will get back to HFAC on when Taxiways M, E, and G were last repaved. She will also get information on what projects Massport submitted for funding through the federal stimulus package request for Hanscom.
- Airfield repaving must meet FAA standards, which are more stringent and expensive to implement than standards used for roadways.
- The Vegetation Management Plan is an important safety-related project. Massport has implemented the project on Massport land for the protection of airport users and the community. No vegetation removal is currently taking place on the Jordan Conservation, but Massport is collecting data for a Notice of Intent for penetrations in this area to be filed with the Bedford Conservation Commission.
- Massport has had informal communications with some Bedford town officials and representatives of the Bedford Conservation Commission regarding vegetation management in the Jordan Conservation area.
- Massport has allocated funding for the Vegetation Management Plan.
- At the Runway 23 end, the on-airfield approach surface is being maintained at a ratio of 34:1, but the FAA has approved a 20:1 ratio off the airport; thus reducing the amount of vegetation that needs to be removed off the airport.

4. Other: S. Arnold noted that Massport is planning to present the State of Hanscom next month at the March meeting. It is hoped that Barbara Patzner will be available to make the presentation as she is currently recovering from a car accident.

D. Steele said there have been no discussions with cargo or commercial air carriers.

