

Calling For A Reduction Of Noise Impacts From Newark And Westchester Jet Arrivals On The Public, Protected Catskill And Shawangunk Parklands

The Environmental Committee (Chairman Shapiro and Legislators Bartels, Distel, R.A. Parete, Rodriguez, Fabiano and McAfee) and Legislator Kraft offer the following:

WHEREAS, Ulster County has a longstanding history of protected parklands (Catskill State Park, Mohonk Preserve and Mountain House, Minnewaska State Park Preserve and Sam's Point Preserve) that provide places of natural quiet and are central to the tourism economy of the area, and

WHEREAS, major jet arrivals from Newark and Westchester airports with flight altitudes as low as 7000 feet should not be routed over the public, protected parklands of the Catskills and Shawangunks, and

WHEREAS, in order to protect the airspace of the Catskills and Shawangunks, planes should be kept as high as possible for as long as possible when approaching metropolitan airports, and

WHEREAS, a mid-level intersection at 7,000 to 11,000 feet creates an adverse impact over public, protected parkland but is not noticed over a city or transportation corridor, and

WHEREAS, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) has not included noise mitigation for Ulster County in the draft environmental impact statement for the airspace redesign.

RESOLVED, the Ulster County Legislature calls upon the FAA to mitigate or reduce, to the greatest extent practicable, noise from Newark and Westchester jet arrivals over the Catskill and Shawangunk parklands in Ulster County, New York, and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Clerk of the Ulster County Legislature shall forward copies of this resolution to President George W. Bush, Governor George E. Pataki, Comptroller Alan Hevesi, United States Senators Hillary Rodham Clinton and Charles Schumer, United States Congressman Maurice Hinchey, Senate Majority Leader Joseph Bruno, Senate Minority Leader David A. Paterson, Assembly Speaker Sheldon Silver, Assembly Majority Leader Paul A. Tokasz, Assembly Minority Leader James N. Tedisco, New York State Senators John J. Bonacic and William J. Larkin, Jr., New York State Assemblymen Kevin Cahill, Clifford Crouch, Daniel Hooker and Thomas Kirwan, the National Association of Counties, the New York State Association of Counties, Steve Kelly (FAA-NAR), (c/o Nessa Memberg, 12005

Resolution No. 187 May 10, 2006

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Sunrise Valley Rd. C302, Reston, VA 20191), Marion C. Blakey, Federal Aviation Administrator, (800 Independence Ave. SW, Washington, DC 20591), Nancy D. LoBue, Deputy Assistant Administrator for Aviation Policy, (Planning and Environment, 800 Independence Ave. SW, Washington, DC 20591), Carl E. Burleson, Director, Office of Environment and Energy, (800 Independence Ave. SW Washington, DC 20591),

and moves its adoption.

ADOPTED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: 31 NOES: 0
(Legislator Stoeckeler left at 10:05 PM)
(Absent: Legislator Every)

FINANCIAL IMPACT:
NONE

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