TO: Department of Transportation/Federal Aviation Administration
New England Region
12 New England Executive Park
Burlington, MA. 01803
ATTN: Allan Goldsher

FROM: Milton Board of Health

DATE: June 29, 2015

RE: Detrimental Health Effects of RNAV Plane Flights over the Town of Milton

The Milton Board of Health along with the Milton Board of Selectman and the Milton Airplane Noise Advisory Committee strongly oppose the proposed 4LRNAV and 4L visual approach RNAV. We strongly urge the FAA to halt any further implementation of these RNAV's.

The Town of Milton is 13.3 square miles in area, and is already experiencing an unfair distribution of flights compared to other surrounding communities. Milton residents have the highest number of complaints compared to all other communities.

The Town has experienced an exponential increase in RNAV's. As you know these RNAV's are highways in the sky: they are narrow concentrated paths for the airplanes to fly along. We are very concerned about the potential health risks associated with repeat exposure. Already residents have told us about their worries, including soot falling on their cars, homes, lawns and gardens from the airplanes fine particulate matter. These airplanes are lower also, many are flying less than 3000 feet.

According to the recent LAX study, fine particulate matter can cause blocked coronary arteries as well as worsen respiratory diseases like asthma. The study authors also stated that their findings could apply to any other large airport. Other studies have demonstrated increases in blood pressure for those bothered by noise from aircraft while they were sleeping.
The residents in Milton will be put at a higher risk for illnesses if these proposed changes occur. Additionally, the location of these RNAV’s would affect some of the most vulnerable populations including: elderly residents of Fuller Village, Milton Health Care nursing home facility, college students-Curry College, young children- Thatcher Montessori school, Delphi academy, Tucker Elementary School, just to name a few.

In the past, routes have gone out over the water, and not over populated communities and residential areas. These proposed changes will be going over residential areas and effecting homeowners and residents that never previously had routes over their homes.

We urge the FAA to consider the above factors and stop the implementation of these proposed RNAV’s.

Respectfully,

Caroline A. Kinsella  B.S.N.  R.N.

Director,
The Milton Board of Health

Anne Fidler, ScD. - Chairman
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Dr. Anthony Compagnone, M.D. Medical Director