



Conversations about our future: Public Workshop, Mississauga

Date: July 4, 2017

Location: Mississauga Living Arts Centre

Moderator: Peter MacLeod, MASS LBP

Presenters: Lorrie McKee, Director, Public Affairs & Stakeholder Relations and Cynthia Woods, Manager, Noise Management Office, at the Greater Toronto Airports Authority (GTAA)

Participants: 32 Community Members

Goals: To share information and gather community advice about Toronto Pearson International Airport's Growth Strategy and the Airport's approaches to managing and mitigating airplane noise.

Format: The evening began with a short presentation about Toronto Pearson's master planning process, including initial plans for an airport transit hub and explanation of how the airport mitigates environmental impacts, addresses noise impacts, and work with communities to grow responsibly. Participants then engaged in small group discussions, led by facilitators, that responded to four questions. After approximately an hour of small group conversation, representatives of each group shared highlights from their conversations with all in attendance.

Summary of Responses Gathered

1. What are the benefits and drawbacks of Pearson's growth?

Benefits	Drawbacks
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• More connections to more of the world, at a convenient and easy-to-access airport• Economic benefits for the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area (GTHA) and across Canada, due to increased trade in goods and more competitive businesses	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Increased cost for the City of Mississauga, for road maintenance and other impacts from increased airport traffic• Risk of undercutting airport growth in other parts of the GTHA by focusing too much on growing Toronto Pearson• Increased airplane noise over communities surrounding the airport, affecting human health from air pollution• Increased congestion on roads and transit around the airport

2. What steps would you like to see the GTAA take to...

...provide new transit options for the airport and region?	...engage and inform residents about its operations	...strengthen its commitment to the environment?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research the number of people who commute to the airport area from different parts of the GTHA (especially to the west of Toronto Pearson) to ensure transit plans reflect their needs and perspectives • Work with transit partners across the GTHA to ensure coordination between existing modes of transit • Create a transit hub at Pearson, and encourage all levels of government including Metrolinx to contribute funding to ensure the transit hub properly connects different transit systems • Support ongoing efforts by Metrolinx and its partners to create a more integrated regional transit system that connects to southern Ontario airports allowing passengers transfer to other regional airports for short-haul flights • Advertise existing transit options more clearly and promote environmental benefits • Develop cycle and walking paths around the airport 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use a variety of methods, including local newspapers, local television advertisements, and social media to communicate regularly with the community both locally and regionally • Communicate construction or route changes in advance of changes, rather than during or after those changes are made • Coordinate engagement and communication efforts with local elected officials, and use their communications vehicles • Communicate GTAA operational and financial models more transparently, including budgets and profits, financial audits, key performance metrics, and noise enforcement statistics • Partner with NAV CANADA and Transport Canada in communication and engagement efforts and include at community meetings • Define clearly airplane movements rather than passenger movements in terms of growth • Frame conversations about noise management efforts carefully to avoid neighbourhoods working against each other • Hold CENAC meetings in local communities, and work with communities to make sure the agenda reflects community needs and concerns • Ensure outreach - such as public consultation and surveys - is 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure the airport buildings are as efficient as they can be such as including LED lights and solar panels • Learn from best practices worldwide and become a leader in noise and pollution abatement programs in the communities • Set targets for energy and environmental impact, communicate these, and measure progress towards them • Ensure greenspace is protected for animals and habitat • Adhere to legislation about fuel dumping

	distributed fairly across the GTHA	
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3. How would you propose to address the concerns of residents who are adversely impacted by airplane noise?

- Reduce impact of night flights: consider changing night flight paths, revising the night flight budget equation, reducing number of night flights, or banning night flights outright
- Some participants were in favour of sharing flight paths more equally across the GTHA while some attendees expressed strong concerns about the impact of noise sharing on currently unaffected communities
- Improve the complaints process so that it is not limited to one complaint per submission and be accountable for communicating what happens as a result of complaints being made to both the complainant and the public
- Work with municipalities to determine allowable noise impacts in different neighbourhoods
- Work with elected officials to ensure they understand operational procedures and are aware of temporary changes since they frequently communicate with concerned residents
- Use digital technology to improve communications - for example, an aviation traffic live feed, live noise monitoring terminals, and GPS for new arrival paths
- Create an international consortium with other airports of a similar size to learn best practices and create standards and policies for noise impacts
- Offer retrofitting or provide incentives for homeowners to retrofit their homes to mitigate the impact of airport noise
- Offer incentives to move cargo only flights to other airports like Hamilton and Pickering
- Mandate a restriction on the use of the A320 until it is retrofitted and consider alternate runway use for the loudest aircraft
- Encourage the Federal Government to build Pickering airport so that anticipated airplane demand can be shared

4. From among the items you've discussed, what are the top three measures Pearson could take to ensure that it grows responsibly?

Work with partners to improve transit and spread growth across the GTHA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Increase convenient and straightforward transit routes to and from the airport so people (both passengers and local residents) don't have to travel to downtown Toronto before travelling elsewhere in the region
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage the Federal Government to pursue Pickering airport • Work with all tools available to spread anticipated demand among other Ontario airports • Work with transit partners to connect regional airports by rail, and move regional trips (people and cargo) from air to rail • Be pro-growth, but keep balance between economy and community, and ensure growth is being done responsibly
<p>Work on all fronts to reduce noise impacts</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement global best practices in noise impact reduction • Reduce the number and impact of night flights, either by completely eliminating night flights or adjusting the night flight budget • Encourage the development and use of quieter airplanes • Develop guidelines about noise impacts at a neighbourhood level
<p>Improve transparency, proactivity, and accountability to local communities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Focus on building trust with the local community • Make sure all information, including reports, are published and available to elected officials and the community • Communicate change in a proactive, timely manner to the affected communities, and incorporate local residents' perspectives • Be accountable and responsive to Mississauga residents, elected officials, and GTHA residents