

Airpark Community Advisory Committee (ACAC)

August 20, 2024
7 – 8:30 PM

Montgomery County UpCounty Regional Service Center
12900 Middlebrook Rd
Germantown, MD 20874



Attendees:

Members:

Bobbi Besley
Justin Bollum, non-voting
H Michael Brown
Karen Kodjanian
Councilmember Luedtke Aide Aaron Kraut, non-voting
William “Skip” Reindollar
Ruben Rosario, non-voting
Lynne Stein Benzion
Dale Tuttle
Rony Ledany

MCDOT Staff Liaison:

Joe Pospisil

Guests:

Bruce Vivari
Mollie Hilty
Jeannie Bayer
Nancy Shenk
Catherine Wallenmeyer
Dale Tibbitts
Rebecca Trupp
Cathy Le

Action Items

July 16th Meeting Minutes Approval

No modifications were proposed by committee members to the July 16th meeting minutes. Minutes were approved unanimously by the committee and posted on the [ACAC Webpage](#).

Discussion Items

To kick off the meeting, Chairperson Reindollar provided an outline to committee members identifying 4 issues in the [County Code Section 42-34A](#) for which the committee is to advise both the County Executive and County Council. The outline also identified the types of data that is to be included as part of the committee’s annual report. It was suggested that subcommittees be considered so that members could focus on these key issues.

Available Data & Additional Data Needs

Noting that the annual report was to contain data on a variety of topics, committee members were curious about what data was already available, if there were potential alternative sources of data to analyze, and what new data may need to be collected. The [Montgomery County Airpark](#) already collects data the committee could utilize for their report. However, data collected by the Airpark may not contain all the details committee members may wish to examine or may not be exhaustive.

As an example, aircraft noise and safety complaints can be reported directly to the Airpark on their website. Residents are also directed to the Airpark webpage if they contact MC311 with aircraft related concerns. However, it is unclear if all who initially contact MC311 are in fact redirected to the Airpark webpage or whether other sources for aircraft noise and safety reports exist, such as with the FAA.

The following motion was made after committee discussion:

Establish a subcommittee to gather data on noise complaints, local airport operations, and itinerate airport operations with a goal of presenting its findings on noise complaints and local/itinerate airport operations at the September 17, 2024 full Committee session, and, if able, identify any other data that may be pertinent for the Committee to consider.

After this motion was unanimous approved, a call for volunteers was made. Committee members Dale Tuttle, H Michael Brown, Bobbi Besley and Justin Bollum all volunteered to be a part of this subcommittee.

Need for Public Input and Involvement

Another focal point discussed by the committee was the need to engage the public. Community concerns and community impact are key subjects on which they are to advise county officials. A townhall style meeting was suggested as part of this discussion. An argument was made that multiple townhall meetings could be considered. Some committee members were reluctant to commit to multiple meetings at this time. Members wanted to 1) know what information was already available, such as existing noise and safety complaints, and 2) make sure meeting time is efficiently utilized and beneficial for both committee members and community members.

There was also some discussion that alternatives to a townhall for collecting comments and concerns from the community could be considered. The committee also may want to engage directly with businesses in the airpark and do field visits in surrounding neighborhoods to obtain comments.

The following motion was made following committee discussion:

At the September 17, 2024 Committee session, this Committee will establish a minimum of one public community input meeting available via multiple modalities such as in-person, video, email, to obtain public feedback.

No community outreach subcommittee was formed during this meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm