

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
Office of the Attorney General

ATTORNEY GENERAL
KARL A. RACINE



May 6, 2016

Mr. Michael Huerta
Administrator
Federal Aviation Administration
800 Independence Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20591

Mr. Carmine Gallo
Eastern Region Administrator
Federal Aviation Administration
1 Aviation Plaza
Jamaica, New York 11434

RE: Flight Paths Out of Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport

Mr. Huerta and Mr. Gallo:

I am writing to urge the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) to reconsider the implementation and use of flight paths out of Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport (“Reagan National”) that have shifted air traffic east of the Potomac River. These new flight paths, implemented in 2015, permit aircraft departing Reagan National to the North to fly over Foggy Bottom, Georgetown University, Canal Road, and MacArthur Boulevard. The District residents in those areas have been seriously and adversely affected by the aircraft noise from these new flight paths.

My Office is aware that a collection of Community Groups and Georgetown University have challenged the FAA’s implementation of these new flight paths in the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit, and we continue to monitor that litigation. Rather than wait for that litigation to play out, the FAA should instead reconsider the use of these new flight paths in light of the serious noise concerns from the District residents they affect. The FAA has taken similar steps in the past, *see Helicopter Ass’n Int’l, Inc. v. FAA*, 722 F.3d 430 (D.C. Cir. 2013), and should rightly do so again now.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'KARL A. RACINE', written in a cursive style.

Karl A. Racine
Attorney General for the District of Columbia