



Washington Reagan National Airport Aircraft Noise Community Working Group

City Council Meeting
January 23, 2018

Background

Alexandria impacts from National Airport (DCA) aircraft noise:

- Increased air traffic at DCA
- Implementation of NextGen air traffic control system
- Compressed flight paths in Alexandria

DCA owned by federal government:

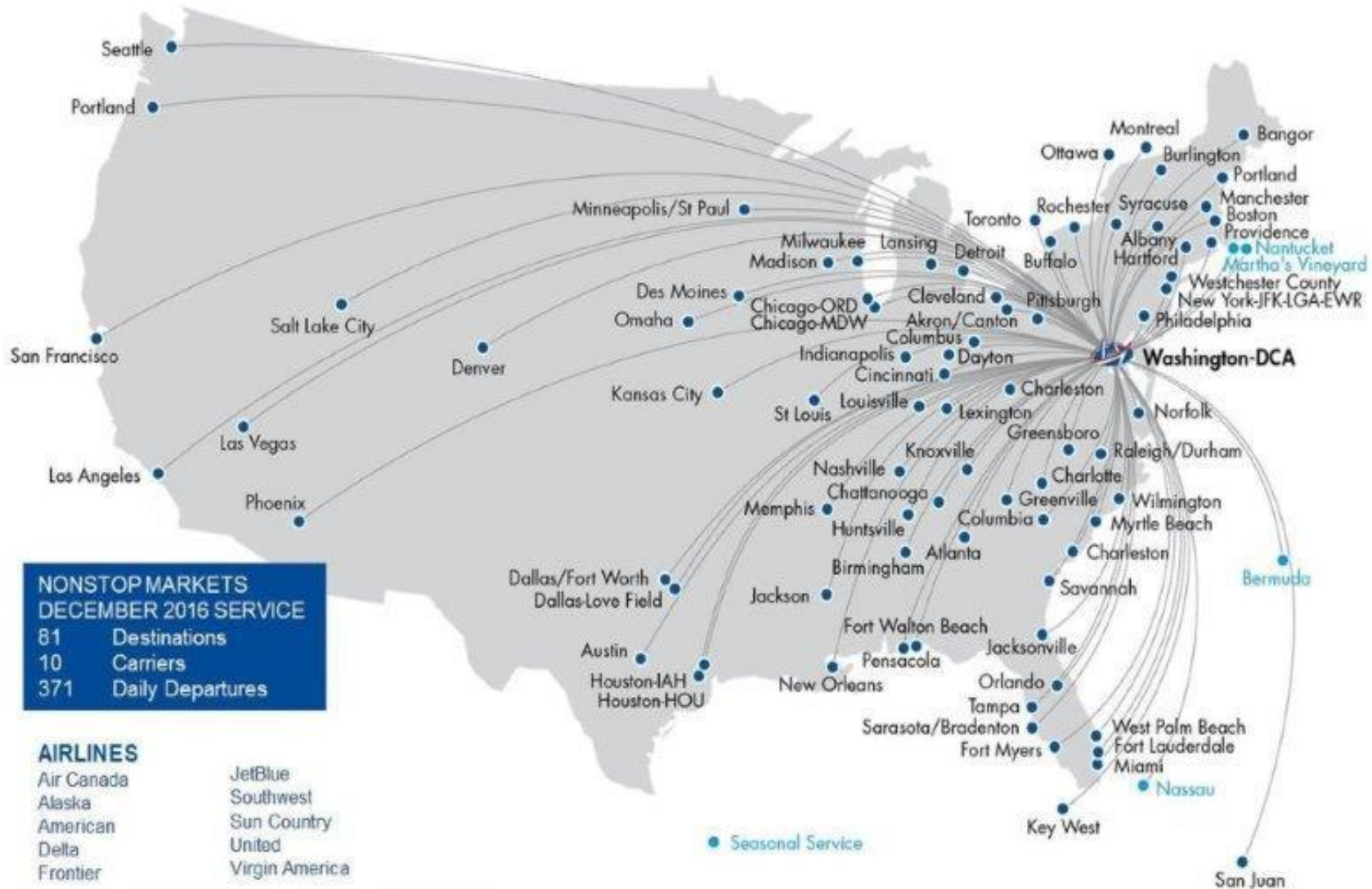
- Congressional control over flight volume
- FAA regulates aircraft procedures
- No entity regulates noise output of aircraft in flight
- National Security= 'no fly' zones in DC airspace

Community working group formed

- Convened by MWAA
- Interfaces w/ FAA, airlines



DCA Destinations



Source: Innovata Schedules, November 4, 2016 Update

About the Working Group

Mission: Identify and implement noise-mitigation solutions for National Airport airplane traffic over surrounding communities

Established: October 2015

Composition: 17 voting members representing:

- VA: Alexandria, Arlington and Fairfax
- District of Columbia
- MD: Prince George's and Montgomery Co.
- Airlines: American Airlines + trade group

Focus Areas

- Mitigating impacts due to NextGen Implementation
- Each jurisdiction is experiencing varying impacts
- Focus areas vary by location

What is NextGen?

FAA-led modernization of US air transportation system

- Approved by Congress
 - Phased Transformation: 2007-2025
- Designed to improve American Aviation:
 - safety
 - efficiency
 - environmental performance
 - capacity
 - predictability
 - resiliency
- Integrates technology, infrastructure, and procedural advances
- GPS vs. radar based traffic control

DCA – Arrivals & Departures Only

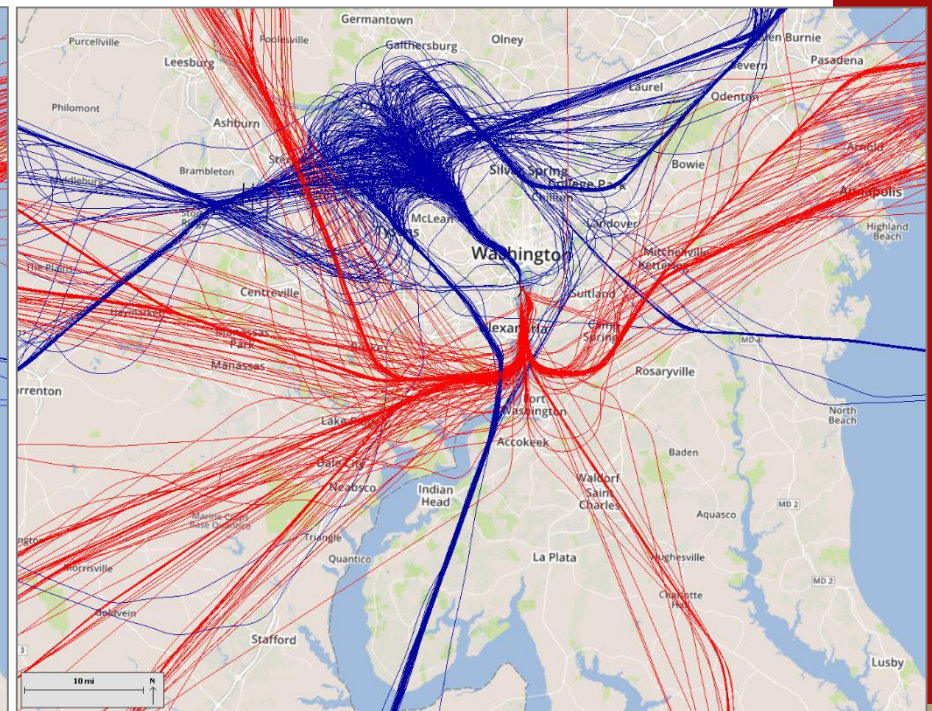
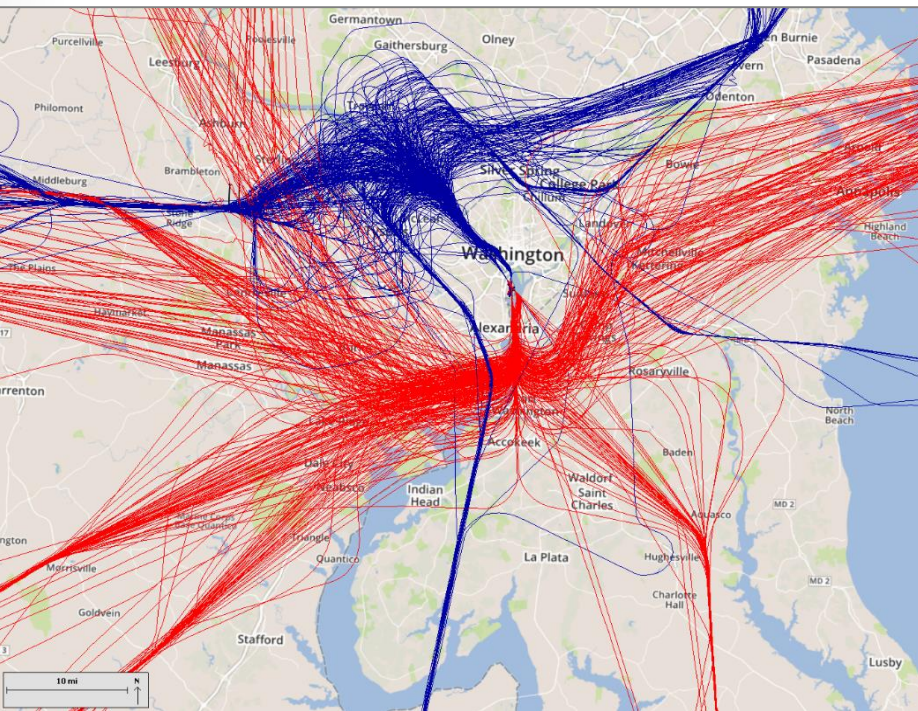
South Flow

NextGen Procedural Changes

2012 (Pre) versus 2015 (Post)

Pre-NextGen: June 28, 2012

Post-NextGen: Sept. 8, 2015



Blue lines = arrivals; Red lines = departures

Focus Areas for Alexandria

Increased air traffic

- Particularly Late PM/Early AM Traffic (10PM–7AM)

Concentration: Departing Aircraft

- Over west bank of the Potomac River
- Impacts Alexandria

Deviation from official flight path

- Air traffic control diversions allowing aircraft to turn before the Wilson Bridge

Progress

FAA/Working Group

- Increased air traffic control vigilance against diversions over Alexandria
- South Flow departure flight path modification undergoing FAA technical evaluation
 - FAA rulemaking process begins
 - Technical evaluation: 12-18 months
 - Public meetings: TBD
 - Publish modification: June 2019

Airlines

- Eliminated/reduced noisier MD-80 service at DCA
- Reduced violations of the Night-time Noise Rule

Helicopter Traffic

Military Use:

- Between White House, Joint Base Andrews, Pentagon, Quantico
- Often along the Potomac or I-395
- Representative Beyer inserted a provision into FY 2018 Defense bill to study flight routes around Metro DC and identify potential noise mitigations
- Study findings released January 16

Other Uses:

- Park Service, Coast Guard
- Emergency Medical Service
- News

Thank you!
Questions?