

**Sound Off: Air Traffic (Soundcheck: Monday, 01 March 2010)**

**Tue, 2 Mar 2010 WYNC Radio 93.9 FM – AM 820**

In the latest installment of our monthly Sound Off series, we examine noise from airplanes and helicopters. New flight patterns over some New York neighborhoods have generated complaints from residents. Joining us today to discuss aircraft noise is Arlene Bronzaft, chair of the noise committee of the Mayor's Council on the Environment. Also with us is Tony Bongiovi, a sound engineer, record producer and long-time pilot of a Twin Comanche.

Tell us : Is your life affected by noise from air traffic? Are you hearing more or less noise lately? Leave a comment -- we might read yours during today's show. [View original source »](#)

**Automatically Generated Transcript (may not be 100% accurate)** Partial Transcript Below:

"Hi this is John -- you're listening to WNYC. On demand pod cast streaming and MP3 downloads available when you want but wnyc.org. And iTunes."

"Come and Live Well...yeah."

"And you can you. Some exotic foods. Changes in the air...but it's not one that everybody's happy everywhere. This is sound check and Jon -- **and in the next hour sound off our monthly series on noise continues with a look at Air traffic.**

But to begin the romance of air travel that **Frank Sinatra** -- about...well that's -- distant memories these days. **The skies -- more crowded and it appears noisier. The closure today of the largest runway at JFK for the next four months means rerouted flights over residential neighborhoods in Nassau County.**

Meanwhile the FAA has melded an airspace redesign initiative. A plan to cut down on delays by altering flight paths over the congested northeast. It's drawing strong opposition from cities towns and counties who claim to suffering from shaking windows and rattled nerves. Of course the New York area isn't alone in confronting this issue and questions remain about how detrimental air traffic noise really is...In a moment we'll talk with a sound engineer who's been applying his musical expertise to aircraft.

But first witnesses **Arlene Bronzaft** -- Chair of the committee of the...Mayor's Council on the Environment. Arlene welcome back."

"Thank you for having me."

"Why is air traffic noise such a big problem?"

"It's a big problem because the FAA has not appropriately assessed the impact of noise on communities. When they first film about the airspace redesign...and I do have documents dating back

to...Indeed noise concerns was part of their 118 proposed design document. But by 2001, they just kept safety and efficiency and dropped...I think communities are outraged because they know that the FAA's employing methodology to assess impacts but -- it. Even the people they used to work for the FAA on grants and on proposals have come to the realization that they no longer can accept the methodology.

" I should point out that we did try to get the FAA to be a part of this segment on our sound-off series on noise today, looking specifically air traffic, and they declined. But this 118 document you have. Has series of bullet points. Bullet point number three is noise...by the time the thing actually goes to 2001. It is on that that bullet point is gone -- thought."

**"...Health -- noise has gone past the noise and stage unfortunately our government does not fund studies...look at the impacts of noise on health...Thanks to the European studies we find that they have demonstrated, without question, that noise can impact cardiovascular...disorder and in fact more recent research has shown that people living near airports have increased drought. The World Health Organization. Has stated that noise diminishes quality of life. And two studies and I did one on a community exposed to aircraft noise when they...this community was your local audience the other one near Newark.**

"And according to FAA documents obtained by one local activist in Brooklyn, since 2006, low altitude plane traffic over Park Slope...yes, which is not near any of those three -- has increased by 52%."

**"...Are you hearing more or less noise lately? You can call us at 212433. WNYC. Mets 433. 9692. Or leave a comment on the sound check page WNYC. Dot board...."**