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**RESIDENTS GIVE PORT AN EARFUL: PDX IS TOO LOUD**

Oregonian, The (Portland, OR)

March 10, 2005

Author: ALEX PULASKI - The Oregonian

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Summary: People testifying at a hearing say the agency needs to do something to protect property values. Residents living near Portland International **Airport** complained Wednesday that they are being overwhelmed by **noise**, especially from low-flying turboprop planes.

At a hearing before Port of Portland commissioners, residents urged the Port to take more responsibility for minimizing **noise** and ensuring that the value of homes near the **airport** is not diminished. The hearing was part of an update of the **airport's noise-management** program.

The Port, which operates PDX, will send recommendations on **noise** management to the Federal Aviation Administration. Commissioners took testimony Wednesday but are not expected to act on the program until May 11.

Erwin Bergman, a member of the plan's citizens advisory committee, criticized a plan recommendation that the Port buy **noise** easements from homeowners unwilling to have their homes soundproofed by the Port and federal government. That option, he said, would do absolutely nothing to reduce **noise**.

Although the plan will be forwarded to the FAA, Bergman suggested that the Port bear the burden of accommodating its neighbors. "With the growth of PDX, where to put all the aircraft is becoming more and more of a challenge," he said.

Dennis Stoecklin, representing Concordia University in Northeast Portland, said turboprop aircraft routinely pass within 30 feet of classrooms, making instruction difficult.

Eric Meyer, a resident in Roseway neighborhood in Northeast Portland, criticized a recommendation that a **noise** brochure be developed for prospective home buyers near the **airport**. He said that would doubly penalize residents who have to live with the **noise** then find their home values drop when they try to sell.

Peggy McNees, the port's **noise** program manager, said a recommendation that is no longer being considered would have pushed air traffic from west-departing flights farther south. That would have reduced **noise** over Vancouver, she said, but created more conflicts with Hayden Island residents.

Residents of floating homes endorsed a recommendation under consideration that their dwellings qualify for sound-proofing if they can show that they own the land underneath the home.

"We are a group that does own our own mud," said Betty Lynn Klappenbach of the Tomahawk Island Floating Home Association.

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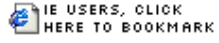
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