



St. Paul Downtown Airport Advisory Council

MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, October 15, 2024, at 3:00 PM

644 Bayfield Street, St. Paul, MN 55107

Saint Paul Downtown Airport (STP) Terminal Building

Call to Order

A regularly scheduled meeting of the St. Paul Downtown Airport Advisory Council (DAAC) was held Tuesday, October 15, 2024, at the STP terminal building. **Chair Fure** called the meeting to order at 3:07 PM. In attendance were:

Representatives: T. Rehkamp, Hubbard Broadcasting; D. Wagner, Minnesota National Guard; J. Fure, District 17 Planning Council – Capitol River; A. Jerve, - City Planner City of St. Paul; D. Schaab, District 5 – Payne Phalen; P. Martineau, X; L. Gregg

MAC Staff: J. Lewis, Community Relations Coordinator; M. Ross, Director, Stakeholder Engagement; J. Harris, Director, Relievers; B. Peterson, Airport Manager; C. Metcalfe, Assistant Manager, Community Relations; Jesse Sonju, Acoustics and Data Coordinator

Other: NA

1. Introduction and Roll Call

Chair Fure called the meeting to order at 3:07 pm. There was a total of 14 participants.

A quorum of three User Representatives, two Public Representatives and one Government Representative was established.

User Representatives: T. Rehkamp; P. Martineau; D. Wagner; L. Gregg

Public Representatives: J. Fure, D. Schaab

Government Representatives: A. Jerve

2. Action Items (deferred to later in the agenda due to lack of quorum)

a. **Approval of Meeting Minutes: October 17, 2023**

b. **Chair Elections**

c. **Vice Chair Elections**

d. **Approval of Work Plan 2025**

3. Information Items

a. Airport Manager Update

Blaine Peterson, Airport Manager, introduced himself and noted he would be taking over completely at the St. Paul Downtown Airport on or around November 1. He gave a brief history of his professional background. An overview was provided about airfield dirt pile (surcharge pile) that will remain in place until spring 2025, and construction on the site will take place beginning in August 2025.

Mr. Peterson also discussed the phasing plan for Runway 14/32 construction anticipated to begin in June 2025 and conclude in August 2025. Work will take place Monday – Saturday, excluding holidays. Updates will be published weekly once the project begins. Runway 13/31 will be operational as feasible during the construction period.

Mr. Peterson shared an overview of the Kellogg bridge construction and noted that a 130-150 ft crane erected in the area of the airport. Notices to Air Missions (NOTAMS) will be published to alert pilots.

b. Aircraft Operations and Noise Complaints Summary Q3 2024

Jennifer Lewis, Technical Advisor, gave an overview of the MAC Reliever Interactive Reports, the MAC FlightTracker, and MACNOMS which stands for Metropolitan Airports Commission Noise and Operations Monitoring System. **Ms. Lewis** shared the link for more details about operations which is available at <https://customers.macnoms.com/reports/>

Ms. Lewis stated there were 11,446 operations and 1,011 nighttime operations recorded at St. Paul Airport during the third quarter 2024. For the same period, there were 187 noise complaints from 27 locations and 47 nighttime complaints from 11 nighttime locations in Q3 2024. **Ms. Lewis** explained the noise complaint location map.

c. Fly Neighborly Update

Jennifer Lewis, Technical Advisor, shared an overview of the STP noise abatement best practices and pilot guide, and highlighted proposed changes. It is requested that members review and comment on the proposed changes by December 31, 2024. Feedback from members will be used to update the STP Noise Abatement Best Practices and new STP Fly Neighborly Guide.

d. Annual STP Sound Study (2024)

Michele Ross, Director, Stakeholder Engagement, gave an overview and a history of the St. Paul Downtown Airport (STP) Annual Aircraft Sound Study. The purpose of the study is to evaluate STP aircraft operations and associated noise events occurring in neighborhoods surrounding the airport. The MAC conducts an annual study in accordance with the commitments of the Supplemental Conditions of Agreement for the airport floodwall.

Ms. Ross explained that each study assesses seven consecutive days of aircraft activity, and these studies have been conducted each year since 2007. Studies in August include 2010, 2017, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, and 2024. She also mentioned 2020-2022 studies were field measurement studies that were augmented with an Aviation Environmental Design Tool (AEDT) analysis.

Ms. Ross explained the study for STP was conducted August 13-19, 2024, and it was conducted only using the AEDT analysis as directed by DAAC members during the April 2023 meeting. She reviewed the MACNOMs data for STP Aircraft Activity per Runway during the Study period. Ms. Ross noted that the FAA tower counts for aircraft operations differed from the MACNOMs data and the difference was incorporated into the model.

Ms. Ross responded to a clarifying question from L. Gregg about access to the materials.

e. Bylaws Update

Jennifer Lewis, MAC Community Relations Coordinator, shared the reasons for considering an update to the Downtown Airport Advisory Council's (DAAC) Bylaws, including membership changes and clarification, including long-term planning in purpose of group, and rebalance quorum requirements.

Mr. Peterson, Airport Manager, expressed importance of DAAC members participating in the long-term planning process.

Representative Jerve remarked about LTP stakeholder engagement plan, government representation and consideration of Roberts Rules. **Mr. Peterson** and **Ms. Ross** responded to the questions.

4. Action Items (these items were deferred to this part of the meeting due to lack of quorum at beginning of meeting)

a. Approval of Meeting Minutes: October 17, 2023

Chair Fure opened the item for discussion, approving the minutes from the October 17, 2023, meeting.

Representative Rehkamp moved and Chair Fure seconded to:

Accept the October 17, 2023 meeting minutes as presented.

The motion passed by unanimous vote.

b. Chair Elections

Jennifer Lewis, Technical Advisor, provided an overview of Chair and Vice Chair roles.

Representative Rehkamp nominated Jon Fure for Chair position.

Representative Rehkamp moved and Representative Peterson seconded to:

Elect Jon Fure as Chair.

The motion passed by unanimous vote.

c. Vice Chair Elections

Representative Gregg nominated himself as Vice Chair.

Representative Gregg moved and Representative Rehkamp seconded to:

Elect Larry Gregg as Vice Chair

The motion passed by unanimous vote.

d. Approval of Work Plan 2025

Jennifer Lewis, Technical Advisor, gave an overview of the draft 2025 work plan.

Vice Chair Gregg moved and Representative Rehkamp seconded to accept the 2025 Work Plan as written.

The motion passed by unanimous vote.

5. Public Comment Period

Chair Fure introduced the public comment period and reminded attendees of the ground rules for public comment. There were no public comments.

6. Member Announcements

Representatives Gregg noted safety considerations and access – requested gate code change and emphasized piggyback concerns.

7. **Set next meeting dates March – May 2025**

Chair Fure polled the group and recommended the next meetings would be held on Tuesday, April 15, 2025, May 20, 2025 (tour), and September 16, 2025, at 3:00 pm at the St. Paul Downtown Airport.

Chair Fure adjourned the meeting at 3:41 p.m.