July 5, 2017

Dear Elected Official,

I wish to convey my anger and distress over the dramatic increase in noise in the town of Nahant from departures from Logan Airport’s Runway 4R.

Departures off Runway 4R (as all runways do) have waypoints to follow as pilots depart Logan Airport. Unfortunately, over the last couple of years the turns from departures off Runway 4R have changed and are now turning much too soon over the town resulting in severe increase of noise impacts for Nahant residents. Pilots are turning their aircraft at times a mile prior to reaching the initial waypoint for Runway 4R departures.

Town residents have complained, to no avail, to both the Massachusetts Port Authority and the FAA. Both agencies have stated that nothing has changed and have ignored our deep concern for our health and overall quality of life.

What makes matters worse is that there is no need for this! Nahant is an island surrounded by water connected to the mainland by a two mile causeway! For pilots to turn either over or extremely close to Nahant shows a complete apathy for noise abatement and removes any sincerity on the part of either Massport or the FAA when they claim to care about airport impacts!

I wish to file this complaint to your office and ask your support to change the current initial fly-by waypoint for departures off Runway 4R to a fly-over waypoint.

It is vital to understand that this request will not impact one individual that lives north of Nahant. The FAA will claim the change we are requesting will do exactly that. That is simply not true! When the waypoints were placed into position by the FAA in 2007, we did not have noise impact from 4R departures and neither did anyone north of our town, which makes this situation so confusing and without merit. Why would they actually create a problem that was never there? For the FAA and Massport to be so determined and refuse to work with us towards a solution to this serious problem, we can only assume there is more to this issue than we are being told.

As part of your constituency, I’m asking for your assistance in to rectify this simple task. There is no reason why Nahant Residents should be suffering noise impacts from Runway 4R.
departures when the town is surrounded by water and is connected to the mainland by a two mile causeway!

Sincerely,

Jeff A. Chelgren
Town Administrator
781-581-9927

CC: Nahant Board of Selectmen
Senator Thomas McGee
Representative Brendan Crighton
Mr. Robert D’Amico
Senator Elizabeth Warren

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