



U. S. Department  
Of Transportation

**Federal Aviation  
Administration**

**Helena Airports District Office**  
2725 Skyway Drive, Suite 2  
Helena, Montana 59602

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August 24, 2016

Ms. Rebecca Hupp, Director  
Boise Air Terminal/Gowen Field  
3201 Airport Way, Suite 1000  
Boise, ID 83701

Dear Ms. Hupp:

The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) has evaluated the noise compatibility Program for Boise Air Terminal/Gowen Field contained in the Boise Airport CFR Part 150 Study Update and related documents submitted to this office under the provisions of Title 49, U.S.C. Chapter 475. The recommended noise compatibility program proposed by the City of Boise is identified by action element number in Chapter Eight. Our specific action for each noise compatibility program element is set forth in the enclosed Record of Approval. The effective date of approval is August 24, 2016.

The summary of the Noise Compatibility Program recommendations proposed by the Airport is in Chapter Eight of the document. The Airports Division Manager of the Northwest Mountain Region has approved 7 of the 13 measures and 6 measures were disapproved for the purposes of Part 150. Per Part 150 Section 150.35, the FAA cannot conditionally approve measures. Even though some land use measures have been disapproved for the purposes of Part 150, sponsors are encouraged to carry out land use measures within their jurisdictions that are reasonably consistent with achieving the goals of reducing existing noncompatible land uses around the airport. There were 22 land use, noise abatement, and continuing program measures included in the noise compatibility plan that were either approved in a previous record of approval, removed from consideration, or disapproved in a previous record of approval. These measures and FAA's associated determinations are summarized in the attachment to the Record of Approval.

Each airport Noise Compatibility Program developed in accordance with CFR Part 150 is a local program, not a Federal program. We do not substitute our judgment for that of the airport proprietor with respect to which measures be recommended for action. Our approval or disapproval of Part 150 program recommendations is measured according to the standards expressed in CFR Part 150 and 49 U.S.C. Sec. 47504(a), and is limited to the following determinations:

- a. The Noise Compatibility Program was developed in accordance with the provisions and procedures of CFR Part 150;
- b. Program measures are reasonably consistent with achieving goals of reducing existing noncompatible land uses around the airport and preventing the introduction of additional noncompatible land uses;

- c. Program measures would not create undue burden on interstate or foreign commerce, unjustly discriminate against types or classes of aeronautical uses, violate the terms of airport grant agreements, or intrude into areas preempted by the Federal government;
- d. Program measures relating to the use of flight procedures can be implemented within the period covered by the program without derogating safety, adversely affecting the efficient use and management of the Navigable Airspace and Air Traffic Control Systems, or adversely affecting other powers and responsibilities of the Administrator prescribed by law.

Specific limitations with respect to our approval of an airport Noise Compatibility Program are delineated in CFR Part 150, Section 150.5. Approval is not a determination concerning the acceptability of land uses under Federal, state, or local law. Approval does not by itself constitute an FAA implementing action. A request for Federal action or approval to implement specific noise compatibility measures may be required, and an FAA decision on the request may require an environmental assessment of the proposed action. Approval does not constitute a commitment by the FAA to financially assist in the implementation of the program, and is not a determination that all measures covered by the program are eligible for grant-in-aid funding from the FAA. Where federal funding is sought, requests for project grants must be submitted to the FAA Airports District Office in Helena, Montana.

Completion and approval of your Noise Compatibility Program is a major accomplishment, one of which the Airport should be proud. The program is a blueprint presenting the means for the Airport to achieve its goal of reducing or eliminating noncompatible land uses around the airport. As with all plans, we encourage the Airport to periodically review and update the program as may be necessary to reflect changes in the airport or its environment.

Again, congratulations on your approval of the Part 150 Noise Compatibility Program! We look forward to working with you on implementation of the program.

If you have any questions, please call Scott Eaton, Helena ADO Community Planner, or me at 406-449-5271.

Sincerely,



David S. Stelling, Manager  
Helena Airports District Office

cc: Janell Barrilleaux, ANM Environmental Program Manager

(1) Enclosure