

## **CHAPTER 7.0**

### **COORDINATION AND PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT**

#### **7.1 INTRODUCTION**

A public involvement program was implemented by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) to ensure that information was provided to the general public and interested agencies from the earliest stages of the project and so that input from interested parties was received and reviewed by FAA throughout the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) process. The primary components of the program included:

- Scoping,
- Public Workshops (Alternatives and Environmental Consequences),
- Agency Workshop (Alternatives), and
- A Public Hearing (planned for February 2005).

Keeping the public informed and obtaining their input was considered an integral part of the process. The following summarizes the public involvement and review process.

#### **7.2 EIS SCOPING PROCESS**

In conformance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) and FAA requirements, FAA accomplished Scoping for the conduct of the EIS for proposed improvements to Washington Dulles International Airport (IAD).

Notification of the Scoping process for the IAD EIS was accomplished in compliance with NEPA and FAA requirements. A variety of methods were used to inform agencies and the public about the EIS Scoping process for the study, including print materials, online information, and media relations.

##### **7.2.1 FEDERAL REGISTER NOTICE OF INTENT**

The FAA published a Notice of Intent (NOI) in the Federal Register on Monday, May 20, 2002, which set forth FAA's intentions to prepare an EIS for IAD. The NOI summarized the proposed projects and FAA's requirements under NEPA for EIS preparation. A copy of the NOI is provided in [Appendix K-1](#) of this Draft EIS (DEIS).

##### **7.2.2 AGENCY LETTER AND FOLLOW UP**

A Pre-Scoping document was sent to 110 public officials, agencies, and organizations on June 7, 2002. Personal phone calls were made and e-mail notices were sent to remind agency contacts of the meeting date, time, and location. An e-mail Scoping Meeting announcement was sent to those agencies and interested parties who indicated an e-mail address for the database. Agency notification letters and database are shown in [Appendix K-1](#) of this DEIS.

### **7.2.3 SCOPING MEETINGS**

One agency Scoping meeting and two public Scoping meetings were accomplished on June 26 and 27, 2002, as part of the EIS Scoping process for this study. The agency Scoping meeting was held on the afternoon of June 26th, which was followed by a public Scoping meeting in the evening. The next public Scoping meeting was held on the evening of June 27th. A PowerPoint presentation was shown, a handout was distributed, and presentation boards were displayed at the meetings summarizing the proposed project as well as the Scoping and EIS process. In addition, court reporters were present to record all testimony given at the three meetings. The copy of the Scoping handout is provided in [Appendix K-1](#) of this document.

#### **7.2.3.1 Agency Scoping Meetings**

A Scoping meeting specifically for Federal, state, and local governmental agencies was held at the Marriott Washington Dulles International Airport on Wednesday, June 26, 2002, between the hours of 1:00 p.m. and 3:00 p.m. A total of 27 people signed in at the meeting (including FAA and Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority [MWAA] personnel). The Scoping meeting was preceded by a brief presentation by the FAA, MWAA, and the URS consultant team after which a question and answer session was held. FAA presided over the meeting. Comment forms were available for participants to submit a written comment either at the meeting or by mail to the FAA Project Manager by July 12, 2002. A court reporter was present to take a verbatim transcript of the meeting.

#### **7.2.3.2 Media Briefing**

An informal Scoping meeting specifically for the media was held prior to the public Scoping meetings on Wednesday, June 26, 2002, and Thursday June 27, 2002, between the hours of 4:00 p.m. and 4:45 p.m. Two members of the media attended:

- David Harrison, The Connection Newspapers (June 26, 2002); and
- Jennifer Cooper, Times Community Newspapers (June 27, 2002).

The media briefing was initiated with a PowerPoint presentation of the Scoping process and the proposed action by the FAA. Following the presentation, the media was invited to view numerous presentation boards and talk with FAA representatives.

#### **7.2.3.3 Public Scoping Meetings**

Two informal format Scoping meetings specifically for the general public were held in the IAD vicinity on June 26 and 27, 2002. FAA initiated both scoping meetings with a continuous playing PowerPoint presentation of the Scoping process and the proposed project. Following the presentation, the public was invited to view numerous presentation boards.

Representatives of the FAA, MWAA, and the URS consultant team were available to discuss the Scoping process and the proposed action as well as to answer any questions from the public. There were 78 registered participants at the Westfield High School (Fairfax County) Scoping meeting and

42 participants at the Farmwell Station Middle School (Loudoun County) Scoping meeting. Comment forms were available for participants to submit a written comment either at the meeting or by mail to the FAA Project Manager by July 12, 2002. In addition, one court reporter was present to take verbatim comments from any person attending the meetings.

### **7.3 PUBLIC WORKSHOP - ALTERNATIVES REVIEW**

The first set of public workshops, held on October 7 and 8, 2003, presented the preliminary Purpose & Need for the new runways and introduced several alternatives for the two new runways. The two identical workshops were intended to inform the public about the EIS process, provide an update on the project status, receive comments, and respond to questions.

The workshops were conducted in an informal, open-house format. A variety of methods were used to provide information to the public including board-mounted graphics and handouts. Both Alternatives Review meetings were initiated with a continuous playing PowerPoint presentation describing the study process, study schedule, and detailed review of the alternatives under study. FAA representatives and the consultant team were available for one-on-one discussions with the public. [Appendix K-2](#) provides information about the meetings, including public notification materials, newsletter, media relations, and sign-in sheets.

The Alternatives Review public workshops were held on October 7, 2003 and October 8, 2003, between 5:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m., at the Farmwell Station Middle School (Loudoun County) and Westfield High School (Fairfax County), respectively. There were 82 registered participants at the Westfield High School workshop and 88 participants at the Farmwell Station Middle School workshop. The subjects covered during the workshops included introduction to the EIS process, project description, project purpose and need, alternatives, and general discussions concerning existing environmental conditions (i.e., noise, air quality, etc.) within designated study areas associated with this DEIS.

### **7.4 AGENCY WORKSHOPS**

#### **7.4.1 ALTERNATIVES AND AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT REVIEW**

An agency meeting specifically for Federal, state, and local governmental agencies was held at IAD on Wednesday, January 14, 2004, between 10:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. A total of 22 people signed in at the meeting (including FAA and MWAA personnel). FAA, MWAA, and the URS consultant team provided a brief overview of the EIS process, the Proposed Project, Purpose and Need, Alternatives, and Schedule. The URS consultant team then provided more detailed discussions of the following affected environment categories: noise, historic/architectural and archaeological resources, water resources/floodplains, and wetlands/biotics. A brief question and answer session concluded the meeting. FAA presided over the meeting. Comment forms were available for participants to submit a written comment either at the meeting or by mail to the FAA Project Manager by February 13, 2004. Meeting material is included in [Appendix K-3](#).

#### **7.4.2 WETLANDS MITIGATION**

An agency meeting specifically for Federal, state, and local governmental agencies associated with wetlands permitting was held at IAD on Wednesday, January 14, 2004, between the hours of 1:00 p.m. and 3:00 p.m. A total of 21 people signed in at the meeting (including FAA and MWAA personnel). FAA, MWAA, and the URS consultant team provided a brief overview of the existing wetland resources, biotic communities, and water resources. The URS consultant team provided an overview of preliminary impacts and the group discussed mitigation requirements. FAA presided over the meeting. Comment forms were available for participants to submit a written comment either at the meeting or by mail to the FAA Project Manager by February 13, 2004. Meeting material is included in [Appendix K-3](#).

#### **7.5 PUBLIC WORKSHOP - ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES**

The second set of public workshops was conducted to introduce citizens to the environmental analysis consequences of the proposed alternatives. The public workshops were held on April 20, 2004, between 5:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. at Farmwell Station Middle School (Loudoun County) and on April 21, 2004, between 5:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. at Westfield High School (Fairfax County). There were 52 participants at the Farmwell Station Middle School workshop and 81 attendees at the Westfield High School workshop. Representatives of the FAA, MWAA and the URS consultant team were available to discuss the alternatives that were forwarded for further study and the environmental, sociographic and demographic information that had been gathered to date.

The open-house workshops were designed to gather further public input in the EIS process and to present the preliminary environmental impacts. Presentation boards were used to show the most up-to-date engineering evaluation including impacts to noise, air quality, and wetlands. Comment forms, the latest newsletter, and copies of the presentation boards were distributed at registration. Attendees were encouraged to provide written or verbal comments at the meeting or to mail their comment forms to the FAA Project Manager by May 7, 2004. Court reporters also were available at both meetings in order to record verbatim verbal comments. [Appendix K-4](#) provides information about the meetings, including public notification materials, newsletter, media relations, and sign-in sheets.

#### **7.6 PUBLIC NOTIFICATION**

##### **7.6.1 ADVERTISEMENTS**

Advertisements announcing FAA's scoping meetings and public information workshops were published in the local newspapers serving the study area. As required by FAA Order 1050.1E, a classified advertisement for the public scoping meetings was developed and placed in the Legal Notices section of *The Washington Post*. Advertisements for the public workshops were placed in the local and metro sections of the newspapers. Advertisements also were placed in several special interest publications in order to reach diverse audiences including senior, minority, and ethnic groups.

Copies of the newspaper advertisements for the Scoping Meetings (held June 26 and 27, 2002) are provided in [Appendix K-1](#). The newspapers and run dates of the advertisements were as follows:

<b>Newspaper</b>	<b>Run Date(s)</b>
Washington Post	June 2*, 9, and 15, 2002
Washington Times	June 9 and 15, 2002
Northern Virginia Journal	June 9 and 16, 2002
Eastern Loudoun Times	June 13 and 20, 2002
Metro Herald	June 19, 2002

\* Classified advertisement in the Legal Notices section.

Examples of the English-language and Spanish-language newspaper advertisements for the Alternatives Review public workshops (held October 7 and 8, 2003) are provided in [Appendix K-2](#). The newspapers and run dates of the advertisements were as follows:

<b>Newspaper</b>	<b>Run Date(s)</b>
Washington Post	September 28, 2003 (Metro)
Washington Times	September 28 and October 4, 2003
Northern Virginia Journal	September 28 and October 5, 2003
Weekender*	September 24 and October 1, 2003
El Pregonero**	September 25, 2003
Las Americas**	October 3 through October 9, 2003
Metro Herald	September 26 and October 3, 2003

\* Special insert of the Times Newspapers (Loudoun Times Mirror).

\*\* Spanish-language newspaper.

Examples of the English-language and Spanish-language newspaper advertisements for the Environmental Consequences public workshops (held April 20 and 21, 2004) are provided in [Appendix K-4](#). The newspapers and run dates of the advertisements were as follows:

<b>Newspaper</b>	<b>Run Date(s)</b>
Washington Post	April 12, 2004 (Business)
Washington Times	April 11 and 17, 2004
Northern Virginia Journal	April 11 and 18, 2004
Weekender*	April 7 and 18, 2004
La Nacion**	April 16 and 19, 2004
Golden Gazette	April 2004
Metro Herald	April 9 and 16, 2004

\* Special insert of the Times Newspapers (Loudoun Times Mirror).

\*\* Spanish-language newspaper.

## **7.6.2 POSTCARD DIRECT MAIL**

Approximately 20,570 postcards were mailed to households in the areas surrounding IAD to invite the public to attend one of the Scoping meetings. Noise Contour maps were used to develop a household distribution strategy. Postcards were mailed to those in the immediate study area within the noise contours for the airport; Federal, state, and local agencies and elected officials; and other committees and interested parties. MWAA assisted with development of an agency and interested parties mailing list and URS and the FAA developed an agency mailing list. A copy of the postcard is provided in [Appendix K-1](#).

Approximately 38,084 postcards were mailed to promote the Alternatives Review public workshops. A copy of the postcard is provided in [Appendix K-2](#). Approximately 40,015 postcards were mailed to notify the public of the Environmental Consequences public workshops. Households in a 5.2-mile radius around the study area's central point were targeted in addition to all stakeholders on the mailing list. A copy of the postcard is provided in [Appendix K-4](#).

### **7.6.3 PRESS RELEASES/MEDIA RELATIONS**

Press releases and media briefing invitations were sent to print, radio, and television media in the Washington D.C. metropolitan area. Copies of the press releases are provided in [Appendix K-5](#).

Media Attendance Scoping (3):

- Jennifer Cooper, The Times Newspapers;
- David Harrison, The Connection Newspapers; and
- Cynthia Shang, Pleasant Valley Community News.

Media Attendance Alternatives Meeting (7):

- Malissa Reyes, News Channel 8;
- Jennifer Cooper, The Times Newspapers;
- Jeff Green, The Connection Newspapers;
- Jeanne Baumann, Herndon Observer;
- John Rossomondo, Journal Newspapers;
- Allen Browning, Leesburg Today; and
- Cynthia Shang, Pleasant Valley Community News.

Media Attendance Environmental Consequences Meeting (3):

- Cynthia Shang, Pleasant Valley Community News;
- Allen Browning, Leesburg Today; and
- Rachael Kesler, Centreville Times.

### **7.6.4 NEWSLETTERS**

The Fall 2003 and Spring 2004 newsletters were sent to all meeting attendees, interested parties, agencies, MWAA staff, and the study team in advance of the Alternatives Review public workshops and Environmental Consequences public workshops, respectively. The newsletters gave a summary of the Scoping and Alternatives meetings, a study update, a map of the study area and encouraged public participation and comment. On September 26, 2003, 677 copies of the Fall 2003 edition (copy provided in [Appendix K-2](#)) were mailed and 1,111 copies of the Spring 2004 edition (copy provided in

[Appendix K-4](#)) were distributed on April 20, 2004. Newsletters also were available during the public workshops. Another newsletter will be produced and distributed prior to the Public Hearing (scheduled for February 2005).

#### **7.6.5 STAKEHOLDER E-MAIL NOTIFICATION**

E-mail announcements were sent to alert stakeholder groups about the upcoming workshops. On September 29, 2003, 276 emails were sent to promote the Alternatives meeting, while on April 5, 2004, 506 emails were distributed notifying of the Environmental Consequences meetings.

#### **7.6.6 STUDY WEB SITE**

The study web site ([www.metwashairports.com/Dulles/Environmental Studies/Runway EIS.htm](http://www.metwashairports.com/Dulles/Environmental_Studies/Runway_EIS.htm)) was developed to educate the public about the EIS process, provide detailed study information, as well as provide timely accurate material for public consumption. All meeting materials, presentations, and the study schedule are available online. The site also served to build the database by collecting names and addresses of those who asked to be added to the mailing list.

#### **7.6.7 ADDITIONAL COMMUNITY OUTREACH**

An invitation to the Alternatives Review meetings was mailed on October 1, 2003 to more than 400 faith organizations, homeowner and civic organizations, seniors, Hispanic contacts, persons with disabilities and other ethnic groups. A copy of the letter is provided in [Appendix K-2](#).

Several hundred postcards (previously discussed in [Section 7.6.2](#) with copy provided in [Appendix K-4](#)) promoting the Environmental Consequences public workshops were delivered to libraries, community centers, recreation centers, and public meeting places within the study area on April 14 through 16, 2004.

#### **7.6.8 MWAA PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PROGRAM**

Public notification of upcoming meetings and workshops is also provided by MWAA through their web site at [www.metwashairports.com/Dulles/](http://www.metwashairports.com/Dulles/). Press releases and information regarding d2: The Dulles Development Program is contained on the web site. The Dulles Development Program includes several airside and landside projects that would enable IAD to adequately meet the aviation demand in the Washington region. Included in the Dulles Development Program are the new runways that are included in this EIS. Copies of MWAA press releases and Dulles Development Program material involving EIS projects is provided in [Appendix K-5](#).

### **7.7 DEIS AVAILABILITY FOR REVIEW**

This DEIS is available for review by the public for a period of 45 days. Following its release, notification of the document's availability was accomplished through advertisements and press releases in the local media and through the publication of a Notice of Availability (NOA) in the Federal Register. The document is available for review at the locations listed in [Chapter 8.0](#) (Libraries). Anyone wishing to comment on the DEIS may do so either in writing (e-mail or mail) during the 45-day review period or in person verbally at the Public Hearing.

The DEIS was also distributed to Federal, state, and local agencies which have jurisdictional responsibility or an interest in the study. The list of these agencies is also provided in [Chapter 8.0](#). These agencies have a period of 45 days to respond on the DEIS. The FAA will respond to all reasonable comments received from the public and agencies in the Final EIS (FEIS). Summaries of the comments received, responses, and any necessary revisions to the EIS will be published in the FEIS.

## **7.8 COMMENT AND RESPONSE DATABASE**

[Appendix L](#), Consolidated Comment Database, contains an index of those parties who submitted comments to the FAA during the EIS process.

### **7.8.1 SCOPING COMMENTS RECEIVED**

The comment period for the Scoping process began on Monday, May 20, 2002, with the publication of the Federal Register NOI. The Scoping comment period ended on Friday, July 12, 2002. During the comment period, a total of 86 comments were received. A list of commenters with a summary of their comments is provided in the Consolidated Comment Database.

Seven comments were received by the FAA from Federal government agencies, 17 comments from state government agencies, 11 comments from local government agencies, and 49 comments were received from the general public during the Scoping Meeting or during the Scoping comment period. Five individual commenters were recorded by the court reporter during the Agency Scoping meeting on Wednesday, June 26, 2002 (three Federal, one state, and two local agency comments). Eight commenters were recorded by the court reporter during the Public Scoping meeting held on Wednesday, June 26, 2002 (six public comments). Four commenters were recorded by the court reporter during the Public Scoping meeting held on Thursday, June 27, 2002 (four public comments).

These comments were submitted in writing to the FAA Project Manager.

### **7.8.2 CURRENT STATUS OF THE CONSOLIDATED COMMENT DATABASE**

The Consolidated Comment Database is an ongoing process and is continually updated by the FAA. Comments received after July 12, 2002 from both agencies and the public have been included in this DEIS (up to the time of production). All reasonable comments will be responded to by the FAA in the FEIS.

## **7.9 PUBLIC HEARING**

A Public Hearing will be held to explain the results of the study and to receive comments from the public and government agencies. The hearing will be held approximately 30 days after the DEIS is made available for review. Notification of the Hearing will be accomplished through special mailings, press releases, advertisement in the local media, and through the Federal Register NOA. Those wishing to comment may do so verbally at the Public Hearing or in writing (mail or e-mail) during the 45-day review period. As stated previously, the FAA will respond to all reasonable comments in the FEIS.

## **7.10 FEIS AVAILABILITY FOR REVIEW**

The DEIS will be expanded to include summaries of the comments received during the review period and responses to those comments. The body of the report will be revised as necessary to reflect comments received. The next version of the document, called the FEIS, will also be published and made available for Agency and Public review.