

PDK Watch Newsletter, April, 2001

Please go to the PDK Watch website at www.pdkwatch.org to get more extensive reports on issues concerning PDK Airport. This newsletter cannot convey all of the information available. Also, note new Menu items: Correspondence and Past Features. Letters from airport management and the FAA are also posted for your information. You may send your e-mail address to pdkwatch@yahoo.com to receive notice of updates as they appear on the website.

CEO Jones Gets Request to Establish Written Airport Policies & Procedures

When he learned from concerned citizens of the absence of written airport policies and procedures, CEO Vernon Jones asked for community help. PDK Airport Advisory Board member Jacq Marie Jack compiled a list of areas that need to be addressed. These include Public Service, Leasing and Contracting, Flight Operations, Master Plan, and Obligations and Responsibilities. To read Ms. Jack's letter and accompanying suggestions, please visit the PDK Watch website at www.pdkwatch.org. Then send a note to CEO Jones urging him to follow through on his commitment to establishing written policies.

FAA Answers Questions

The FAA responded to questions that Congresswoman Cynthia McKinney asked on behalf of residents living near PDK Airport. One question related to the FAA's projection of airport capacity expansion over the next 20 years and the role PDK will play in this. The FAA said, "Any proposals to increase capacity at PDK would be initiated by DeKalb County." To read the entire letter with the questions and answers, please visit the PDK Watch website.

Low-flying Aircraft

Visit the website www.lowflying.com to learn how a Californian dealt with the problem of low-flying aircraft. He got results when he could produce the evidence.

Wake Up! PDK Airport Could Grow As Congestion Relief Is Sought

Air traffic congestion has the aviation industry looking for solutions. Besides more runways built more quickly, reliever airports are seen as an answer. Since PDK Airport is a reliever for Hartsfield International Airport, this solution should be of concern to the surrounding community. Past experience shows decisions are made and adopted without meaningful public discussion and with even less consideration given to impacts on the nearby community.

In his article "The Big Fix – the Pros and Cons of Options to Cut Flight Delays" in ABC News.com on February 12, 2001, David Morgan wrote "Another possible relief valve can be found in the smaller airports in outlying areas that may be more feasible for fliers than before. So-called reliever airports could pick up the slack for big city airports and

offer a foot in the door for smaller airlines.” He also quotes the executive director of Massachusetts Port Authority, which runs Logan International Airport, who said, “We have so many underutilized facilities that have great aviation assets. To leave those basically empty or just beneath their capacity makes no sense when the hub airports are experiencing such a crunch.”

Some passengers have already found a solution. According to an article in the Atlanta Business Chronicle for March 9-15, 2001, “private jet traffic has soared at” PDK Airport as more business executives look for ways to avoid the hassle of airline travel. The high cost of private jet ownership has resulted in fractional ownership programs in which several companies share the cost of a jet or several jets making it affordable for more companies.

Remember: PDK Noise Hotline is 770-936-5442.

The Airport Advisory Board meets the second Wednesday of each month at
6:30

PM on the second floor of the Administration Building.

PDK Watch Needs Your Support

PDK Watch is grateful to those of you who send a check toward the maintenance of the website and the cost of printing and mailing the newsletter. To support this fund, please make a check payable to Sven O. Lovegren and note on the check that it is for PDK Watch. Then please mail to:

PDK Watch

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