

2017 Environmental Affairs Committee Work Plan

Committee Mission Statement

The ACI-NA Environmental Affairs Committee is responsible for the development and implementation of ACI-NA environmental policy positions on issues such as noise, air quality, water quality, waste management, wildlife management, sustainability, and environmental review processes. Committee members work with federal legislators and regulators, aviation industry groups, and international policy makers to develop statutory and regulatory proposals governing the environment at and around airports and the tenants who operate there. The Committee also helps guide federal aviation environmental research programs at FAA and through ACRP.

The Committee provides information and guidance for airport operators in the development of all aspects of environmental management programs. The Committee is represented at the National Academy of Sciences Transportation Research Board, the International Civil Aviation Organization, the FAA's Research, Engineering and Development Advisory Committee, and other industry and government sponsored organizations with a focus on aviation environmental issues.

2017 Committee Leadership

Full Committee Chair:	Rob Hough (Edmonton)
U.S. Caucus Chair:	Kevin Gurchak (Pittsburgh)
U.S. Caucus Vice Chair:	Ellen Lindblad (Ft. Meyers)
Canadian Caucus Chair:	Tara Hull (Winnipeg)
Canadian Caucus Vice Chair:	Derek Gray (Toronto)
Immediate Past Chair:	Bryan Wagoner (Detroit)
Board Liaison:	Rob Wigington (Nashville)
Committee Secretary:	Katherine Preston (ACI-NA)
ACI-NA Canadian Division Staff:	Wayne Harvey (ACI-NA)

Working Groups

Air Quality

Chair: Kris Russell (Dallas Ft.-Worth)
Co-Chair: *vacant*

Land Use Compatibility

Chair: Kelly Moulton (Sacramento)
Co-Chair: Brad Rolf (Mead & Hunt)

Natural Resources

Chair: Chad Willis (Sacramento)
Co-Chair: Sarah Brammell (ERS Environmental)

National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)

Chair: Brenda Enos (Massport)
Co-Chair: Bill Willkie (Reynolds, Smith and Hill)

Noise

Chair: Scott Tatro (Los Angeles)
Co-Chair: Mary Ellen Eagan (HMMH)

Sustainability

Chair: Nate Kimball (PANYNJ)
Co-Chair: Brendan Reed (San Diego)

Waste Management

Chair: Robert Freeman (Los Angeles)
Co-Chair: Amy Malick (Haley & Aldrich)

Water Quality

Chair: Chad Leqve (Minneapolis)
Co-Chair: Dean Mericas (Mead & Hunt)

GENERAL ENVIRONMENTAL

1. Support ACI-NA members in adopting and implementing the revised Environmental Goals and associated practices, including: sharing information; developing educational and reference materials; developing conference sessions.

2. Hold monthly Steering Group calls and quarterly Working Group calls which are open to all committee members.
3. Complete the 2017 Environmental Achievement Awards to recognize outstanding performance by member airports in the areas of environmental management, remediation, outreach and community involvement and special projects. Award winners will be selected and announced in early 2017, with presentations during the spring conference.
4. Develop a draft Sustainability Policy for ACI-NA for consideration by the Board of Directors.
5. Participate in and monitor environmental initiatives impacting airports at ICAO CAEP – specifically in Working Group 2 (Airports and Operations). Issues include noise, climate change adaptation, operations, CO2 emissions, and forecasting and economics activities.
6. Plan, program, market, hold, and evaluate Environmental Affairs Conference, “Airports@Work”, to be held March 27-30, 2017 in Las Vegas, NV.
7. Plan, program, market, hold, and evaluate the joint ACI-NA / A4A Deicing Conference, May 23-24th in the Washington, D.C. area.
8. Plan, program, market, hold, and evaluate Environmental Affairs Seminar and develop concurrent sessions to be held during the ACI-NA Annual Conference & Exhibition in Ft. Worth TX in September 2017.
9. Plan, program, market, hold and evaluate the joint ACI-NA/ AAAE Aviation Noise Conference from October 17-19 in Savannah, GA.
10. Plan, program, market, hold and evaluate the joint ACI-NA / ACC Planning & NEPA Conference in December, 2017 in Washington D.C.

AIR QUALITY

1. Assess the updated FAA *Air Aviation Emissions and Air Quality Handbook* Version 3, develop recommendations on how it can be improved, and work with the FAA to implement these changes.
2. Enhance opportunities for Air Quality Working Group information sharing, by holding bi-monthly hour-long telecons, and publish a bi-annual newsletter topical to the working group.
3. Track other U.S. and Canadian air quality regulatory activities, communicate changes to members and develop ACI-NA response as appropriate.

LAND USE COMPATIBILITY

1. Educate members (via quarterly calls, webinars, conference sessions) on how compatible land use policies and guidance can benefit the community and potential developers, as well as the airport; and how the airport can monitor the local government’s efforts to follow through on the implementation of the compatible land use policy/regulation. Provide updates to the Environmental Affairs Committee.
2. Coordination and preparation of ACI-NA’s response to FAA Airport Land Use Compatibility Advisory Circular 150/5190-4A draft, expected in early 2017.
3. Collaborate with the NEPA, Noise and NextGen Working Groups to develop resources for member airports on the land use compatibility implications of NextGen implementation and non-aeronautical

land use.

4. Prepare an ACRP project proposal for the update of the land use survey of states and provinces for preparation of airport land use compatibility plans and policies. The reference document would be intended to provide resources to airport staff for the protection of airports from incompatible land uses that impair current and future airport/aircraft operations and safety and constrain airport development.

NATURAL RESOURCES

1. Provide the committee updates to regulatory information related to FAA requirements for Wildlife Hazard Assessments, Management Plans, and training. When applicable, work with the committee to collect and consolidate comments on draft documents or draft regulatory changes.
2. Work with the committee to provide examples of mitigation efforts that were successful at airports (via conference calls, webinar, conference session and/or memo). Mitigation could be related to wetlands, protected species, habitats or other natural resources. The intent is to provide a panel presentation of “best practices” and “lessons learned.”

NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT (NEPA)

1. Advise the Committee and ACI-NA members in general of changes in the regulatory environment, obtain input, and pursue improved guidance through comments and feedback to the FAA. The Working Group provides feedback on the recently published NEPA Order 1050.1F and Desk Reference, and the Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) 5.00, CATEX Determinations. The working group will continue to provide input and feedback on the forthcoming draft of the Office of Airports NEPA Order 5050.4C and its associated Desk Reference. This includes planning and holding a workshop on 5050.4C.
2. Continue to promote better integration of planning and NEPA reviews, through the working group quarterly calls, conference sessions and coordination with the Operations and Technical Affairs Committee.
3. Continue to collaborate with the Operations & Technical Affairs and Legal Committees on issues related to non-aeronautical development and NEPA requirements for Airport Layout Plan changes around which there are differing interpretations.
4. Collaborate with Noise Working Group and other working groups as appropriate to track and provide feedback on FAA's efforts to update their community engagement manual/ guidance documents.

NOISE

1. Report on current status of major noise initiatives and research (including FAA, ASCENT and ACRP research projects) for the benefit of ACI-NA members, and advocate for airport interests regarding future noise research projects with FAA. Work with FAA to identify and understand all the potential policy implications of a new noise significance threshold that could result from noise research projects.
2. Communicate noise regulatory updates to members and develop proactive policy positions to advance the interests of ACI-NA members, including holding quarterly calls, webinars and developing conference sessions. Provide support to the ACI-NA Government Affairs department on legislative issues (e.g. FAA Reauthorization) regarding noise.
3. Report on developments in noise modeling and assessment.

4. Track and report on noise related issues associated with NextGen development, and participate in appropriate federal advisory committees and discussion groups, for example the NextGen Advisory Committee PBN Blueprint group. Identify potential policy implications affecting airports and advocate solutions acceptable to airports industry. Work with NextGen Working Group (joint WG with Ops/Tech) to develop guidance materials for airports regarding NextGen implementation.
5. Along with ACI-NA staff, plan, market, hold and evaluate the second joint ACI-NA/ AAAE Aviation Noise Conference from October 17-19, 2016 in Savannah, GA.

SUSTAINABILITY

1. To understand, and in some instances influence, new or recognized sustainability reporting and rating systems to be of utility to airports to better assess, enhance and track industry performance. In 2017, priority topics include Envision (Institute for Sustainable Infrastructure), ParkSmart (Green Building Certification Institute), and the new Global Reporting Initiative Standards.
2. To foster information exchange about airport and industry sustainability initiatives through its quarterly Sustainability Newsletter, webinars, and other outreach methods. In 2017, topics of particular interest include carbon offsets (especially as it relates to Airport Carbon Accreditation Level 3+ certification) and VW Settlement funding opportunities. In addition, new sustainability-related best practices identified through ACRP report findings will be summarized and shared.
3. Provide the Committee updates on FAA and Canadian sustainability initiatives and requirements. Follow, analyze, and provide feedback on relevant regulatory activities to help more effectively integrate sustainability into the airport industry.
4. Assist ACI-NA in continuing its sustainability leadership and commitment to the “Triple Bottom Line.” Specifically, the Working Group will help further refine and track the implementation of the Sustainable Conference Guidelines. The Working Group will also draft a formal Sustainability Policy Statement for the organization’s consideration.

WASTE MANAGEMENT

1. Provide a forum for airports to share best management practices through ACI Work Group Meetings and/or quarterly phone conferences, facilitate information on recycling, and support development of waste management program. In 2016 this can be accomplished by facilitating any discussions with FAA on their Recycling Guidance Document with interested parties; (2) Supporting and/or moderating panels at any upcoming ACI-NA Environmental Affairs conferences addressing challenges of managing waste; (3) Partnering with regulators and presenting an educational webinar in Late Spring/-Early Summer of 2016 on how to prepare an airport waste recycling plan that meets the requirements of the Advisory Circular (AC) on the topic; and (4) Updating ACI-NA Environmental Goals to include a commitment of all major and medium-size hub ACI-NA member airports to set a goal of implementing recycling plans that could possibly follow the FAA Guidance on recycling.
2. Partner with A4A on a formal deplaned waste management strategy with the goal of airlines improving their waste minimization/recycling performance, and develop an educational session on this topic for an Environmental Affairs Conference; (2) Partner with ACRP and A4A and identify opportunities to present an educational webinar on ACRP Guidance for Managing Deplaned Wastes (Synthesis Report 100).

WATER QUALITY

1. Provide continuing support to ACI-NA’s role as a Program Partner and the Steering Group that directs implementation of the Voluntary Pollution Reduction Program (VPRP). Support completion of the Final Program Report. Facilitate ongoing VPRP success by developing relevant content for

ACI-NA environmental committee conferences and the biennial joint deicing conference.

Develop and facilitate a strategy for ACI-NA members to carry forward and further develop the concept of the BOD management Capacity to provide continuing benefits to the airports community.

2. Participate in the SAE G12 and IATA initiatives regarding the impacts of airfield pavement deicers on Carbon Brake Catalytic Oxidation (CBCO) in aircraft brakes. Facilitate interactions between the leaders of the initiatives, North American airports, and their environmental regulatory agencies. Communicate important initiatives, findings, and recommendations to ACI-NA membership.
3. Stay abreast of U.S. and Canadian regulatory developments regarding water quality (such as the WOTUS, Multi-Sector General Permit or PFOS issues) and analyze potential impacts to airports. Provide and facilitate comments/input to regulatory agencies as necessary. Communicate concise summaries of relevant issues and their implications to the ACI-NA membership through quarterly calls and webinars as appropriate. Request feedback from airports regarding their local issues and concerns identified by these pending rule changes. Elevate priority issues to WQ Action Item status as appropriate in the future. Facilitate guidance and information sharing relative to compliance strategies.
4. Track issues related to drinking water at airports, including liaising with A4A and/or IATA, to share best practices and develop educational materials for members.