

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Honorable Chair and Members of the Board of County Commissioners

FROM: Joe Kerby, County Manager

RE: Part 150 Airport Noise Study Focus Groups

Date: 5/13/2025

Staff Recommendation: Resolved that the Board of County Commissioners (BCC) approve an amendment to the RS&H contract for the Part 150 Airport Noise Study, dated 09/12/2024, upon approval as to form by the County Attorney Office to modify the scope of work to reflect the formation of three focus groups, direct that expenses associated with the amendment be included in a supplemental for an amount not to exceed \$175,000 appropriation to the Airport Fund for 2025, and direct airport staff to select members for each of the focus groups.

Resolution No: CC25-125

Background: The Part 150 Airport Noise Study requires: 1) technical consultation with aircraft operators and aeronautical users of the airport, and 2) public participation through community involvement programs. The Airport's Part 150 Study consultant typically convenes a single advisory committee to address both requirements. To encourage more focused discussions and enhanced participation while remaining within the scope of the Part 150 process, the Airport proposes creating three focus groups—one each for airport users, local planners, and community members. This structure allows each group of stakeholders to address concerns specific to their group, ensuring clear and comprehensive feedback that is fully aligned with Part 150 requirements.

This method does not alter the study's goals or deliverables but refines how input is gathered. Insights from each focus group will be incorporated into

the Part 150 process, and any additional costs will be covered by the Airport rather than the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) grant. By adhering to FAA guidelines and the established Part 150 framework, the airport can maintain transparency and balance while collecting diverse perspectives. The focus group approach and necessary modification to the existing, FAA-approved scope-of-work is still subject to FAA approval. However, staff believes that the proposed approach is consistent with Federal regulatory requirements for a Part 150 study.

To represent community interests effectively, the airport will appoint up to eight individuals to the Community Focus Group, ideally including two members from each of the adjacent neighboring communities (City and County of Broomfield, Jefferson County, City of Westminster, and Town of Superior). Participants must demonstrate a genuine interest in airport-related issues and should commit to attending all scheduled meetings. Similarly, airport staff will invite two local planning staff from each of the adjacent jurisdictions. The airport user group will be nine members consisting of a mix of business and aeronautical users of the airport. The airport will review applications to ensure a balanced representation, leading to a more productive and transparent Part 150 Noise Study.

Fiscal Impact: The airport fund would cover the additional costs necessary to implement three separate focus groups as part of the Part 150 Airport Noise Study, for an additional cost of approximately \$163,510.

BCC Briefing Presented on: 2/25/2025

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