

# FUTURE OF AVIATION

Wednesday, August 3, 2022

Advancing Aerial Mobility  
through Technology, Sustainability,  
and On-Demand Flight

San Francisco International Airport

Berkeley Institute of  
Transportation Studies



## Environmental Impacts: Weather, Noise, Visual Pollution, and Land Use Privacy

### Moderator



**Paul Wheeler**  
WSP

### Panelists



**Ryan Biziorek**  
Arup



**Timothy  
Middleton**  
HMMH



**Brendan Reed**  
San Diego  
International Airport



**Colleen Reiche**  
EY-Parthenon

# BRENDAN REED A.A.E.

## DIRECTOR OF AIRPORT PLANNING & ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS SAN DIEGO COUNTY REGIONAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY

- Oversees policies concerning airport site planning, airport land use compatibility, corporate sustainability, environmental compliance, and noise abatement
- Co-Chair of the AAEE Emerging Aviation Technologies Working Group
- North American representative on ACI World Environment Standing Committee
- Developing a “Regional AAM Strategy” in partnership with the San Diego Association of Governments and other community stakeholders.





# COLLEEN REICHE PH.D

## SENIOR DIRECTOR EY-PARTHENON

- Lead a UAM Market Study for NASA ARMD
- Recently completed a prototype weather camera platform technical evaluation for the FAA
- Lead experiment design for assessing implications of eVTOL flight ride quality on passenger comfort using a flight simulator for a NASA study
- Developed an AAM Weather Roadmap for NASA synthesizing and visualizing key ongoing and planned research, development, policy, standards, and regulatory activities in AAM weather that will likely help enable UML-4 operations.



# CHRIS FERNANDO

## ADVISOR AND ADVANCED AIR MOBILITY CONSULTANT

- Led multiple large contracts and engagements with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), the Volpe National Transportation Systems Center (Volpe), the Airport Cooperative Research Program (ACRP), and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)
- Currently supporting client engagements focused on AAM integration for FAA, airports and state/local regions
- Adjunct professor at Florida Institute of Technology teaching a course on the ecosystem of UAM.
- Co-Host of the No U-Turn Podcast with Basil Yap and Ravi Singh





# RYAN BIZIOREK

## ASSOCIATE PRINCIPAL - AMERICAS EAST GEOGRAPHY ACOUSTICS, AV, THEATER, AND EXPERIENCE DESIGN LEADER - ARUP

- Experience in terminal buildings, environmental noise analysis, public address and audiovisual systems design, and Urban Air Mobility noise policy and simulations.
- Contributes to the operation and development of the Arup SoundLab, a virtual reality room where clients can experience in 3-D an existing or future acoustic environment.
- Licensed private pilot and Part 107 drone pilot with multi-engine, instrument, commercial, and high-performance rating.



# TIMOTHY MIDDLETON C.M.

## Principal Consultant HMMH

- Fifteen years of airport management, noise abatement, and environmental compliance experience.
- Thought leader at HMMH fostering community acceptance of new aircraft entrants into the airspace that includes Advanced Air Mobility (AAM), and electric vertical take-off and landing (eVTOL) aircraft.
- HMMH AAM projects
  - Human Response to UAM for NASA
  - Noise Assessment in Support of Part 135 for FAA
  - NASA SBIR Phase 2: AAM Community Integration Tool
  - UAM Modeling in AEDT for FAA/NASA





# PAUL WHEELER

## Principal Consultant, Director, Aerial Innovation WSP USA Inc.

- 24 years experience in surface and air transportation industries.
- Led ACRP Report 243 (03-50) - An Airport-Centric Study of the Urban Air Mobility Market
- Leading Utah AAM Integration Study
- Recognized by Commercial UAV Expo and InterDrone as one of the top UAS visionaries.



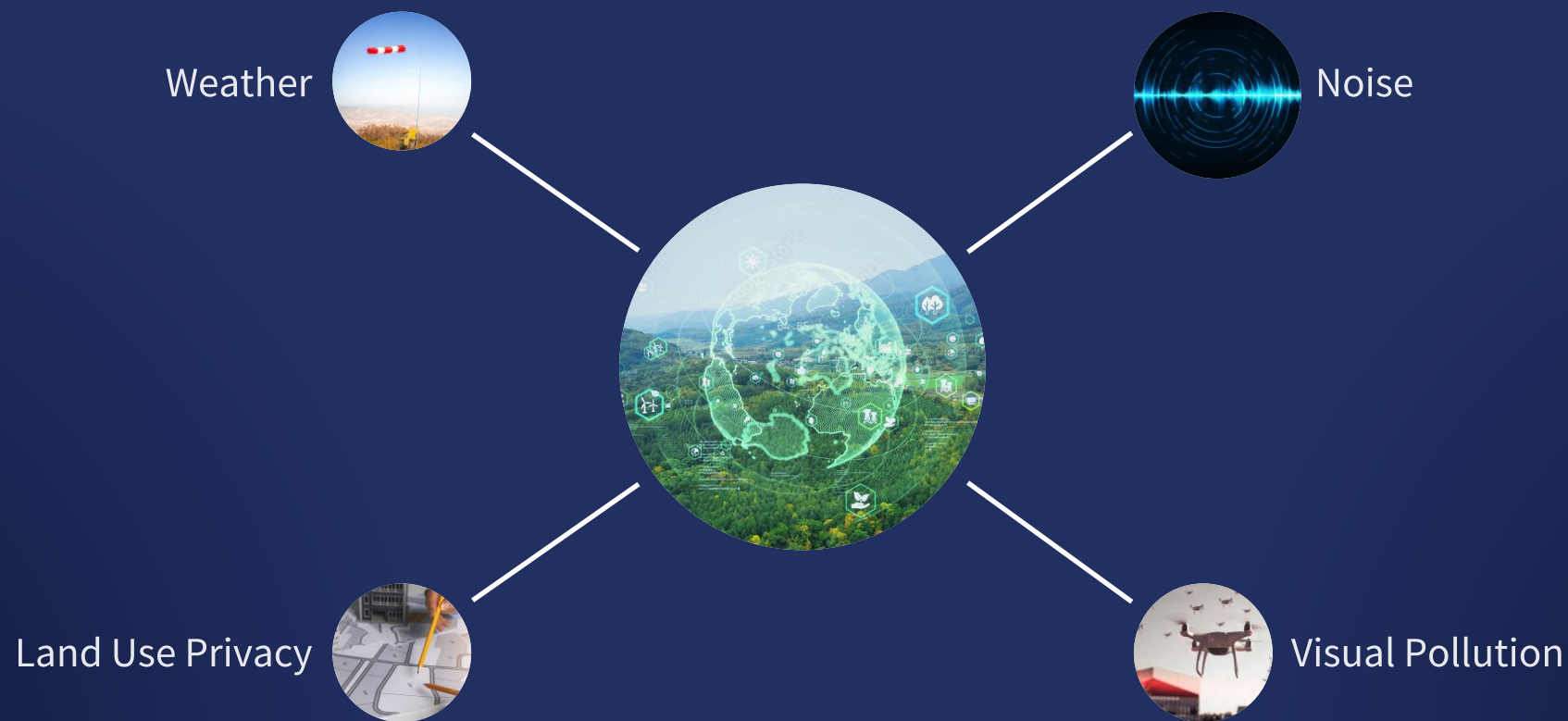
# Participate!

- *Navigate to Slido.com*
- *Use meeting code #2637125*
- *Select the Room - Looper*





# AAM ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS



# WEATHER INFLUENCE ON AAM

- AAM aircraft are **smaller and more sensitive** to many types of adverse weather than larger planes.
- Operations occur at **lower altitudes**, within the complex and currently **undersampled** atmospheric boundary layer.
- Flights will operate closer to **urban environments** than commercial aviation.





# NOISE CONSIDERATIONS FOR AAM



Public **Perception**



**Noise** Level and Type



Federal, State, & Local **Policies**



# VISUAL POLLUTION CONSIDERATIONS FOR AAM



Sky as a Natural Resource



Balance Convenience with Quality of Life



What will be the Aesthetic Impacts of Low-Level Aircraft On Views and/or Natural Environment?





# LAND USE & PRIVACY CONSIDERATIONS FOR AAM

- Mitigate and Address Privacy Concerns
- Multimodal Integration
- Impacts and Modifications to Current Policies
- Flight Paths To/From Vertiports

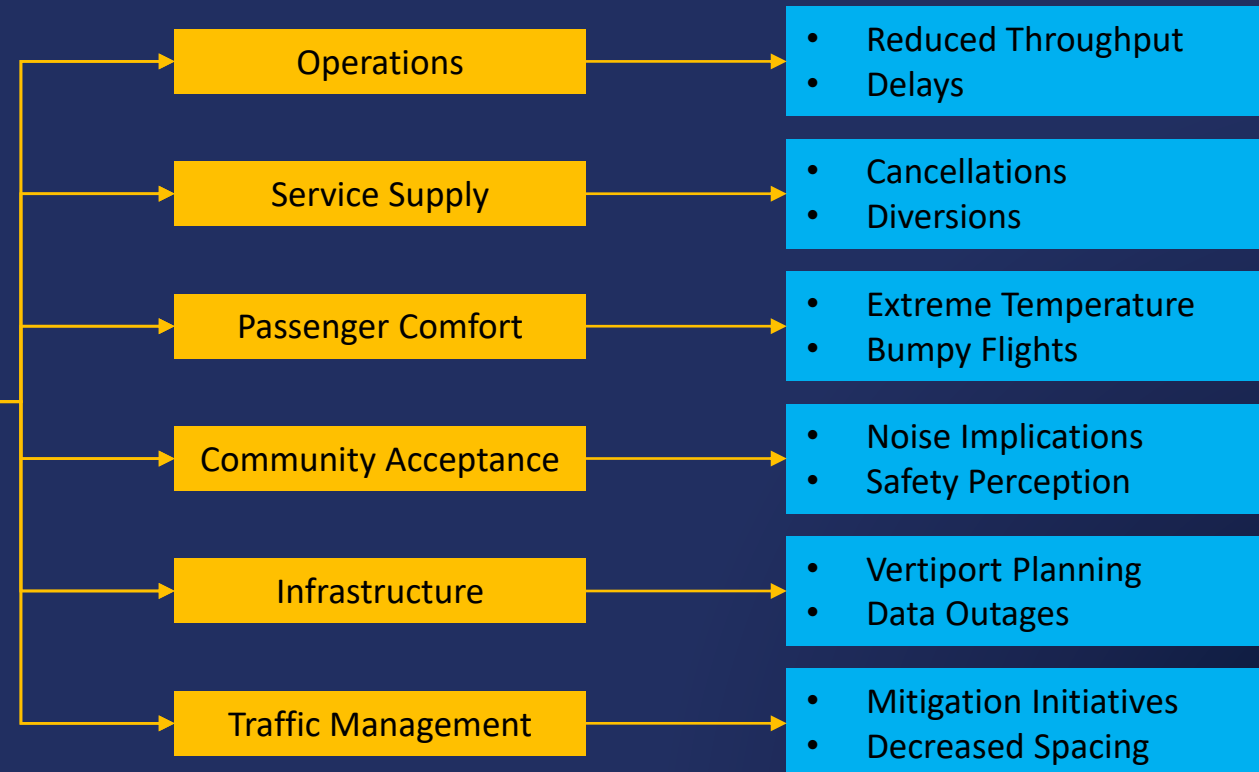
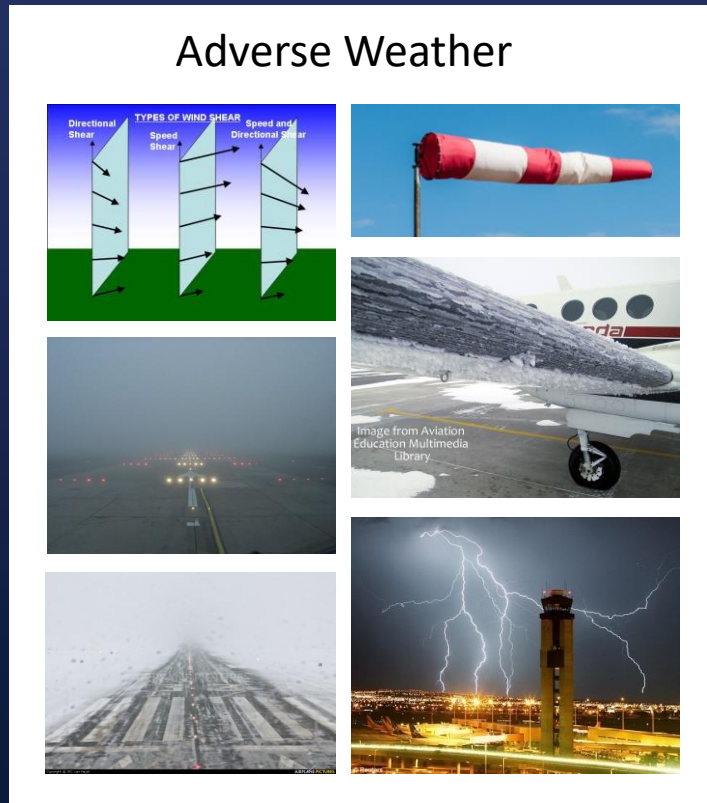


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# Potential Adverse Weather Disruptions



# Addressing AAM Weather Needs

**Development and deployment of new sensors and technology can address AAM weather needs and improve forecasts.**

-  **Weather sensors** can be placed on aircraft to collect airborne observations, like those currently used on commercial aircraft.
-  **Advisory systems** such as weather cameras, “backyard” weather stations and radar networks can provide raw and processed information.
-  **Satellite observations** can provide a useful “top-down” view, especially in areas with limited surface sensors.

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# What do we know about noise from novel aircraft?

Aviation Noise Regulations

Traditional noise metrics that have been proposed and/or used:

- DNL, as defined by FAA Order 1050.1F
- SEL, the Sound Exposure Level, for individual events
- L<sub>Amax</sub>, the maximum A-weighted level, for individual events
- OASPL or L<sub>max</sub>, the maximum overall sound pressure level, for individual events
- One third octave spectra at sensitive receptors
- Number of Events
- Non-Acoustic factors will play a vital role in acceptance

# Noise Issues to Consider

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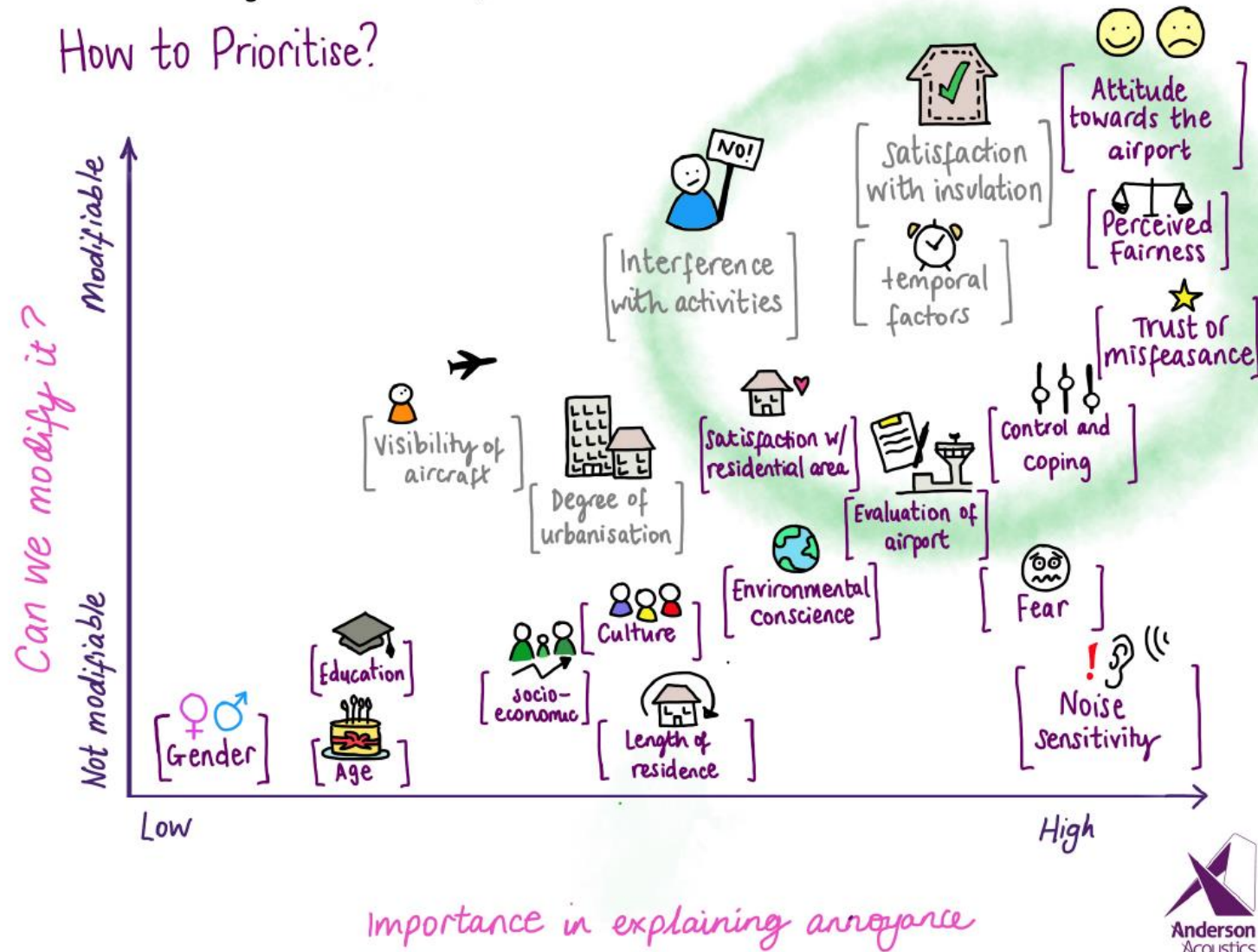
## How loud will these aircraft be?

- Decibel levels may be “quieter” than existing helicopters
- Current lack of data on the noise of the proposed eVTOL aircraft
- Multiple propellers will generate a unique noise signature
- The noise of AAM may be bothersome and annoying to residents (subjective)
- Community understanding could lead to acceptance
- Not pure loudness, but other aspects of audibility will be important.



# Non-Acoustic Factors in Noise Management Strategy

How to Prioritise?



What are non-acoustic factors?



# Non-acoustic factors: strength and modifiability

Non-acoustic Factors	Strong	Intermediate	Weak
Modifiable	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attitude toward the source</li> <li>• Choice in insulation</li> <li>• Choice in compensation (personal)</li> <li>• Influence, voice</li> <li>• Perceived control</li> <li>• Recognition of concern</li> <li>• Trust</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Avoidability</li> <li>• Choice in compensation (societal)</li> <li>• Expectations regarding future of the source</li> <li>• Information (accessibility and transparency)</li> <li>• Predictability of noise situation</li> <li>• Procedural fairness</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Media coverage and heightened awareness to noise</li> <li>• Social Status</li> </ul>
Non-modifiable	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Age (&lt;55)</li> <li>• Income</li> <li>• Individual sensitivity to noise</li> <li>• Past experience with the source</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Duration of residency</li> <li>• Fear related to the noise source</li> <li>• Home ownership</li> <li>• Use of airport services</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Age (&gt;55)</li> <li>• Awareness of negative consequences</li> <li>• Children</li> <li>• Education</li> </ul>
Unsure (need to be examined)	Conviction that noise could be reduced or avoided by others	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Benefits from airport (personal, societal)</li> <li>• Cross-cultural differences</li> <li>• Country of origin</li> </ul>	

Source: Vader, 2007

# Non-acoustic factors: strength and modifiability

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Source: Vader, 2007

# Potential Concerns with AAM

## Flight Paths & En-Route Operations

- Multimodal Integration
- Equity (e.g., impact of operations)
- Air congestion/Ops Tempo
- Noise and Visual Pollution
- Privacy
- Air traffic over sensitive land uses

## Vertiports

Multimodal Integration and Ground Congestion

Equity (e.g., gentrification)

Approach Congestion/Ops Tempo

Noise and Visual Pollution

## Cross-Cutting Issues

Equity and Affordability

Safety

Privacy



# Equity

Where a vertiport gets placed could have huge implications for:

- Environmental impacts
  - Flight paths to/from a vertiport
  - Vertiport vicinity
- Affordability of Services
- Access for People with Disabilities
- Gentrification and displacement
- Allocation of limited public resources

# Community Acceptance

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- Stakeholder engagement must go beyond current best practices
  - Planning is at the core of a successful approach
  - Early identification of key stakeholders is critical
  - Clear messaging tailored to stakeholder groups is required
- Production of AAM-related materials is important
  - Strategic use of social and traditional media should also be considered
- Auralization provides stakeholders a means to hear the experience prior to implementation

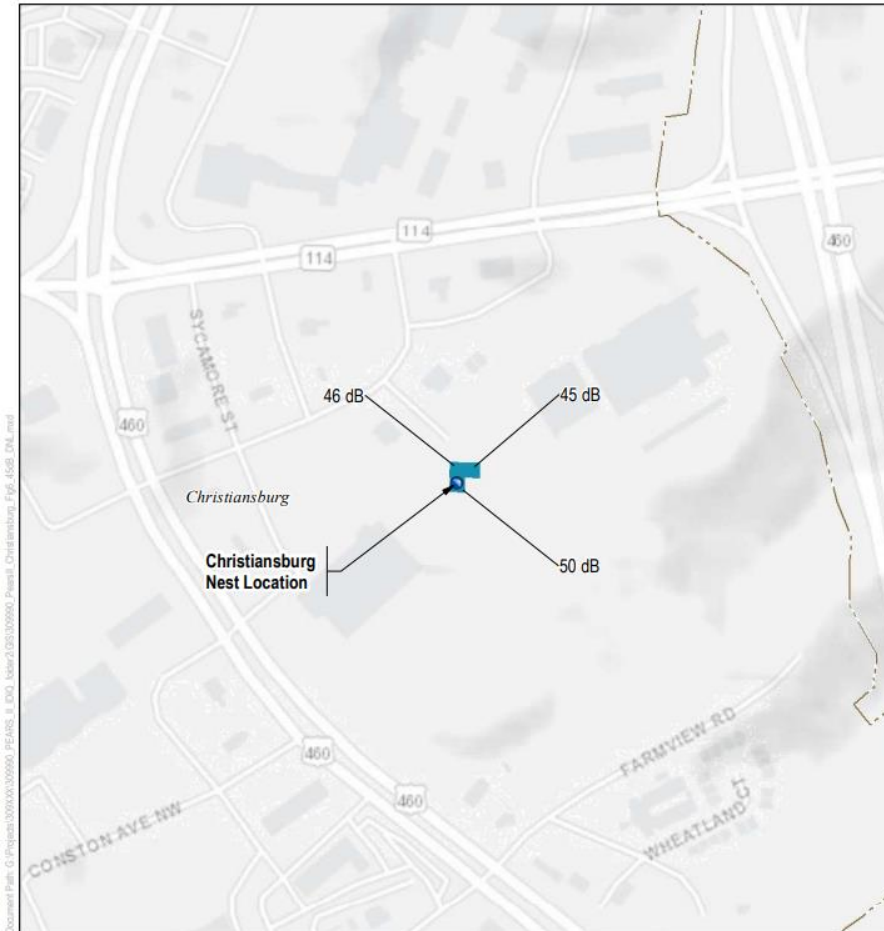
# Noise Assessment in support of Part 135 for FAA

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- Noise analysis of the proposed activity was conducted based upon computer simulations of projected delivery operations from the two delivery stations of an Unmanned Aircraft (UA), produced by the aircraft operator.
- Using available noise measurement data collected for the Unmanned Aircraft in various operating states.
- Results of the noise analysis in terms of the Day-Night Average Sound Level (DNL) and Numbers of Events Above 60 dB LAmax (NA60) for Average Annual Daily Operations (AAD).



# Wing Christiansburg

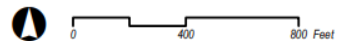


City Limits  
Major / Minor Roads  
Railroad  
Water / Stream

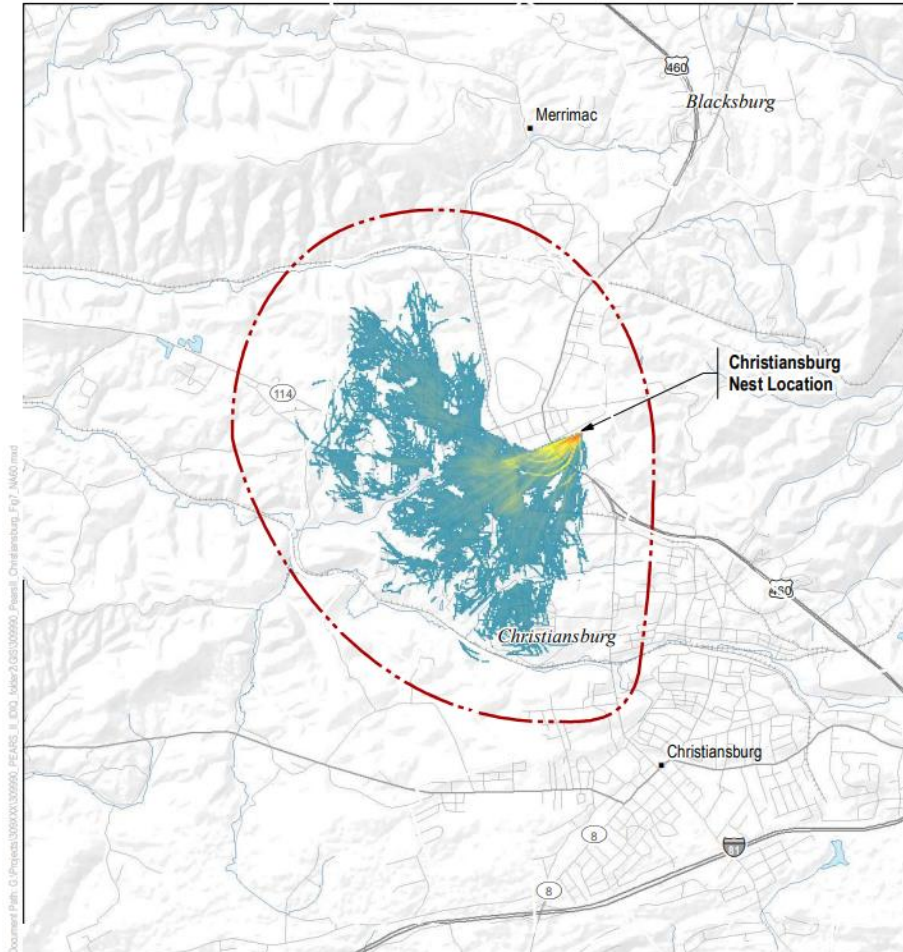
45 - 50 dB DNL  
Analysis Grid Cell Size =  
1/16 Acre (52 ft x 52 ft)

**Christiansburg, Virginia  
Nest Location Operations**

Figure: 6  
Areas with DNL 45 dB or Greater



17

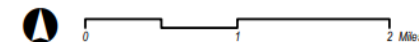


Study Area  
City Limits  
Major / Minor Roads  
Railroad  
Water / Stream

90 Events (NA60)  
Analysis Grid Cell Size =  
1/16 Acre (52 ft x 52 ft)  
1 Event (NA60)

**Christiansburg, Virginia  
Nest Location Operations**

Figure: 7  
Average Annual Daily Number of  
Events Above 60 dB LA<sub>max</sub> (NA60)



Source: HMMH, 2021





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< NoiseNoise Threshold

Off

No notifications

80 decibels

Limit: 5hr 30min/day

85 decibels

Limit: 1hr 45min/day

90 decibels

Limit: 30min/day

✓

95 decibels

Limit: 10min/day

100 decibels

Limit: 3min/day

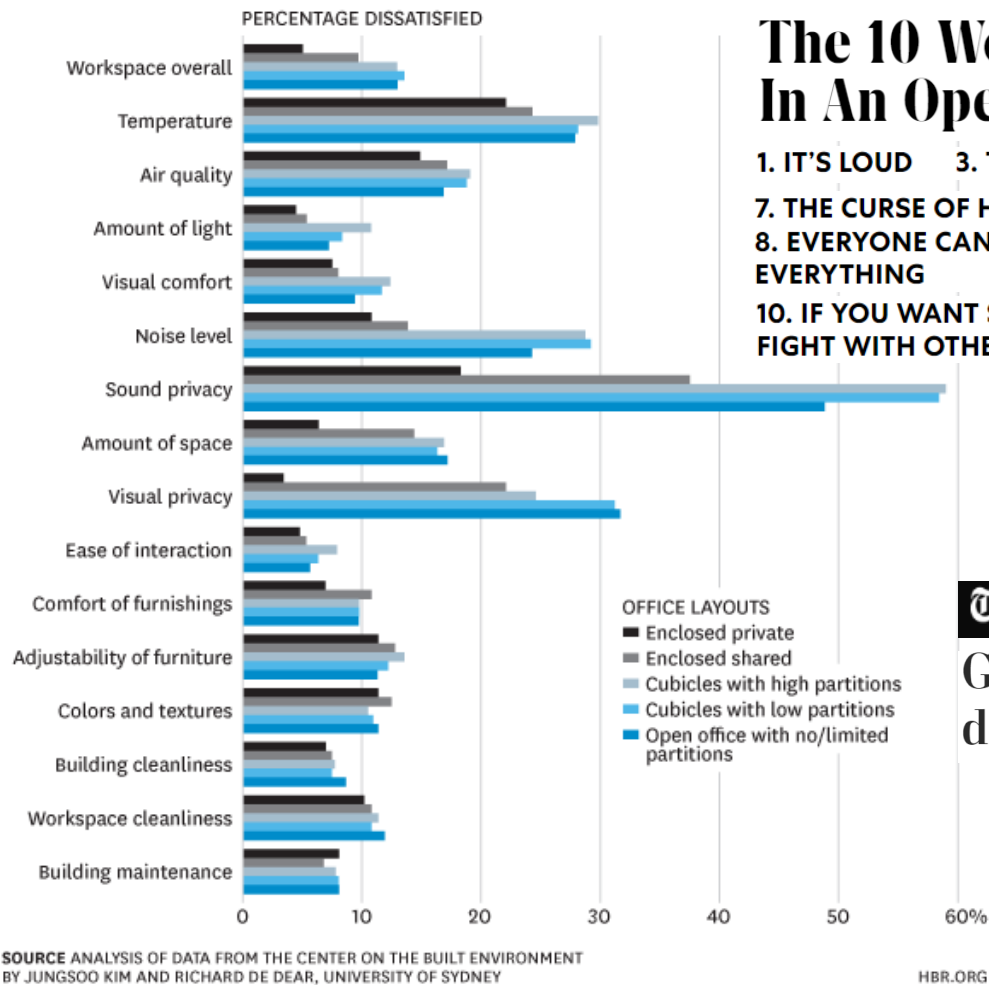
Receive a notification when the average sound level over 3 minutes reaches or exceeds 90 decibels.



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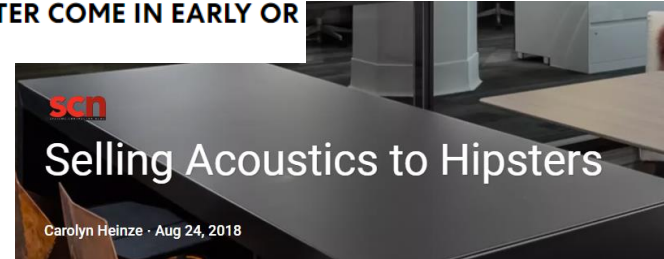
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## The 10 Worst Things About Working In An Open-Office In Your Words

1. IT'S LOUD
3. THERE'S ABSOLUTELY NO PRIVACY
7. THE CURSE OF HEADPHONES
8. EVERYONE CAN HEAR EVERY CONVERSATION ABOUT EVERYTHING
10. IF YOU WANT SOME PRIVACY, YOU BETTER COME IN EARLY OR FIGHT WITH OTHERS FOR SPACE



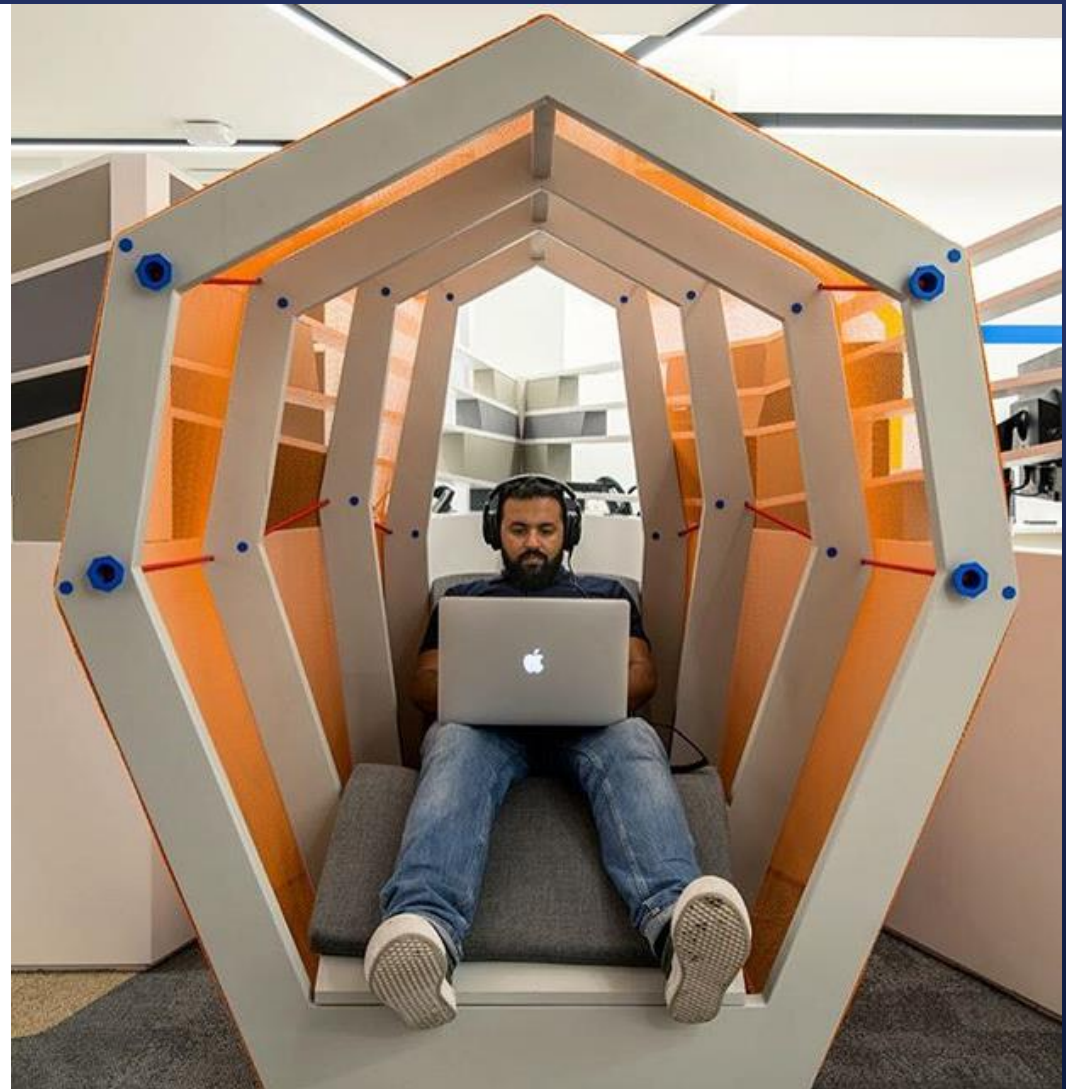
**The Washington Post**

Google got it wrong. The open-office trend is destroying the workplace.

**Chicago Tribune**

The open office plan is a disaster





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# The Isolator

By HUGO GERNSBACK

MEMBER AMERICAN PHYSICAL SOCIETY

The author at work in his private study aided by the Isolator. Outside noises being eliminated, the worker can concentrate with ease upon the subject at hand.



## Boston Logan International Airport



**Figure 6**  
**Runway 33L Flight Track**  
**Dispersion Comparison**

### LEGEND

- Runway 33L RNAV SID Noise Model Departure Flight Tracks (Expected Flyability Track)
- Post Implementation RNAV Runway 33L Departures
- Pre Implementation Runway 33L Departures
- Waypoint
- Study Area
- Community within Study Area
- County Boundary
- BOS VOR/DME
- Interstate
- Highway

Note: Procedure applies to RNAV-capable Jet aircraft. Turboprop and non-RNAV capable aircraft use LOGAN SIX Conventional SID.



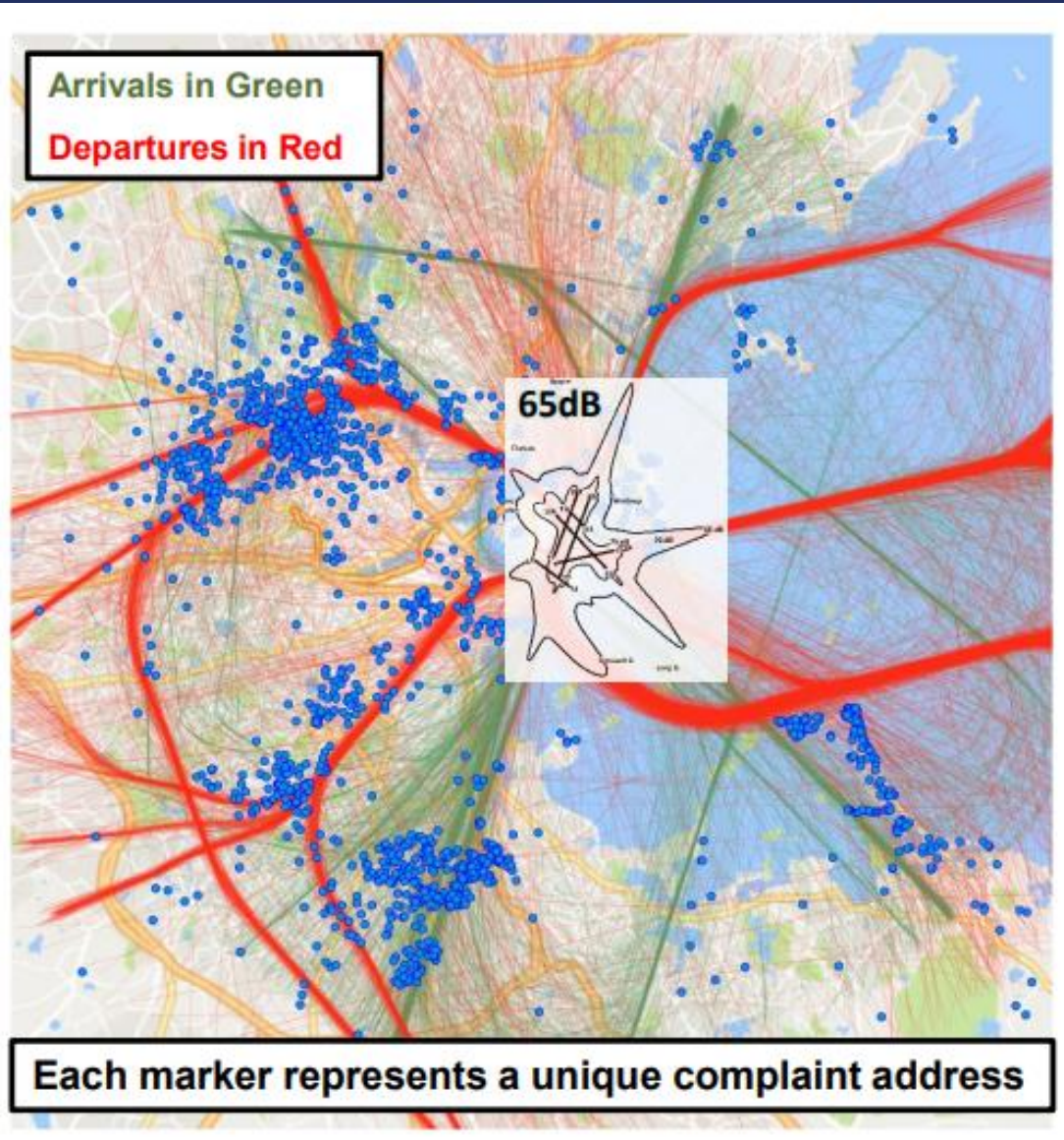
### Boston Logan International Airport Runway 33L RNAV SID

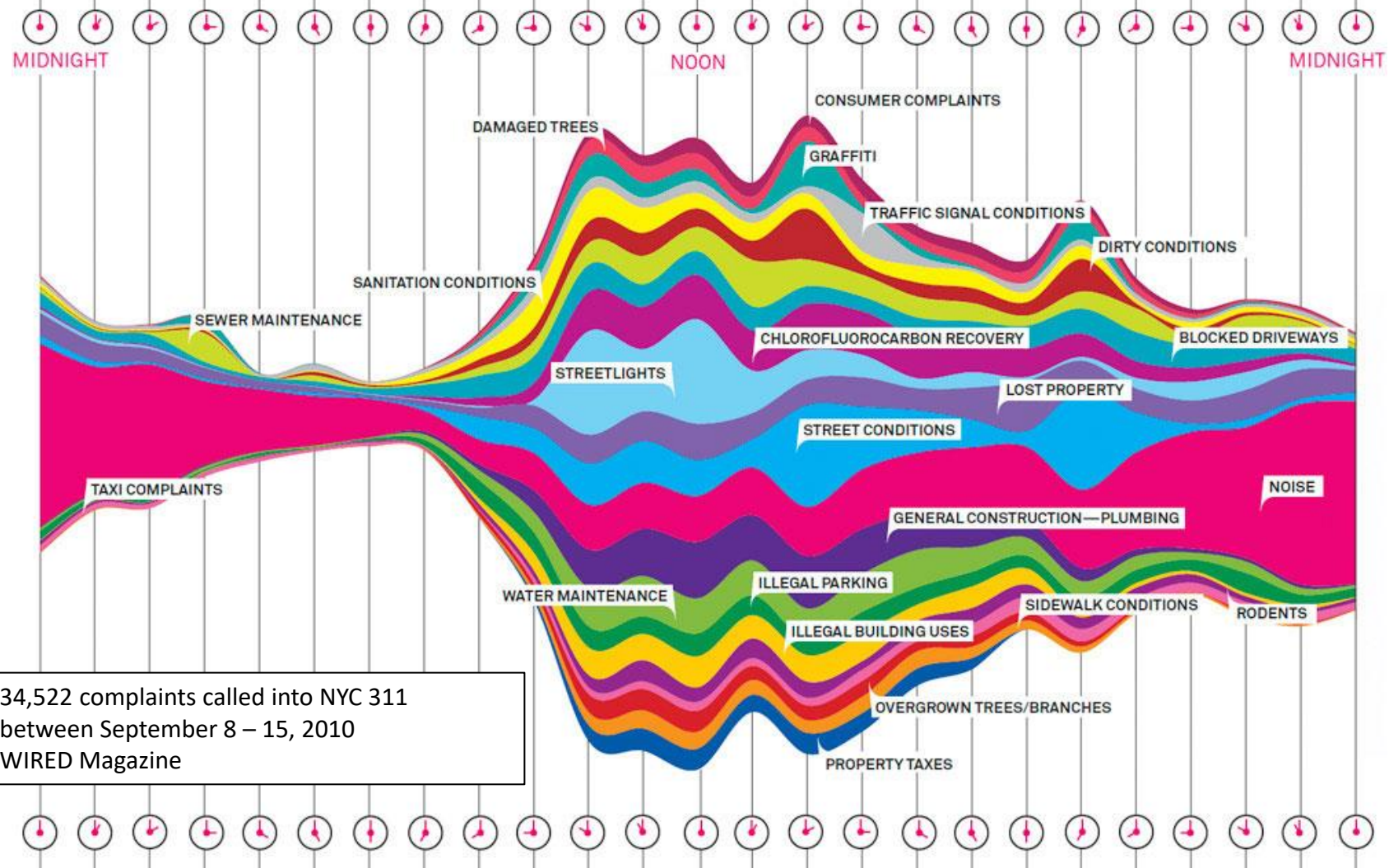
Source: Radar Data: RNAV: Two representative days per month, June through December 2013. Non RNAV: Two representative days per month between November 2013 and March 2013. RNAV TARGETS (FAA PAIN Integration Office, Office of Geographic Information (WashDC), 2013). \*The COLYN and COUSY waypoints switched names in the final procedure design for the Runway 33L RNAV SID.

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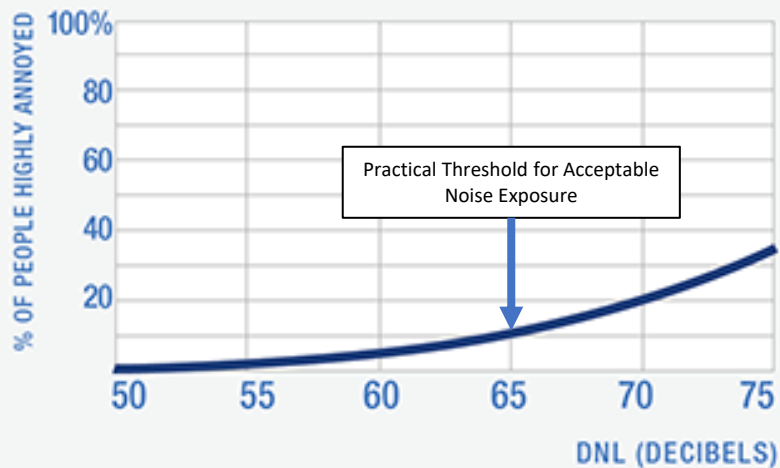




# FAA Neighborhood Environmental Survey

## Schultz to National Curve

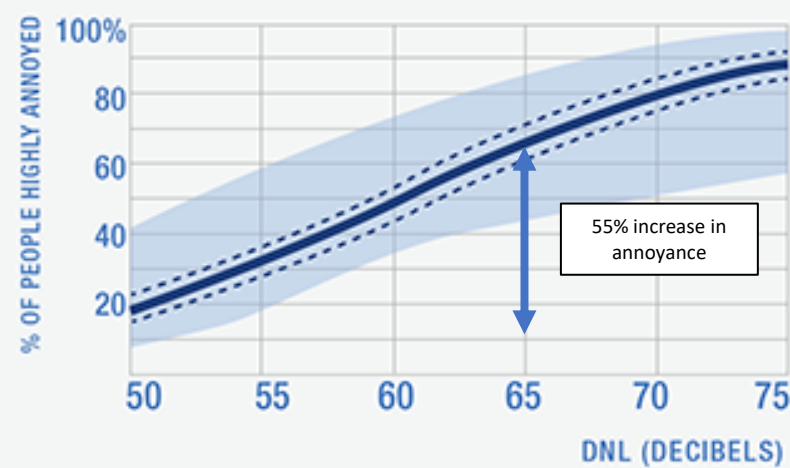
### SCHULTZ CURVE



— Schultz Curve

Based on studies in 1978 & 1992

### NATIONAL CURVE



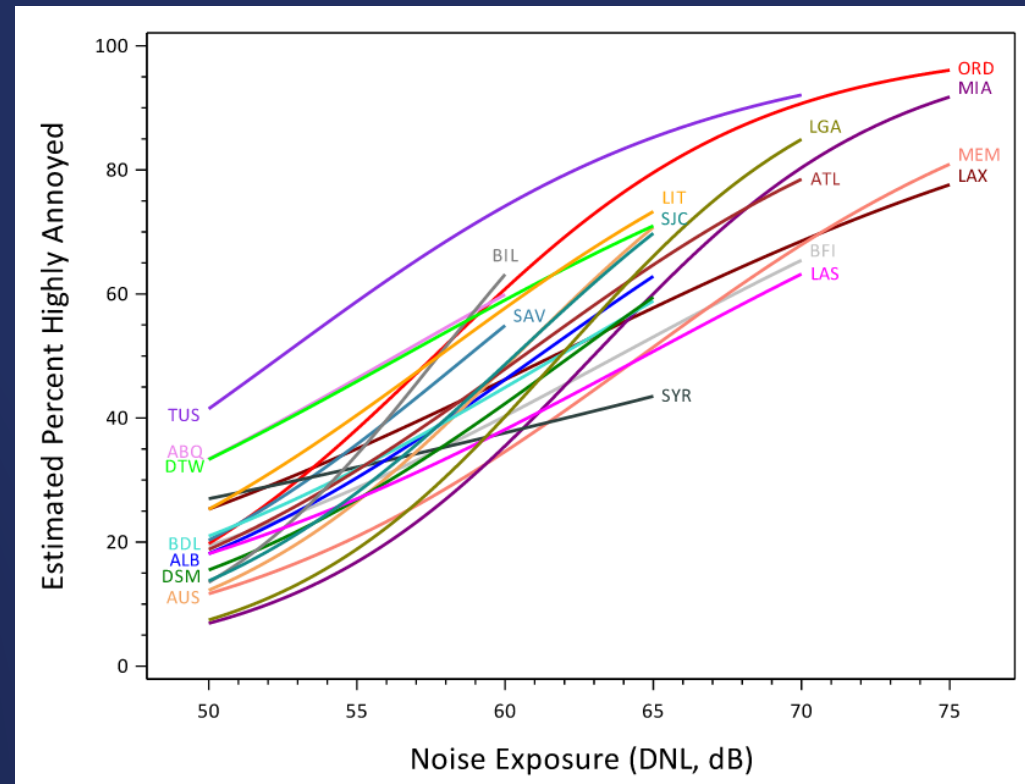
— National Curve

- - - National Curve 95% Confidence Limits

Range of Available Airports Curves

Completed in 2021 from 10,000 survey respondents

# FAA Neighborhood Environmental Survey





# What we see in the press...



*"When you experience a Volocopter for the first time, **you'll be astounded by how quiet it is**. Because all 18 rotors acoustically operate within a narrow frequency range, to the human ear they sound only twice as loud as one single rotor. For comparison: A Volocopter 2X within a 75-metre distance is as quiet as the smallest helicopter within 500 metres distance."*



*"The S-A1 will be **much quieter than conventional helicopters** with smaller and multiple rotors rotating at much slower speeds than the main rotor of a typical helicopter"*

# What we see in the press...



"At only 45 dba, Archer aircraft are **designed to be virtually inaudible** while flying overhead."



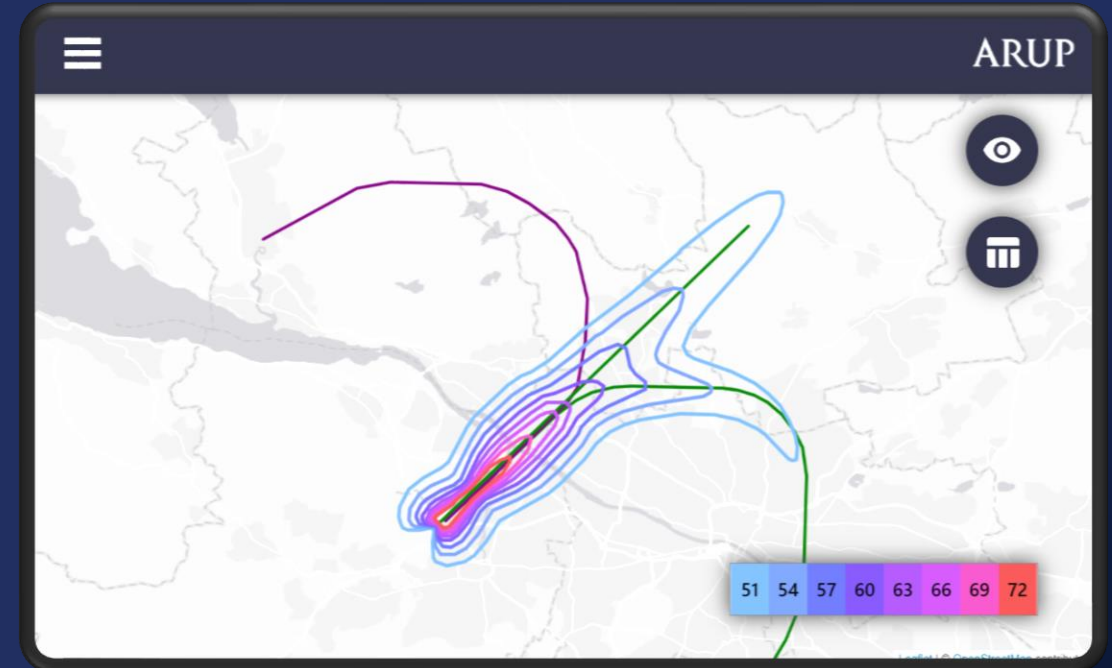
"We've (Harmony Aeronautics) developed a propulsor that is **8x quieter** and 50% more efficient than a drone (multi-rotor) design. The patent-pending technology is already **15 dB quieter than emerging EU noise standards** and has dual-use potential in civilian and military markets."

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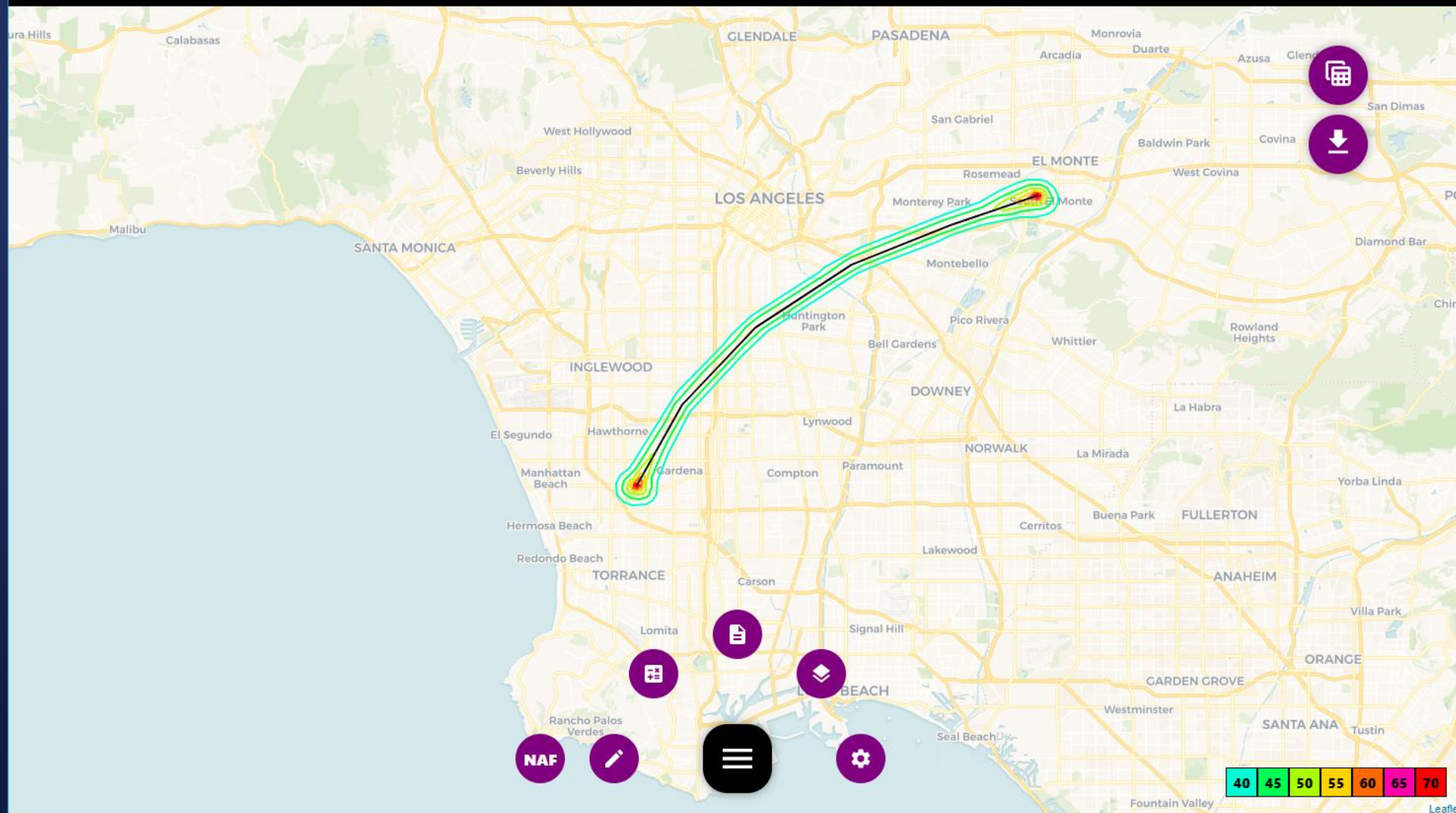
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# UAM Optioneering Tool

- An interactive tool for comparing different UAM airspace design options

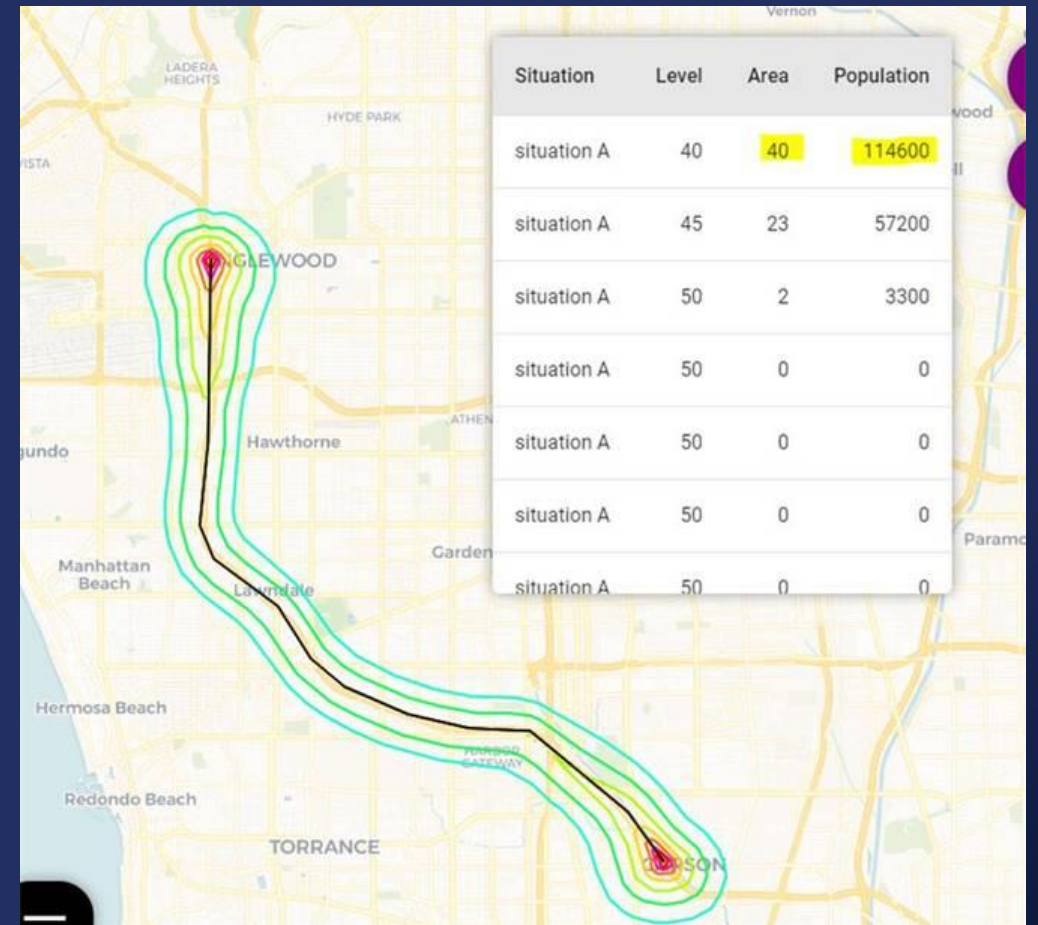
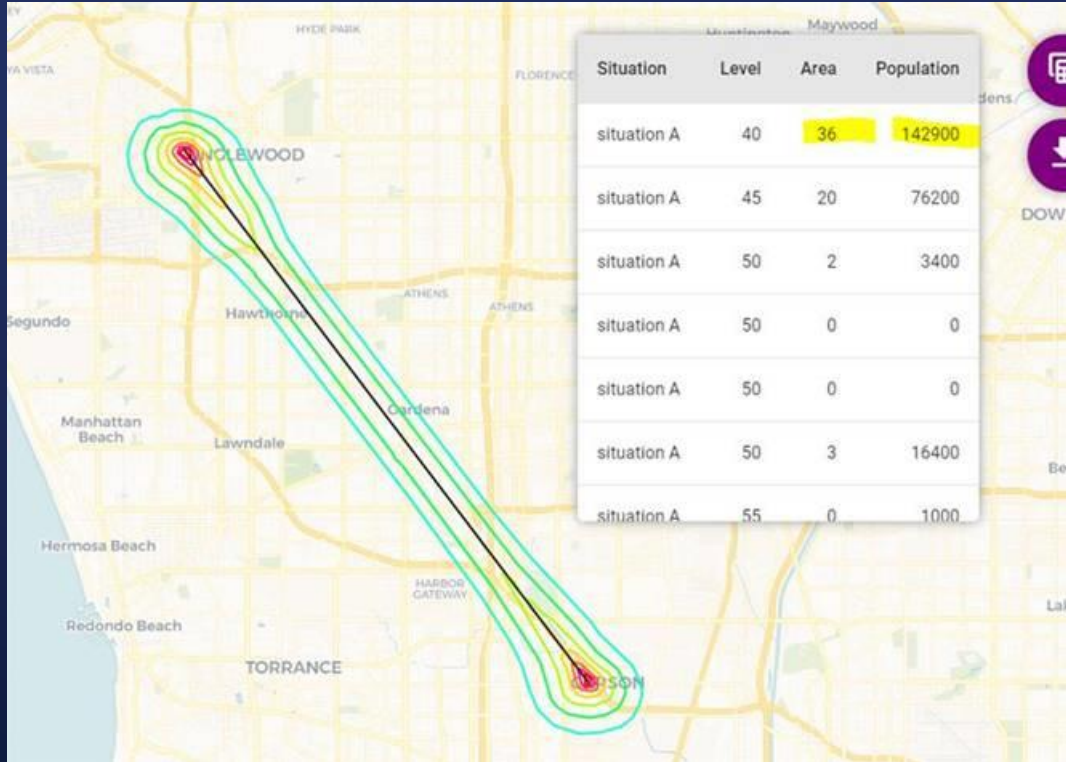






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# Auralization – Hearing is Believing

Auralization holds the key to greater understanding and better planning



Urban Vehicle Class



Frequency



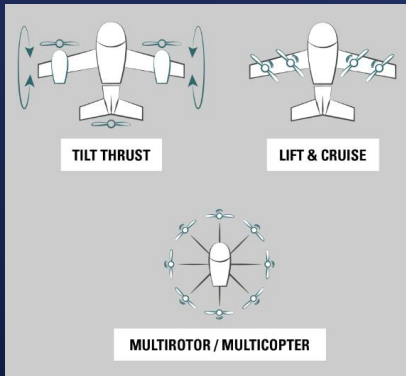
Policy Map



# Auralization Process



3D Field Recordings of Vehicles / Concept Vehicle Parameters

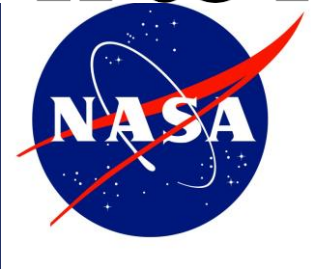


Vehicle Variables / Operational Variables



3D Recordings of Existing Environments

ARUP



Arup SoundLab + NASA Auralization Framework Software



Arup SoundLab Auralizations

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- 14 SoundLabs and 3 Immersion Labs around the world
- Purpose built listening facilities that enable us to listen to how spaces and environments sound before they are built
- Calibrated to acoustic and AV standards so demos can be shared across facilities with ease

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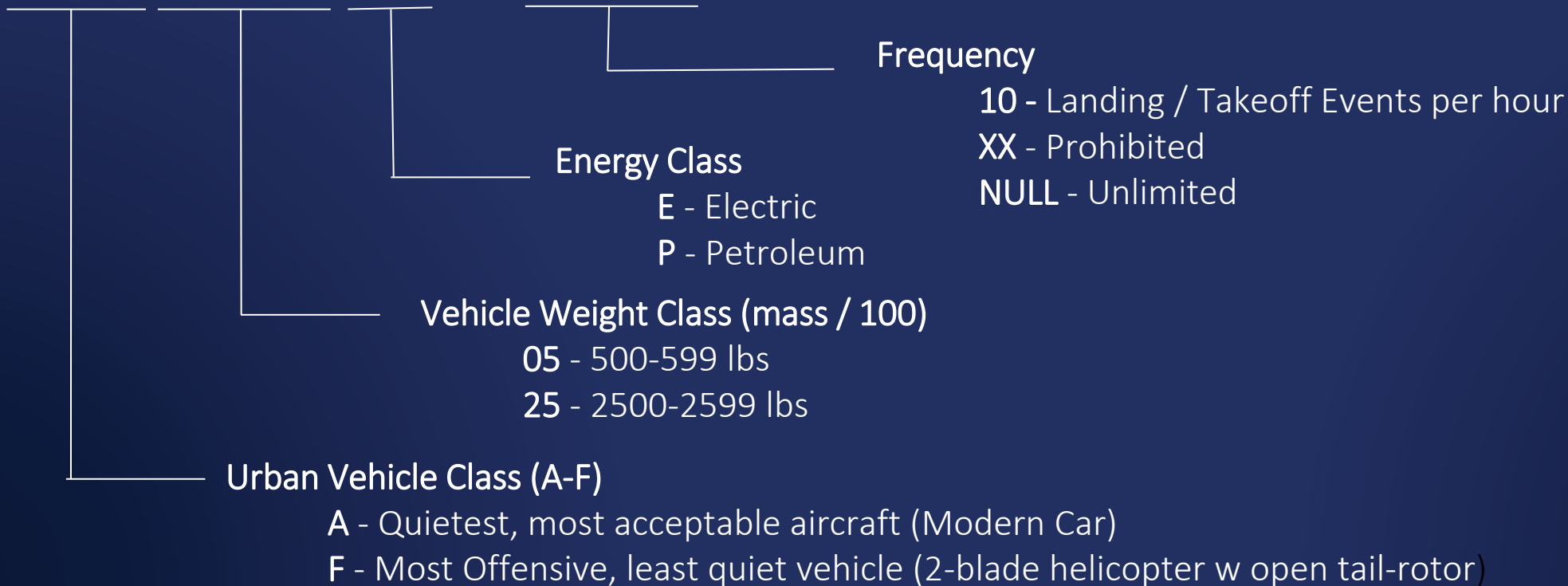
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# Process for a UAM Policy Framework

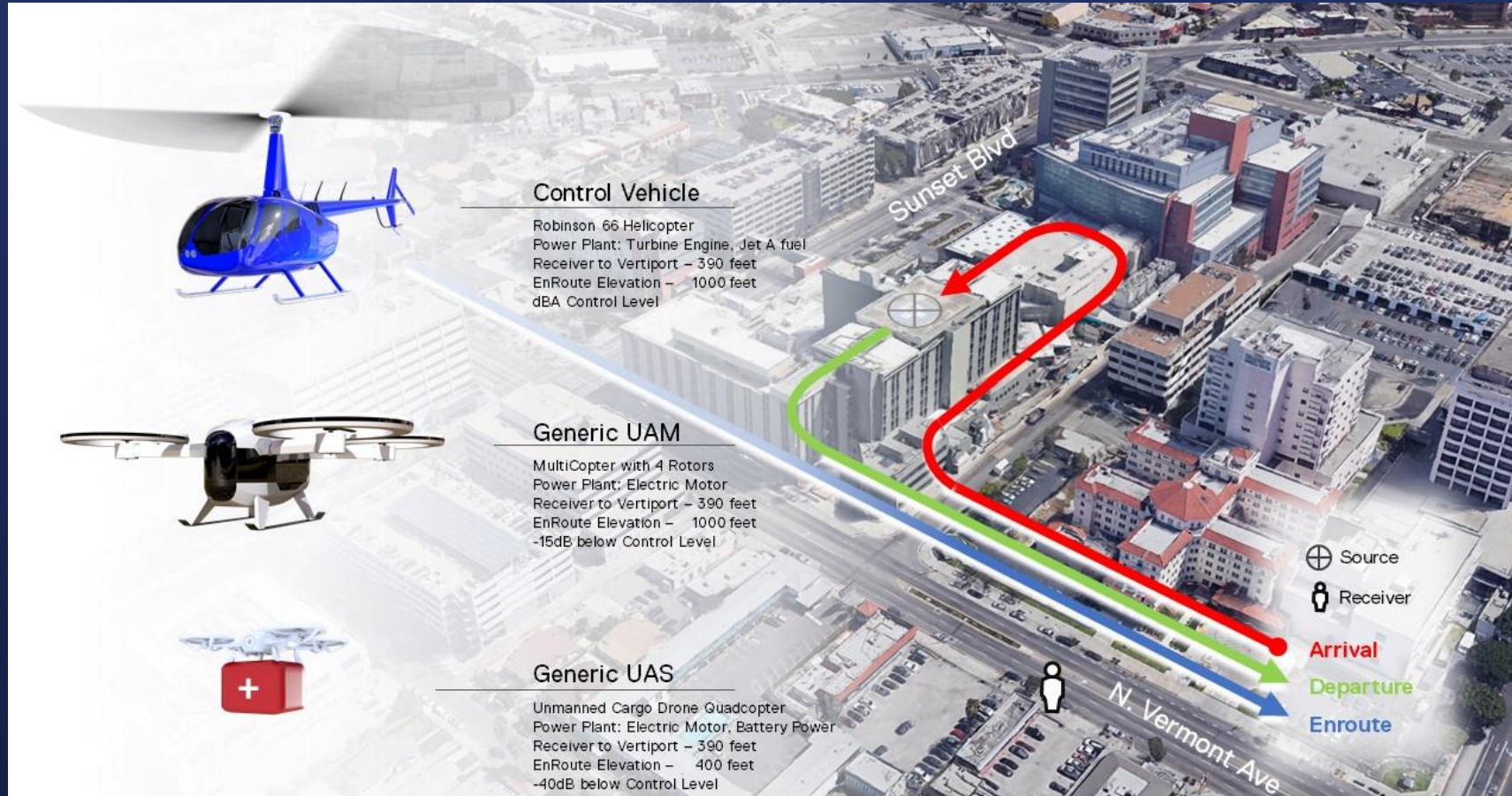
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# Scenario Development

## LADOT AAM / UAM Auralizations



# LADOT – Auralization Delivery



What you see in the Soundlab



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