

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

June 9, 2016

The Honorable Michael Huerta
Administrator
Federal Aviation Administration
800 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20591

Dear Administrator Huerta:

It has come to our attention that the Federal Aviation Administration intends to authorize a new NextGen procedure that would permit some arrival flights to Newark Liberty International Airport to be shifted to Runway 29 ('EWR RNAV (GPS) X RWY 29'). From the information our offices have received, we are concerned that this new procedure, if implemented, could lead to more air traffic over Queens County, New York, and we would like clarification on these concerns.

We cannot support any decision that would result in additional air traffic, however slight, over our congressional districts. The people of Queens for too long have dealt with excessive aircraft noise; we have worked too hard to address these issues to allow further changes to the airspace that would have a detrimental effect on our constituents. Therefore, we would like the FAA to determine, if this new procedure is implemented, the possibility that aircraft travelling to New York City airports may be forced to utilize flight paths that require an increased amount of time spent in airspace over Queens.

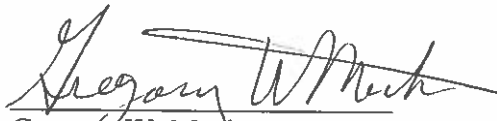
The House Committee on Appropriations has finished its consideration of the Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies appropriations bill for fiscal year 2017, and that bill is expected to be considered before the full House in the near future. If it is not possible to assuage our concerns prior to its consideration, we will consider filing amendments to the bill that would do so.

We look forward to your prompt response to this inquiry.

Sincerely,


Grace Meng
Member of Congress


Joseph Crowley
Member of Congress



Gregory W. Meeks
Member of Congress



Hakeem Jeffries
Member of Congress



Steve Israel
Member of Congress