

79 - 1316

MOTION NO. 4573

1 A MOTION relating to noise control and the
2 regulation of float planes; requesting the
3 Federal Aviation Administration to take
4 specific actions; petitioning the Department
5 of Ecology to promulgate a new chapter of the
6 Washington Administrative Code, and
7 establishing a Float Plane Noise Abatement
8 Committee.

9 WHEREAS, several bodies of water in Seattle and King County
10 are used as takeoff and landing facilities by float planes, and

11 WHEREAS, the shores of these bodies of water are among the
12 most densely populated of all shorelines in the State of
13 Washington, and

14 WHEREAS, sounds generated by float planes have been a
15 significant cause of citizens' complaints to local governments in
16 King County, and

17 WHEREAS, regulation of unwanted and unnecessary sound from
18 float planes would be accomplished best through the joint efforts
19 of federal, state, and local governments working in cooperation
20 with private float plane operators and citizens;

21 NOW THEREFORE, BE IT MOVED by the Council of King County:

22 1. The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) is hereby
23 requested to:

24 a. Solicit the cooperation of float plane pilot instructors
25 in including noise abatement procedures when administering
26 biennial flight checks;

27 b. Change the FAA requirement for plane identification
28 numbers from four inches to a size which can be seen readily by a
29 land-based observer at a minimum of one thousand feet when a
30 plane is in flight;

31 2. Pursuant to RCW 34.04.060, the Department of Ecology,
32 State of Washington, is hereby petitioned to enact regulations
33 for the control of noise generated by the operation of float
planes. In enacting those regulations, the Department is
requested to:

1 a. Recognize the voluntary efforts already being made by
2 commercial float plane operators and to impose regulations only
3 where voluntary measures are not sufficient to protect the
4 health, safety, and comfort of affected shoreline residents.
5 Attached are two sets of regulations proposed by the Seattle-King
6 County Department of Public Health and the commercial float plane
7 operators;

8 b. Require a nighttime reduction in permissible noise
9 levels between the hours of 10:00 P.M. and 7:00 A.M. on weekdays,
10 10:00 P.M. and 8:00 A.M. on Saturdays, and 10:00 P.M. and 9:00
11 A.M. on Sundays and holidays, as well as reasonable exemptions;

12 c. Address whether cumulative noise limits within specific
13 time periods are practical and should be included in the
14 regulations.

15 3. The establishment of a Float Plane Noise Abatement
16 Committee is hereby authorized. The King County Executive and
17 the Mayor of Seattle are requested to jointly appoint, or request
18 the appointment of, persons to the Float Plane Noise Abatement
19 Committee. The Committee will consist of the following persons:

20 a. One person representing the Seattle-King County
21 Department of Public Health;

22 b. One person representing the Northwest Seaplane Pilots'
23 Association;

24 c. One person representing the Division of Aeronautics of
25 the Washington State Department of Transportation;

26 d. Two persons representing commercial float plane
27 operators;

28 e. One person representing the City of Renton;

29 f. One person representing residents in the vicinity of
30 Lake Sammamish;

31 g. Two persons representing residents in the vicinity of
32 Lake Union; and

33 h. Three persons (one from the City of Seattle and two from

1 King County) representing residents in the vicinity of Lake
2 Washington.

3 4. The Float Plane Noise Abatement Committee is requested
4 to do the following:

5 a. Identify noise-impacted areas in Seattle and King
6 County;

7 b. Recommend specific noise abatement measures for those
8 areas;

9 c. Develop a program and timetable for the voluntary
10 retrofit of three-bladed propellers to high-performance aircraft;

11 d. Establish and maintain an ongoing noise abatement pilot
12 education program;

13 e. Make such other noise control recommendations to King
14 County and the City of Seattle as are deemed appropriate by the
15 Committee;

16 f. Make a report to the King County Executive, the Mayor of
17 Seattle, and the King County and Seattle City Councils no later
18 than January 1, 1981, at which time the necessity for continuing
19 the Committee will be reviewed.

20 g. A chairperson to be selected by the Committee from nomi-
21 nees submitted by the King County Policy Development Commission.

22 5. In cooperation with the Mayor of Seattle and the City
23 Council, the County Council will provide appropriate staff
24 support to assist the Committee in carrying out the foregoing
25 responsibilities. The County Executive is hereby requested to
26 join in the staffing effort.

27 PASSED this 29th day of October, 1979.

28 KING COUNTY COUNCIL
29 KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

30 Ruby Chow
31 Chairman

32 ATTEST:

33 Janet M. Quinn
Deputy Clerk of the Council