

# **Overlook Neighborhood Association**

Christian Trejbal, Chair

overlookna@gmail.com



September 16, 2019

Gov. Kate Brown  
900 Court Street NE  
Suite 254  
Salem, OR 97301-4047

CC: House Speaker Tina Kotek, Sen. Lew Frederick, Constantin Severe, Curtis Robinhold (Port of Portland), Gary Kunz (East Columbia Neighborhood Association) and Mark Clark (PDX Citizen Noise Advisory Committee)

Re: Oregon Air National Guard overhead landing pattern at Portland International Airport

Dear Governor Brown,

The Overlook Neighborhood Association (OKNA) requests that you direct the Oregon Air National Guard to cease using Overhead Continuous Descent Approach when landing at Portland International Airport unless it is mission critical during an emergency or restricting those landings to the north runway.

OKNA recognizes that training is an important element of military readiness for the Oregon Air National Guard. However, this particular maneuver, had been forbidden since at least 2002 because of the unacceptable noise impacts on surrounding residential neighborhoods. It was only in recent years that this has changed despite the objection of residents of North Portland directly affected by the landings.

Neighbors recognize that they live near an airport and accept that that comes with some noise. The Overhead Continuous Descent Approach is not standard airport noise, though. It involves an expedited landing with overhead breaking at high initial speed and low altitudes over Portland neighborhoods.

As you know, North Portland is home to many of the city's most diverse neighborhoods, and these landings are therefore having a disproportionate impact on the city's communities of color and lower-income residents.

Fortunately, the East Columbia Neighborhood has identified two very viable solutions that you could order as commander in chief of the Oregon Air National Guard.

- Cease the Overhead Continuous Descent Approach landings except under rare mission critical circumstances. For training purposes, these approaches could be conducted elsewhere or only in the run-up to deployment.
- Limit the Overhead Continuous Descent Approaches to the north runway at Portland International Airport. This would align the descents over the Columbia River rather than North Portland neighborhoods.

Thank you for giving this situation due consideration. We hope that you will take one of the reasonable steps above to maintain livability and minimize disruption in North Portland. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Christian J. Trejbal". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Christian J. Trejbal

Overlook Neighborhood Association, Chair