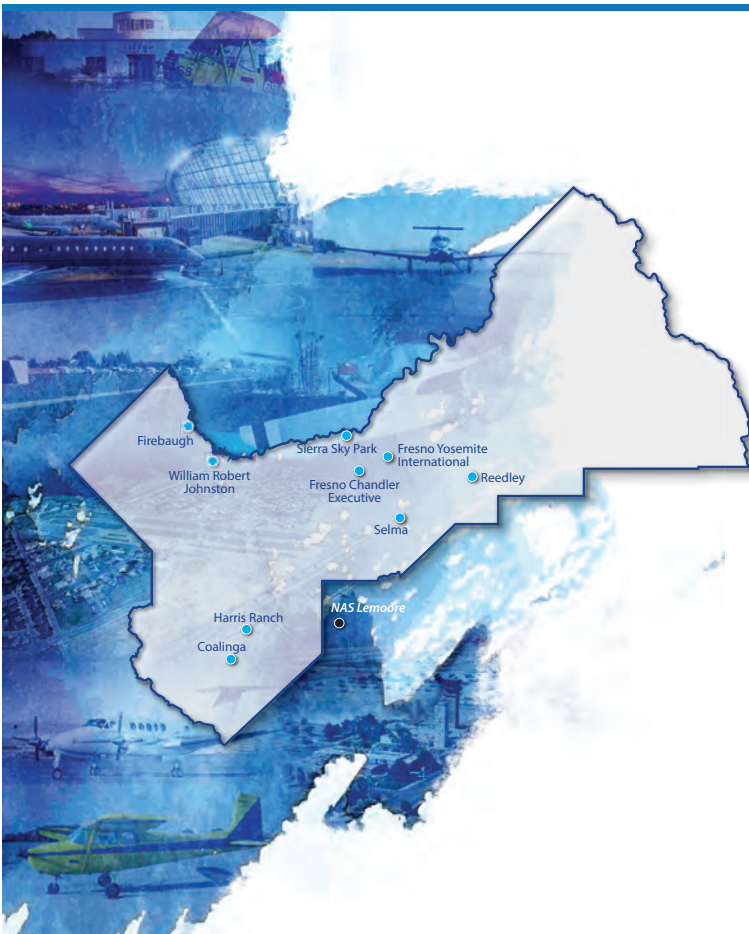




Fresno Council
of Governments

Appendix N

GLOSSARY OF LAND USE COMPATIBILITY TERMS



Appendix N

GLOSSARY OF NOISE COMPATIBILITY TERMS

A-WEIGHTED SOUND LEVEL - A sound pressure level, often noted as dBA, which has been frequency filtered or weighted to quantitatively reduce the effect of the low frequency noise. It was designed to approximate the response of the human ear to sound.

AMBIENT NOISE - The totality of noise in a given place and time — usually a composite of sounds from varying sources at varying distance; no particular sound is dominant.

APPROACH LIGHT SYSTEM (ALS) - An airport lighting facility which provides visual guidance to landing aircraft by radiating light beams in a directional pattern by which the pilot aligns the aircraft with the extended centerline of the runway on the final approach for landing.

ATTENUATION - Acoustical phenomenon whereby a reduction in sound energy is experienced between the noise source and receiver. This energy loss can be attributed to atmospheric conditions, terrain, vegetation, and man-made and natural features.

BASE LEG - A flight path at right angles to the landing runway off its approach end. The base leg normally extends from the downwind leg to the intersection of the extended runway centerline. See “traffic pattern.”

CFR - Code of Federal Regulation (i.e. 14 CFR Part 150)

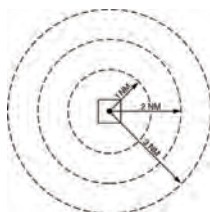
CROSSWIND LEG - A flight path at right angles to the landing runway off its upwind end. See “traffic pattern.”

DAY-NIGHT AVERAGE SOUND LEVEL - See DNL.

DECIBEL (dB) - The physical unit commonly used to describe noise levels. The decibel represents a relative measure or ratio to a reference power. This reference value is a sound pressure of 20 micropascals which can be referred to as 1 decibel or the weakest sound that can be heard by a person with very good hearing in an extremely quiet room.

DISPLACED THRESHOLD - A threshold that is located at a point on the runway other than the designated beginning of the runway.

DISTANCE MEASURING EQUIPMENT (DME) - Equipment (airborne and ground) used to measure, in nautical miles, the slant range distance of an aircraft from the DME navigational aid.



DNL - The 24-hour average sound level, in A-weighted decibels, obtained after the addition of ten decibels to sound levels for the periods between 10 p.m. and 7 a.m. as averaged over a span of one year. It is the FAA standard metric for determining the cumulative exposure of individuals to noise. Also see “ L_{eq} .”

DOWNWIND LEG - A flight path parallel to the landing runway in the direction opposite to landing. The downwind leg normally extends between the crosswind leg and the base leg. Also see “traffic pattern.”

DURATION - Length of time, in seconds, a noise event such as an aircraft flyover is experienced. (May refer to the length of time a noise event exceeds a specified dB threshold level.)

EQUIVALENT SOUND LEVEL - See L_{eq} .

FINAL APPROACH - A flight path in the direction of landing along the extended runway centerline. The final approach normally extends from the base leg to the runway. See “traffic pattern.”

FIXED BASE OPERATOR (FBO) - A provider of services to users of an airport. Such services include, but are not limited to, hangaring, fueling, flight training, repair and maintenance.

GLIDE SLOPE (GS) - Provides vertical guidance for aircraft during approach and landing. The glide slope consists of the following:

1. Electronic components emitting signals which provide vertical guidance by reference to airborne instruments during instrument approaches such as ILS, or
2. Visual ground aids, such as VASI, which provide vertical guidance for VFR approach or for the visual portion of an instrument approach and landing.

GLOBAL POSITIONING SYSTEM - See “GPS.”

GPS - GLOBAL POSITIONING SYSTEM - A system of 24 satellites used as reference points to enable navigators equipped with GPS receivers to determine their latitude, longitude, and altitude. The accuracy of the system can be further refined by using a ground receiver at a known location to calculate the error in the satellite range data. This is known as Differential GPS (DGPS).

GROUND EFFECT - The attenuation attributed to absorption or reflection of noise by man-made or natural features on the ground surface.

HOURLY NOISE LEVEL (HNL) - A noise summation metric which considers primarily those single events which exceed a specified threshold or duration during one hour.

INSTRUMENT APPROACH - A series of predetermined maneuvers for the orderly transfer of an aircraft under instrument flight conditions from the beginning of the initial approach to a landing, or to a point from which a landing may be made visually.

INSTRUMENT FLIGHT RULES (IFR) - Rules governing the procedures for conducting instrument flight. Also a term used by pilots and controllers to indicate type of flight plan.

INSTRUMENT LANDING SYSTEM (ILS) - A precision instrument approach system which normally consists of the following electronic components and visual aids:

1. Localizer.
2. Glide Slope.
3. Outer Marker.
4. Middle Marker.
5. Approach Lights.

LAAS - Local Area Augmentation System, ground-based antennas whose precisely known locations are used to correct the satellite signals and provide greater positional accuracy as well as integrity of service to aircraft in the air. Represents the next generation of airspace management and aircraft guidance through the National Airspace System using GPS technologies.

L_{dn} - (See DNL). L_{dn} used in place of DNL in mathematical equations only.

L_{eq} - Equivalent Sound Level. The steady A-weighted sound level over any specified period (not necessarily 24 hours) that has the same acoustic energy as the fluctuating noise during that period (with no consideration of a nighttime weighting.) It is a measure of cumulative acoustical energy. Because the time interval may vary, it should be specified by a subscript (such as $L_{eq,8}$) for an 8-hour exposure to workplace noise) or be clearly understood.

LOCALIZER - The component of an ILS which provides course guidance to the runway.

L_{max} - Maximum Sound Level, the maximum sound level (dB) during a particular noise event.

LOUDNESS - The attribute of auditory sensation in terms of which sounds may be ordered on a scale extending from soft to loud.

MISSED APPROACH COURSE (MAC) - The flight route to be followed if, after an instrument approach, a landing is not effected, and occurring normally:

1. When the aircraft has descended to the decision height and has not established visual contact, or
2. When directed by air traffic control to pull up or to go around again.

NOISE CONTOUR - A continuous line on a map of the airport vicinity connecting all points of the same noise exposure level.

NONDIRECTIONAL BEACON (NDB) - A beacon transmitting nondirectional signals whereby the pilot of an aircraft equipped with direction finding equipment can determine his bearing to and from the radio beacon and home on or track to or from the station. When the radio beacon is installed in conjunction with the Instrument Landing System marker, it is normally called a Compass Locator.

NONPRECISION APPROACH - A standard instrument approach procedure providing runway alignment but no glide slope or descent information.

PRECISION APPROACH - A standard instrument approach procedure providing runway alignment and glide slope or descent information.

PRECISION APPROACH PATH INDICATOR (PAPI) - A lighting system providing visual approach slope guidance to aircraft during a landing approach. It is similar to a VASI but provides a sharper transition between the colored indicator lights.

PROFILE - The physical position of the aircraft during landings or takeoffs in terms of altitude in feet above the runway and distance from the runway end.

PROPAGATION - Sound propagation refers to the spreading or radiating of sound energy from the noise source. Propagation characteristics of sound normally involve a reduction in sound energy with an increased distance from source. Sound propagation is affected by atmospheric conditions, terrain, and man-made and natural objects.

RESIDUAL NOISE - is ambient noise without specific noise. The residual noise is the noise remaining at a point under certain conditions when the noise from the specific source is suppressed.

RUNWAY END IDENTIFIER LIGHTS (REIL) - Two synchronized flashing lights, one on each side of the runway threshold, which provide rapid and positive identification of the approach end of a particular runway.

SEL - Sound Exposure Level. SEL expressed in dB, is a measure of the effect of duration and magnitude for a single-event measured in A-weighted sound level above a specified threshold which is at least 10 dB below the maximum value. In typical aircraft noise model calculations, SEL is used in computing aircraft acoustical contribution to the Equivalent Sound Level (L_{eq}), the Day-Night Sound Level (DNL), and the Community Noise Equivalent Level (CNEL).

SINGLE EVENT - An occurrence of audible noise usually above a specified minimum noise level caused by an intrusive source such as an aircraft overflight, passing train, or ship's horn.

SLANT-RANGE DISTANCE - The straight line distance between an aircraft and a point on the ground.

SOUND EXPOSURE LEVEL - See SEL.

SOUND LEVEL METER - An instrument, which is used for the measurement of sound level, with standard frequency weighting and standard exponentially weighted time averaging.

SPL - Sound Pressure Level, measure of the sound pressure of a given noise source relative to a standard reference value (typically the quietest sound that a young person with good hearing can detect).

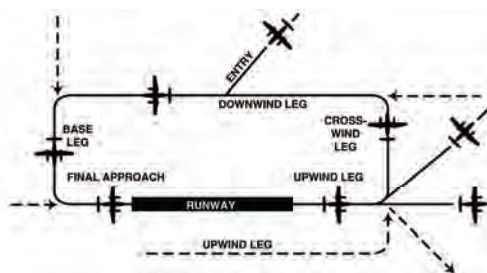
THRESHOLD - Decibel level below which single event information is not printed out on the noise monitoring equipment tapes. The noise levels below the threshold are, however, considered in the accumulation of hourly and daily noise levels.

TIME ABOVE (TA) - The 24-hour TA noise metric provides the duration in minutes for which aircraft-related noise exceeds specified A-weighted sound levels. It is expressed in minutes per 24-hour period.

TOUCHDOWN ZONE LIGHTING (TDZ) - Two rows of transverse light bars located symmetrically about the runway centerline normally at 100 foot intervals. The basic system extends 3,000 feet along the runway.

TRAFFIC PATTERN - The traffic flow that is prescribed for aircraft landing at or taking off from an airport. The components of a typical traffic pattern are the upwind leg, crosswind leg, downwind leg, base leg, and final approach.

UNICOM - A nongovernment communication facility which may provide airport information at certain airports. Locations and frequencies of UNICOM's are shown on aeronautical charts and publications.



UPWIND LEG - A flight path parallel to the landing runway in the direction of landing. See "traffic pattern."

VECTOR - A heading issued to an aircraft to provide navigational guidance by radar.

VERY HIGH FREQUENCY OMNIDIRECTIONAL RANGE STATION (VOR) - A ground-based electric navigation aid transmitting very high frequency navigation signals, 360 degrees in azimuth, oriented from magnetic north. Used as the basis for navigation in the national airspace system. The VOR periodically identifies itself by Morse Code and may have an additional voice identification feature.

VERY HIGH FREQUENCY OMNIDIRECTIONAL RANGE STATION/TACTICAL AIR NAVIGATION (VORTAC) - A navigation aid providing VOR azimuth, TACAN azimuth, and TACAN distance-measuring equipment (DME) at one site.

VICTOR AIRWAY - A control area or portion thereof established in the form of a corridor, the centerline of which is defined by radio navigational aids.

VISUAL APPROACH - An approach wherein an aircraft on an IFR flight plan, operating in VFR conditions under the control of an air traffic control facility and having an air traffic control authorization, may proceed to the airport of destination in VFR conditions.

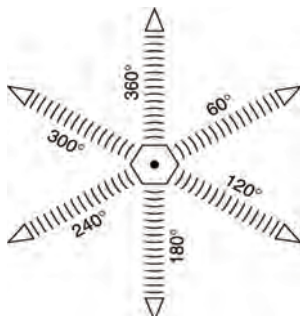
VISUAL APPROACH SLOPE INDICATOR (VASI) - An airport lighting facility providing vertical visual approach slope guidance to aircraft during approach to landing by radiating an directional pattern of high intensity red and white focused light beams which indicate to the pilot that he is on path if he sees red/white, above path if white/white, and below path if red/red. Some airports serving large aircraft have three-bar VASI's which provide two visual guide paths to the same runway.

VISUAL FLIGHT RULES (VFR) - Rules that govern the procedures for conducting flight under visual conditions. The term VFR is also used in the United States to indicate weather conditions that are equal to or greater than minimum VFR

requirements. In addition, it is used by pilots and controllers to indicate type of flight plan.

VOR - See "Very High Frequency Omnidirectional Range Station."

VORTAC - See "Very High Frequency Omnidirectional Range Station/Tactical Air Navigation."



WAAS - Wide Area Augmentation System, ground-based antennas whose precisely known locations are used to correct the satellite signals and provide greater positional accuracy as well as integrity of service to aircraft in the air. Given the current difficulties with WAAS, LAAS now has higher priority for implementation at U.S. airports.

YEARLY DAY-NIGHT AVERAGE SOUND LEVEL - See DNL.