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November 21, 2011 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**MSP Watchdog Group Releases White Paper,
Schedules Public Meeting November 28, on
Noisy Overflights North of MSP**

Cumulative changes in procedures for flights departing MSP on the North Parallel in “westerly flow” resulted in numerous complaints, little explanation, and two rancorous meetings. The latest of three increases in overflights came as more planes turned north over areas lightly over flown even in far busier years.

SMAAC’s white paper stated that noise abatement ‘profiles’ requiring gradual climb outs on all runways and directions were changed years ago, but few airliners could manage turns off the (WNW) runway heading at first.

Later, as more regional jets replaced larger airliners and turboprops, aircraft began turning sooner to clear the runway for an arrival right behind them at peak hours. Even as daily flights decreased from the 2004-05 top of 1,450 operations per day, more regional jets came into use and peak-hour operations remained more or less constant at 150+ per hour, with nearly simultaneous operations on the parallel runways needed for that rate, and allowed anytime.

Last September, a near-mid-air-collision caused the MSP FAA Control Tower to avoid “air crossings” (turns toward an active runway). This change and a shuffling of departures --so that more flights with north and east destinations used the North parallel-- greatly increased overflights in the South Minneapolis neighborhoods.

After meetings with the MAC noise staff and the MSP Noise Oversight Committee, the MAC suggested an “open house” session for individual or small group explanations. Citizens approached SMAAC for help. Last December, Congressman Keith Ellison and SMAAC invited FAA to discuss how high rates contributed to the near-mid-air-collision and a report was published (<http://www.quiettheskies.org/11news/December2010ForumReport.pdf>).

SMAAC will summarize the Rates and Safety Forum and the White Paper and answer questions at the Lake Hiawatha Community Center, November 28 starting at 6:45 PM. The program will be followed by the South Metro Airport Action Council’s Annual Meeting.

Note: For a copy of the White Paper

**“New” Noise in South Minneapolis Neighborhoods:
Send a message to mpds@visi.com**