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For Immediate Release

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CHICAGO-O'HARE PROGRAM FALTERS AND FOOLS

Arlington Heights, IL—Recently, the Chicago-controlled O'Hare Noise Compatibly Commission (ONCC) trumpeted that 600 new homes would get noiseproofing under Mayor Daley.

"What they didn't say is that, in order to attempt to maintain the appearance of a viable program, Daley will no longer pay for air conditioners AND noiseproofing for many homes, providing instead an "option" for either." So states a spokesperson for the Alliance of Residents Concerning O'Hare, an independent airport watchdog organization. AReCO has individual membership in 42 communities surrounding O'Hare, together with municipal, organizational and institutional membership, such as Baylor University, School of Aviation and Air Sciences.

What good is the soundproofing without air conditioning? In the summer, those folks must keep their windows open, thus defeating noiseproofing.

Why is Mayor Daley making these cutbacks that could have at least provide some relief, costing less than \$20 million per year, and yet will spend \$20-60 billion dollars to put what he claims is almost double the flights over these same communities?

And why does Daley continue to fool everyone by limiting noiseproofing eligibility to those within the 68/69dB DNL contour when the real requirement is in fact close to 60dB DNL or lower? (According to the Environmental Protection Agency and the World Health Organization of course the aviation industry's promoter, the Federal Aviation Administration, will disagree.)

Additionally, low-income residents living in apartment buildings continue to be totally ineligible for relief.

Also, does Chicago's ONCC and Daley believe that seniors and low income folks without air conditioning can afford the much higher electric bills with a sealed, air conditioned home? Shouldn't this additional "environmental justice" cost be covered by Daley/O'Hare?

Why isn't anyone questioning these issues?

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Reference to follow...

For Reference, from ONCC Website... <http://www.oharenoise.org/homepage.html>

From: FAQ.....

What is done to the home to insulate against noise?

For the 2003 Program, homeowners will be given one of three option packages to choose from. The first package consists of replacement windows, primary doors and storm doors. The second and third packages are air conditioning packages: one includes ductwork and the other excludes ductwork modifications. Homeowners will be responsible for selecting among the three construction packages:

Window Modifications, Prime Door Treatments and Storm Door Treatments or Air Conditioning Modifications (with or without duct work).

From Sept 2003 News Release.....

In addition, homeowners will now be given some options for sound insulating their homes. In previous years, many homeowners said they would have preferred replacement of just windows and doors instead of the full sound insulation construction work that was usually required to achieve the desired noise reductions. Others preferred the installation of central air conditioning and wanted to leave their doors and windows in place. The program will now allow homeowners to make those choices. *A savings to the program is expected, allowing more homes to be included in the program.*

From August 2003 Tech Committee minutes....

A. Recommended Community Allocation Scenario

Mr. Cantrell presented the Committee with different scenarios for the allocation of homes for the 2003 Program. *The recommended scenario was one that would complete homes in the 69 DNL and an equalized percentage within the 68 to 69 DNL.*

Mr. Cantrell also discussed a document which detailed option packages for qualified homeowners. They would be allowed to choose of the three options: Option #1 would consist of replacing windows and doors; Option #2 would consist of installing central air conditioning in a home that has hot water heating; Option #3 consists or installing central air conditioning in a home with an existing forced air heating system. Currently option packages are offered to residents in the Midway area. *Providing options packages would allow more homes to be sound insulated, given a reduced program budget.*

B. Approval of 2003 O'Hare Residential Program ? Resolution 2003-3

Mr. Cantrell explained that Resolution 2003-3 will be presented at the Friday, September 5, 2003 Commission meeting for approval. The Commission, consisting of its affected communities and school districts, would vote on the recommended community allocations and option package program.

A motion was made by Alderman Becker and seconded by Mr. Damato to recommend that the guidelines for the 2003 Residential Sound Insulation Program as outlined by Chicago Department of Aviation staff be adopted. The motion was approved by unanimous voice vote.