

Residential Sound Insulation – SMART Program

The **Sound Mitigation Acoustical Remedy Treatment (SMART)** Program provides, at no cost to the home owner, noise mitigation measures to single family residences in the 65-75 Community Noise Equivalent Level (CNEL) contours around Fresno Yosemite International (FYI) Airport. The program reduces the impact of aircraft noise on the indoor living environment for residents of eligible homes by providing and installing noise reducing windows, doors, attic insulation and other acoustic treatments.

History

The SMART Program is an element of the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) FAR Part 150 Noise Compatibility Program (NCP), which was approved in 1990. This approval opened the door for federal funding to acoustically treat eligible homes (within the 65 CNEL boundary). The 1990 NCP included a Noise Exposure Map (NEM) which identified approximately 2,500 single family residences within the 65-75 CNEL. In 2008 the FAA required an update to the NCP to ensure federal funds were being spent in accordance with applicable regulations. This update reaffirmed the need to continue the SMART program and established a new [Noise Exposure Map](#) based on current aircraft noise levels around the airport. As a result of quieter commercial jet engines (as mandated by the FAA) and the successful implementation of departure procedures in the original NCP, noise contours on the revised NEM have shrunk. The total number of single family residences in the 65-75 CNEL contours is now approximately 1,800.

Participation

Participation in the SMART program is voluntary. Since 1990, the Department of Airports has conducted an aggressive public information campaign of public workshops, informational flyers, a dedicated noise hot line, and one-on-one outreach to individual home owners. The acoustic treatment of homes began in the highest noise impacted areas (closest to FYI) and work is continuing outward toward the 65 CNEL eligibility boundary. As FAA grant funding becomes available, the SMART Program staff sends application packages to the next group of eligible property owners inviting them to participate in the program. The SMART program offers treatment for single family residences first, then rental homes, prioritized from highest to lowest CNEL. Multi-family properties will be treated when all single family residences have had an opportunity to participate.

Not all properties are acoustically treated. A few homeowners desire not to participate. Homes may have major code violations or unpermitted additions that must be addressed before participation is permitted. Foreclosures, title inconsistencies, divorces, etc also can affect participation. The owner of any property that is bypassed will be re-contacted for inclusion in a future group.

Funding

The SMART Program improvements are paid entirely by the Federal Aviation Administration and matching Measure C funds. In exchange for these improvements the property owner is required by the FAA to execute and grant an Avigation Easement to the City of Fresno. The Avigation Easement is a permanent legal restriction that provides free and unobstructed passage of aircraft above the property and secures rights for the City of Fresno that pertain to operation of the airport.

For More Information Contact the Noise Management Office