

2024 ANNUAL NOISE SUMMARY REPORT

AÉROPORT DE TORONTO
**BILLY
BISHOP** 
TORONTO CITY AIRPORT





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Message on Operations and Noise Management at Billy Bishop Toronto City Airport

Billy Bishop Toronto City Airport has operated on Toronto's waterfront for more than 85 years, serving as a vital transportation hub that connects residents, visitors, and businesses. The airport plays a key role in driving economic growth, facilitating trade and tourism, supporting healthcare initiatives, and generating jobs.

Given the airport's location along Toronto's vibrant mixed-use waterfront, it is incumbent upon PortsToronto to innovate, improve and invest in order to mitigate the impacts associated with airport operations. The 2024 Billy Bishop Toronto City Airport Noise Summary Report details ongoing efforts to manage and reduce noise, ensuring a balance between operational efficiency and community well-being.

The year 2024 continued to be one of growth and recovery for the aviation industry. At Billy Bishop Toronto City Airport passenger volumes have been steadily recovering and we have consistently welcomed more than two million passengers over the last few years.

Total aircraft movements in 2024 were 115,589, an increase of 15.2 per cent compared to 2023.

Overall noise complaints rose by 88 per cent compared to 2023, with 580 complaints recorded. Of these, five were related to non-airport-related noise, such as road construction, leaving a total of 575 complaints directly linked to airport operations.

It's worth noting that 82 per cent of all complaints received in 2024 came from four individuals. Further, 43.3 per cent of these complaints were submitted between October and December 2024, following public community engagements related to the federal mandate for Runway End Safety Areas (RESA) at Billy Bishop Toronto City Airport.

Aircraft noise continued to be the dominant source of these complaints, with more than a quarter of complaints specific to helicopter activity. While helicopter movements increased less than one per cent in 2024, helicopter-related noise complaints increased by 380 per cent. The slight increase in helicopter movements can be attributed to the relocation of CTV and Global news helicopters to Billy Bishop Toronto City Airport after the closure of Buttonville Airport in November 2023, along with a rise in Medevac helicopter operations.

Non-commercial operations at Billy Bishop Toronto City Airport continued to grow in 2024, with increased activity from General Aviation (GA) clients, flight schools, and carriers like Cameron Air.

Billy Bishop Toronto City Airport plays a vital role in supporting life-saving emergency healthcare. Our partners Ornge carried out 4,741 medevac flights in 2024, marking a 5.6 per cent increase over 2023. This essential service remains a cornerstone of access to critical healthcare for Ontarians.

Regarding the origin of noise complaints, there was a slight decrease in complaints from Algonquin Island, which recorded 10 complaints in 2024, down from 12 in 2023. Wards Island saw a minor increase, with 11 complaints in 2024 compared to 10 in the previous year.



4,741

MEDEVAC SERVICES
(5.6% INCREASE OVER 2023)



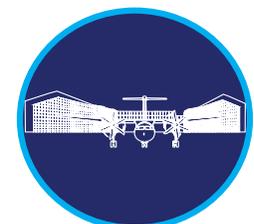
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COMMUNITY LIAISON COMMITTEE
(CLC) MEETINGS IN 2024



2

NOISE SUB-COMMITTEE
MEETINGS



15.2% ↑

INCREASE IN TOTAL AIRCRAFT
MOVEMENTS IN 2024

Message on Operations and Noise Management at Billy Bishop Toronto City Airport



5

NOISE MONITORING TERMINALS

The most notable increases in complaints came from the Bathurst Quay and York Quay neighbourhoods. Bathurst Quay saw a rise from 121 complaints in 2023 to 222 in 2024, while York Quay experienced an increase from 146 complaints in 2023 to 318 in 2024. These neighbourhoods accounted for the majority of the increase in noise complaints in 2024.

Through active collaboration with all stakeholders, operators, pilots and radar providers, Billy Bishop Toronto City Airport is committed to minimizing its disruptive effects on the community. Adherence to our Good Neighbour Policies remains a key priority and although most operators abide by the published guidelines, we recognize the need for continuous monitoring and improvement and remain dedicated to ensuring full compliance from our operators.



58

THE 580 COMPLAINTS WERE
LODGED BY 58 INDIVIDUALS OVER
12 MONTHS IN 2024

Furthermore, the community plays a significant role in formulating the policies and procedures that guide our operations at Billy Bishop Toronto City Airport, and we are pleased with the work and collaboration that has been undertaken this year with our community groups. The Community Liaison Committee (CLC) met four times in 2024, and the Noise Sub-Committee met twice.

As an indication of our commitment to following through on the ideas generated within these meetings, in 2024 we completed our Noise Monitoring Study to identify sources of ground noise at the airport through analytical noise modelling techniques. The study's results and mitigations will be shared and begin to be implemented in 2025 in order to reduce the impact of ground noise on the surrounding community.

Looking ahead to 2025, we remain focused on our vision to lead the way in how a modern airport operates within an urban environment. We will continue to explore innovative initiatives aimed at further reducing ground noise and advancing our goal to be among the cleanest, greenest, and quietest airports globally. Above all, we are committed to fostering strong relationships with the community by actively listening, being responsive, and collaborating to enhance and evolve our Noise Management Program.



A blue ink handwritten signature of Warren Askew.

Warren Askew
*Vice President, Airport
PortsToronto*

2024 Noise Management Highlights

In 2024, PortsToronto, the owner and operator of Billy Bishop Toronto City Airport, remained committed to managing noise from aircraft and airport operations.

Highlights of noise management activities in 2024 are summarized below:



COMPLETION OF
GROUND NOISE STUDY



IMPROVEMENTS TO THE
WEBTRAK DATA SET



ZERO CURFEW-RELATED
NOISE VIOLATIONS

Number of Complaints

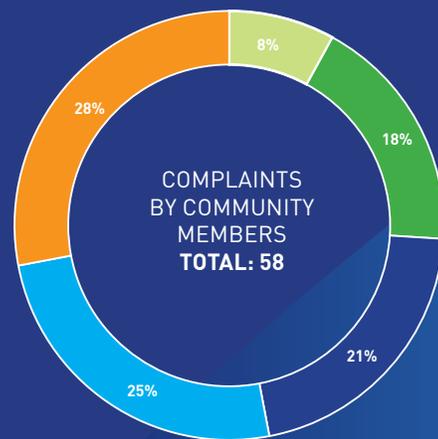
- In 2024, the Billy Bishop Toronto City Airport Noise Management Office received 580 complaints from **58** individuals across Toronto, which has a population of 2.79 million.
- There are several individuals who registered multiple complaints throughout the year. In 2024, 82 per cent of the total complaints were received from four individuals.
- This represents an 88 per cent increase in the number of complaints and a 23.4 per cent increase in the number of individuals when compared to 2023.
- Increased coverage and awareness of Billy Bishop Toronto City Airport in traditional news media and social media in response to public consultations regarding Runway End Safety Areas (RESAs) is consistent with an increase in the number of noise complaints submitted.
- 43.3 per cent of all complaints submitted in 2024 followed the public consultations related to the federal mandate for RESAs at Billy Bishop Toronto City Airport.

TOTAL NOISE COMPLAINTS AND INDIVIDUALS 2019 - 2024



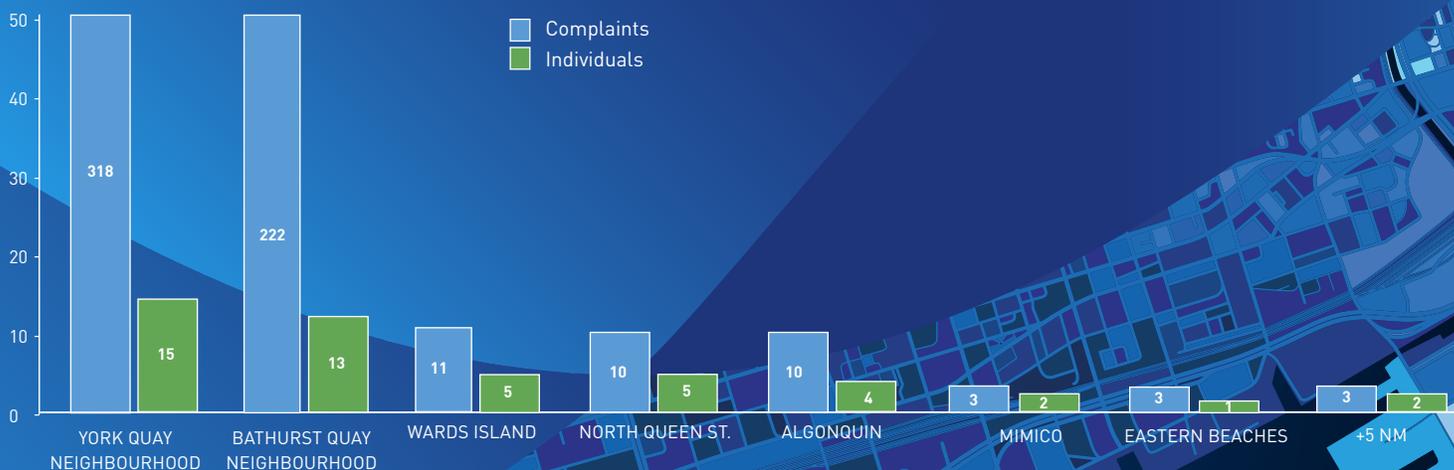
Noise Complaints by Location

- In 2024, there was an increase in complaints received from residents in the Bathurst Quay and York Quay neighbourhoods. 45.6 per cent of these complaints were submitted following community public engagements regarding the federal mandate of Runway End Safety Areas (RESA) at Billy Bishop Toronto City Airport.
- The Bathurst Quay neighbourhood logged 222 complaints in 2024, up from 121 complaints in 2023, an 83.5 per cent increase. 87 per cent of these complaints came from two individuals, with one individual accounting for 66 per cent of all complaints from the Bathurst Quay neighbourhood.
- The York Quay neighbourhood also saw a significant increase in complaints, from 146 in 2023 to 318 in 2024, a 117.8 per cent increase. 89 per cent of these complaints came from two individuals, with one individual accounting for 52 per cent of all complaints from the York Quay neighbourhood.



- Individual 1
- Individual 2
- Individual 3
- Other
- Individual 4

TOTAL NOISE COMPLAINTS AND INDIVIDUALS BY LOCATION 2024



10
COMPLAINTS
NORTH OF QUEEN
Complaints logged north of Queen were generally associated with news and emergency helicopters.



3↓
COMPLAINTS
> 5 NAUTICAL
MILES

- NOISE MONITORING SYSTEM
- GROUND RUN-UP ENCLOSURE
- NOISE BARRIER WALL

Ground Noise Study

The 2018 Airport Master Plan included the recommendation to conduct a Ground Noise Study. The study originally commenced in 2019 by Billy Bishop Toronto City Airport management in consultation with the Noise Management Sub-Committee but had to be put on hold due to the pandemic. It resumed in 2022, and in 2024 it was completed.

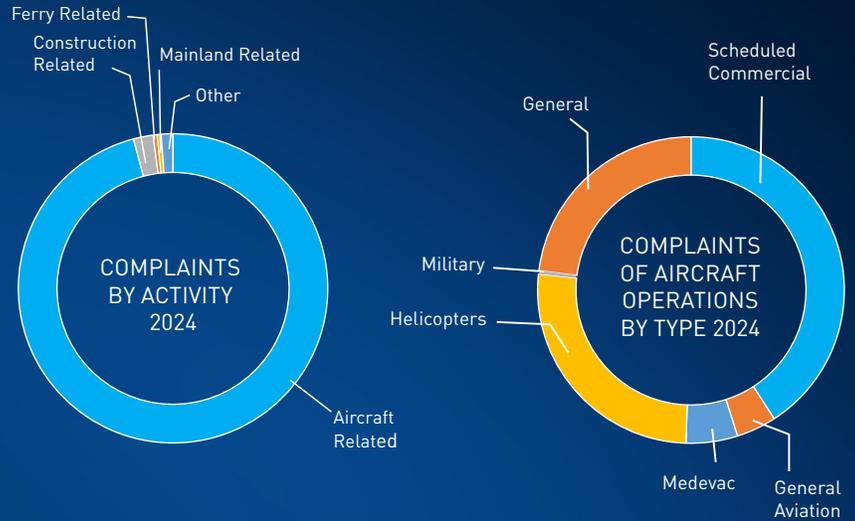
This study is part of a broader noise management strategy which aims to minimize disruptions in the airport's communities. The study sought to provide a better understanding of sources of ground noise at the airport, and through analytical noise modelling techniques, assess opportunities to reduce the impact of ground-sourced noise on the community.

As part of this study, temporary noise terminals were installed in the community, including on residents' balconies for a short period in order to gather data on sources of non-airport background noise in the community. This information will assist airport management with regard to the implementation of future mitigations aimed to reduce the impact of airport ground operations on the surrounding residential community.

PortsToronto is researching initiatives to further reduce ground-sourced noise, including the increased use of electric powered ground support equipment and vehicles.

The study's results and mitigations will be shared and begin to be implemented in 2025.

By the numbers



TWELVE YEAR ANNUAL COMPARISON OF NOISE COMPLAINTS



MONTHLY COMPARISON OF NOISE COMPLAINTS 2023 AND 2024

LOWEST MONTHS FOR COMPLAINTS:
FEBRUARY 2024

HIGHEST MONTH FOR COMPLAINTS:
NOVEMBER 2024



Improvements to the WebTrak Data Set

We continue to offer free access to WebTrak, which enables anyone with a computer, smartphone or tablet to gather information on aircraft activity in their area. This service combined with our Noise Monitoring Terminals (NMTs) provide ongoing noise-level and operations data to the airport's Noise Management Office. You can learn more about our Noise Management Office, Noise Monitoring Terminals and access WebTrak on our website at billybishopairport.com.

In 2024, our Noise Management Office worked with our flight radar provider EnviroSuite to make improvements to the WebTrak data set. This includes improving accuracy of flight paths, reducing the time delay and collaborative improvements with other airports. This data is used in long-term noise mitigation planning and to aid in responding to noise complaints from the surrounding community. The noise data transmitted by the NMTs is also viewable through the [WebTrak website](#).



Regulations and Policies

Billy Bishop Toronto City Airport's management and regulations are regulated by a Tripartite Agreement among the federal government, as represented by the Minister of Transport, the City of Toronto and PortsToronto. As part of the Tripartite Agreement Billy Bishop Toronto City Airport adheres to noise restrictions, limits total daily flight activity and enforces a strict curfew on hours of flight. Due to the regulations in place as a result of the Tripartite Agreement, Billy Bishop Toronto City Airport is one of the most noise restricted airports in North America, operating within a Noise Exposure Forecast (NEF) of 25. Specific noise-parameters are also placed on the type of aircraft that can fly to and from the airport.

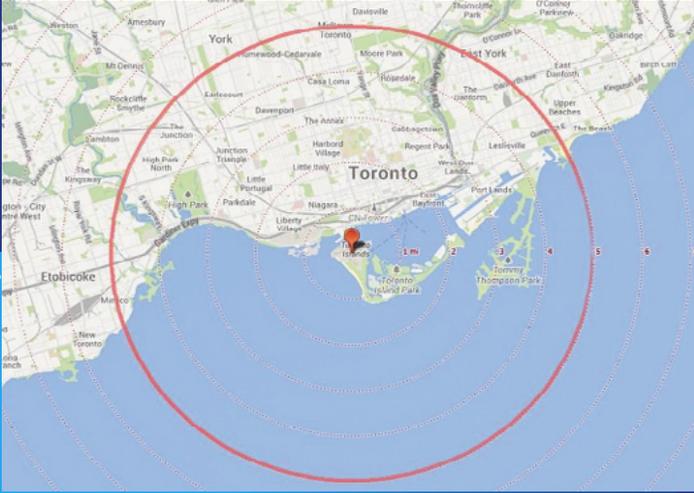
Billy Bishop Toronto City Airport also operates within a curfew that prohibits any aircraft, other than emergency flights or Medevac aircraft, from taking off and landing between the hours of 11:00 p.m. and 6:45 a.m. The curfew and restricted hours are strictly enforced, with significant penalties for any violations. In 2019, PortsToronto instituted an Airport Curfew Fine Policy that will redirect funds from curfew violation fines toward community organizations.

In 2024, Billy Bishop Toronto City Airport had zero curfew violations, a remarkable testament to the strict guidelines in place.



BILLY BISHOP TORONTO CITY AIRPORT AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY

5 Nautical Miles for Aircraft Arriving/Departing at Billy Bishop Toronto City Airport



PortsToronto Noise Management Policy states that:

- *PortsToronto is responsible for reviewing and responding to the noise complaints received at Billy Bishop Toronto City Airport.*
- *Complaints which are not associated with the operation of Billy Bishop Toronto City Airport, are referred to Transport Canada or the related airport.*

**BILLY
BISHOP**
TORONTO CITY AIRPORT

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:

PortsToronto
Billy Bishop Toronto City Airport
1 Island Airport
Toronto, ON
M5V 1A1
Canada

Noise Management Office: 416 203 8490
Website: www.BillyBishopAirport.com

OWNED AND OPERATED BY:
**PORTS
TORONTO**



Billy Bishop Toronto City Airport YTZ Perspectives



Marilyn Bell Electric Ferry

Glossary of Terms

DEFINITIONS

General – A report with no identified/specified aircraft in relation to the complaint. (eg. “airport was very noisy this afternoon”)

No Aircraft – A report which refers to an aircraft that cannot be associated with the specific complaint.

Uncorrelated – A report with the source of noise unable to be confirmed as being associated with the airport or aircraft specific operations.

General Aviation – All civil aviation aircraft operations excluding any commercial air operations. Refers to light aircraft such as Cessna, Pipers, Twin Engine or aircraft for personal use.

Scheduled Commercial – Any commercial air operations, operated by an air carrier. (eg. Porter, Air Canada) excluding Charters.