FAA Flight Path Change Timeline

April 2012 – FAA creates first proposed flight path changes

August 2012 – Sky Harbor Airport staff receives the change plates from the FAA

August/September 2013 – Sky Harbor Management is informed of the potential changes

Sept. 4, 2014 – Sky Harbor Management informed changes will be implemented on Sept. 18 (unknown when sky harbor staff received this information)

Sept. 9-11 – Sky Harbor informs City Management and City Council of impending change

Sept. 18th – change to departure flight path implemented

REMARKS

It is vital that Council and the community be kept informed and that those who are most affected have an opportunity to provide input. That clearly didn’t happen here as neither the FAA nor Sky Harbor engaged with them or even informed them.

While the FFA must bear some responsibility for that, there are other issues outside of the FFA’s failure to engage with
the neighborhoods for which airport management must take some responsibility.

It is worrying that a year passed between airport staff learning of the changes and airport management being informed.

It is shocking that airport management then waited another year to inform the Council and only did so days before the changes were implemented.

It is very troubling that you still can’t tell us when staff at the airport was aware of the implementation date.

As I see it, there are three major breakdowns in communication that occurred and need to be addressed to prevent this from happening again.

1.) There was a breakdown in communication from the FAA and a serious failure on their part to engage the community affected

2.) There was a breakdown in communication between staff and management at the airport.

3.) There was a failure by airport management to keep council informed in a timely manner.

I hope with this meeting, we can get some answers to why these communication breakdowns occurred and reach a solution to prevent these from happening again.