

Belmont Representative – Massport Community Advisory Committee (Massport CAC)

The Massport CAC (<https://massportcac.org/>) is a State Agency that was established by the Massachusetts Legislature 2014 and started operating in 2016. The MCAC superseded the Logan Community Advisory Committee (Logan CAC) which had been established in 2002 as part of the Boston Logan Airport Noise Study (BLANS).

MCAC's 41 representatives are appointed by their respective governing bodies. The communities on the Committee are in proximity to Massport-operated airports (Hanscom, Logan and Worcester) as well its Boston Harbor facilities. It has a full-time Executive Director and an annual operating budget of \$500K.

The Town of Belmont joined the Logan CAC in 2013 and continued-on the Massport CAC. The Town's motivation for joining the CAC was a result of changes made by the FAA to flight paths and procedures for planes departing on runway 33L. Because of the switch from a radar-based to a satellite-based navigation system for managing the national airspace – several concentrated flight paths were created that traverse Belmont. Belmont, in coordination with our neighboring CAC Member communities (Arlington, Cambridge, Medford, Somerville and Watertown), as well as our State Legislators and Congressional delegation have been active in seeking relief or modifications to these flight paths.

The responsibilities of the Representative are to represent Belmont resident concerns and the Town's interests in matters relating to Massport's operations. Attendance at 4-6 General Membership Meetings – currently held on Zoom – in the past, were held at the MA Transportation Building in Boston is required. These meetings are typically 2 hr. in duration. There are other opportunities to participate on sub-committees such as Aviation Operations or Health & Environment. The Representative has provided an annual report at a meeting of the Select Board as well as assisting in arranging for public meetings and presenting at local advocacy group meetings.

Candidates for this appointment should ideally meet requirements set-out in the Enabling Legislation (Chapter 46 of the Acts of 2013, (MCAC applicable sections 54 and 55) AN ACT RELATIVE TO TRANSPORTATION FINANCE.

The members of the Massachusetts Port Authority Community Advisory Committee shall be appointed by the chief executive officer of each community listed above; provided, that appointed members shall be versed in at least 1 of the following disciplines: airport operations; environmental affairs, labor relations, public health or port operations.

Links and resources:

<https://www.belmont-ma.gov/logan-airport-community-advisory-committee>

<https://www.wickedlocal.com/story/belmont-citizen-herald/2013/10/03/belmont-joins-logan-community-advisory/37863833007/>

BLANS final report: <https://content.civicplus.com/api/assets/45e2d7c8-a8ae-4560-b299-ffc5531a610f>