

**STOP**  
**THE**  
**CHOP**  
**NY/NJ**



# Who We Are



- **Stop The Chop NY/NJ** is a 501(c)(3) non-profit, grassroots organization formed to ban or substantially reduce nonessential helicopter flights over the NY Metropolitan Area.
- Website: [stopthechopnynj.org](https://stopthechopnynj.org)

# Our Coalition

15 West 81st Street Tenants Corp  
176 West 87th Street Co-op  
350Brooklyn  
Aviation Environment Federation  
Aviation-Impacted Communities Alliance (AICA)  
Better Waterfront  
Beresford Apartments, Inc., 211 Central Park West  
Billion Oyster Project  
Brooklyn Botanic Garden  
Brooklyn Community Board 6  
Brooklyn Heights Association  
Cadman Towers and Cadman Park Conservancy  
Carnegie Hill Neighbors  
Coalition To Transform Easthampton Airport  
Council of Chelsea Block Associations  
Crew New York  
Friends of Liberty State Park  
Governors Island Alliance  
Hell's Kitchen Neighborhood Association  
Hamilton Park Neighborhood Association – Jersey City  
Hudson River Community Sailing  
Hudson Classical Theater Company  
Hudson River Waterfront Conservancy of NJ, Inc.

Institute for Public Architecture  
It's Easy Being Green UWS  
Ludlow Park Neighborhood Association, Yonkers  
Manhattan Community Board 7  
Manhattan Community Board 4  
Manhattan Community Board 1  
Metro Area Governors Island Coalition (M.A.G.I.C.)  
Next Gen Noise  
Noise Free America  
Queens Quiet Skies Coalition  
Quiet Communities Inc.  
Quiet American Skies  
Paul Rieckhoff, CEO of Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America (IAVA)  
Noise Pollution Clearinghouse  
The Climate Mobilization – North NJ Chapter  
Prospect Heights Development Corp.  
Prospect Park Alliance  
Public Theater  
Right to Quiet Society for Soundscape Awareness and Protection  
Riverside Park Conservancy  
Sargeant Anthony Park Neighborhood Assoc. -Jersey City

Say No to KHTO  
Sierra Club New York City Group  
StreetopiaUWS  
The Battery Alliance  
The Battery Conservancy  
The Central Park Conservancy  
The Institute for Rational Urban Mobility  
The Galaxy Co-op, 51 West 81st Street Corp  
Theodore Roosevelt Park Neighborhood Association Inc (TRPNA)  
The West 79th Street Block Association Inc.  
The West 83rd Street Block Association  
Time Lapse Dance  
United For Action  
West 64th thru 67th Streets Block Association  
West 69th Street Block Association  
WaHi-Inwood Task Force on Noise  
West 80s Neighborhood Association  
West End Preservation Society  
UWS Coalition of Block Associations & Community Groups  
NY League of Conservative Voters

# What is a Nonessential Helicopter?

- **A nonessential helicopter** is a sightseeing, tourist, commuter, charter/corporate, or non-professional photographer helicopter
- **Essential helicopters** are military, emergency services, police, medical, government, and news



**Nonessential:**  
Tourism Helicopter



**Essential:**  
Medical Helicopter



# 80,000 Nonessential Helicopters Per Year: Where Are They Coming From?

## **Two NYC-Owned Heliports:**

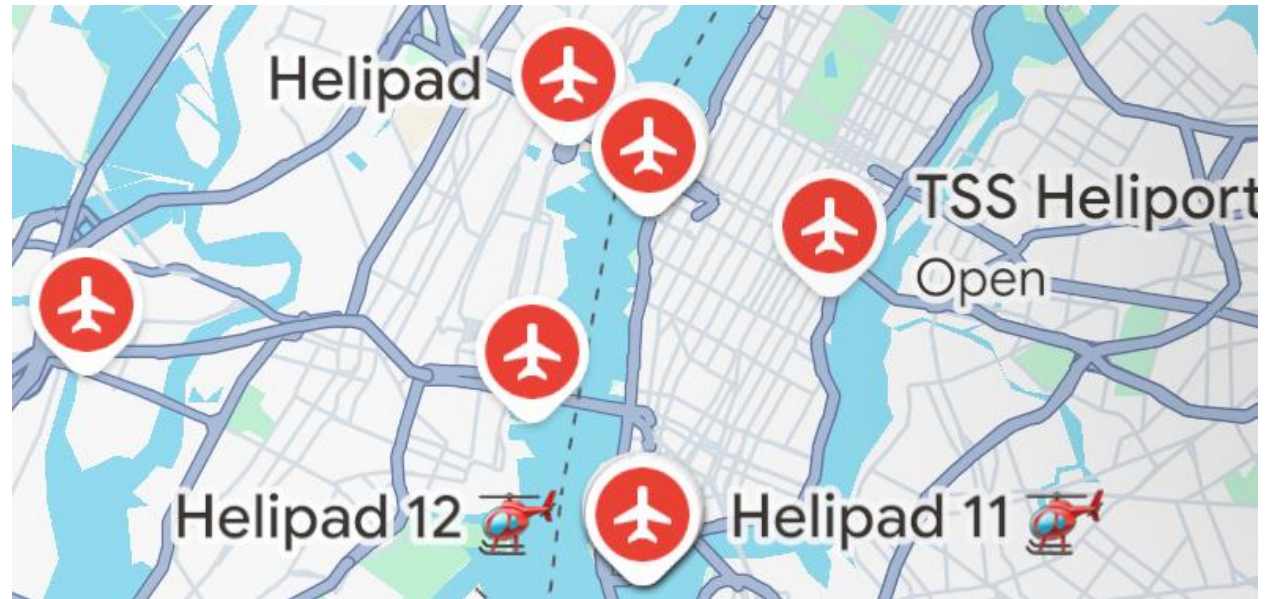
- Downtown Skyport (formerly DMH/ Wall street)
- East 34th Street

## **Jointly controlled by city/state:**

- West 30th Street, in Hudson River Park

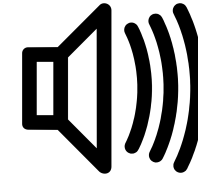
## **Outside NYC:**

- Kearny, NJ
- Linden, NJ
- Teterboro Airport, NJ
- Westchester, NY
- Long Island



# Why Ban Nonessential Helicopters?

Noise & Quality  
of Life



Our Cities Are  
Less Safe



Public  
Health Issue



Environmental  
pollution



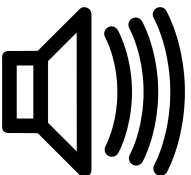
Bad For  
The Economy



# Noise is a Public Health & Quality of Life Issue

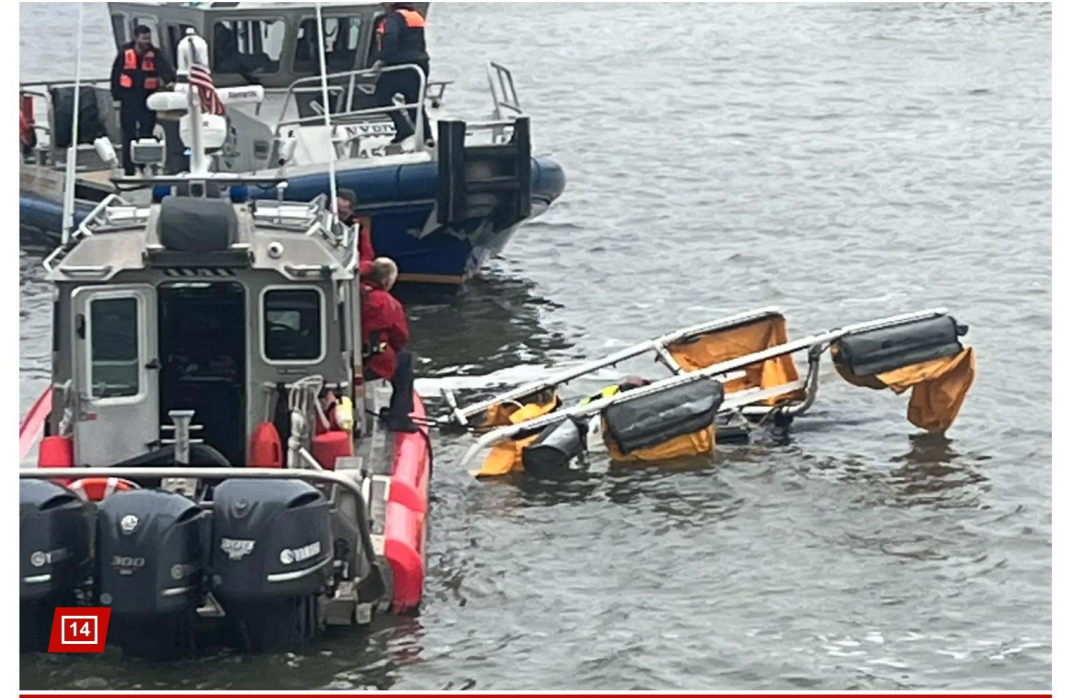
- Helicopters are a **major source of noise pollution**, the number-two public health threat after air pollution, according to the WHO.
- Noise pollution contributes to:
  - Stress
  - Hearing impairment
  - Sleep disruption
  - Metabolic disturbances
  - Exacerbated anxiety and depression
  - Worse academic performance in children
  - Unsafe environments for the hard of hearing

Noise pollution also activates our fight or flight response, which increases our blood pressure, slows our digestion, and inflames the lining of our blood vessels. Prolonged exposure can lead to cardiovascular diseases, obesity, and diabetes.



# Our Cities are Less Safe

- Helicopters are **not safe** for passengers, crew members, or people on the ground.
- There is a **long history of local helicopter crashes** resulting in fatalities or injuries from 1970 to now.
- Sightseeing helicopter tours create a risk to our **historic landmarks**.



Rescue teams near the crashed helicopter in the Hudson River.  
Obtained by the NY Post





# Environmental Pollutants

- Helicopters are also a source of **particulate matter** and in some cases even lead emissions.
- In fact, aircraft with piston engines are the **largest source** of lead emissions in the U.S. Leaded gasoline is still found in 170,000 piston-engine helicopters and planes.
- **Particulate matter** is linked to negative health impacts, **including cancer**.
- Fewer helicopters means fewer emissions and less noise pollution. The pandemic has shown that a reduction in aircraft pollution is beneficial for cardiovascular health.



# Environmental Pollution

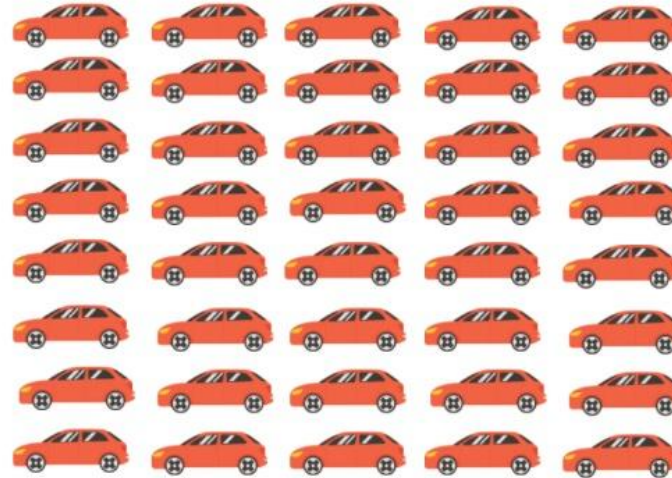


## Gas/Fossil Fuel Consumption



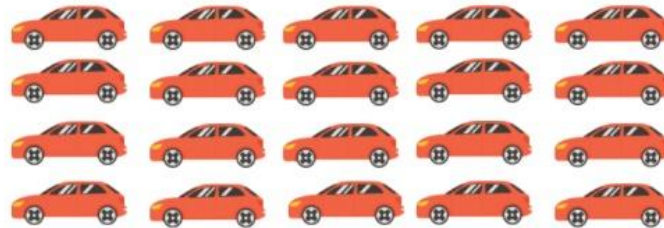
**Charter Helicopter**

=



**Tourist Joyride**

=



# Bad for The Economy

- Helicopter crashes **disrupt businesses** and utilize **expensive** emergency services.
- Noise pollution **reduces real estate values** and negatively impacts **outdoor businesses, festivals and public events**.
- Helicopter companies **unfairly externalize their costs to society** (eg. environmental, medical and emergency services).



*“Calling noise a nuisance is like calling smog an inconvenience. Noise must be considered a hazard to the health of people everywhere.”*

- Former U.S. Surgeon General William H. Steward (1978)





The background features a series of concentric circles in light gray, some solid and some dashed, creating a ripple effect. A large, solid red speech bubble is centered on the page, pointing downwards. The text is white and bold, centered within the red bubble.

# Legislation and Introduced Bills

# Federal Helicopter Safety Act 2025

## H.R. 3196

**H.R. 3196** – May 5, 2025- ***The Improving Helicopter Safety Act of 2025*** to amend title 49, United States Code, to prohibit helicopter flights within a 20 mile radius of the Statue of Liberty National Monument, and for other purposes.

*Sponsors: Rep. Nadler (D-NY), Rep. Malliotakis (R-NY), Rep. Menendez (D-NJ) and cosponsors Rep. Meng (D-NY), Rep. Velasquez (D-NY), Rep. Goldman (D-NY), and Rep. McIver (D-NJ).*

# Federal Helicopter Safety and Noise Management Act

## H.R. 7769

**H.R. 7769**- 5/16/2022- ***Helicopter Safety and Noise Management Act*** if passed, would **create a commission** made up of the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), members of local and state governments, and helicopter noise and safety advocates and develop a helicopter usage management plan to **substantially reduce** the number of nonessential rotorcraft operating at any given time

*Sponsors: Carolyn B. Maloney (D-NY-12) and 23 others*

# Federal Communities Before Tourism Act

## H.R. 2613

**H.R. 2613**- 4/14/2023- ***Communities Before Tourism Act*** if passed, would require that **voluntary agreements** with respect to commercial air tour operations over national parks should **consider the well-being** of communities that aircraft fly over and require the FAA and National Park Service (NPS) to **consult with these communities**.

*Sponsors: Rep. Rob Menendez (D-NJ-8), Frank Pallone Jr (D-NJ-6), Bill Pascrell Jr (D-NJ-9)*



# The Helicopter Oversight Act

## Passed April 2025 by NYC City Council

(Int. 26-A, Law no. 2025/064)

*In 2029, the law will ban helicopters that fail to meet the industry's strictest noise standards from using the two City-run heliports, East 34th Street and Downtown Manhattan / Downtown Skyport.*

At the same time that it passed the bill, the Council approved **three strong resolutions**, **Res. 233-A**, **Res. 85-A** and **Res. 226-A**, which, respectively:

1. Call on the FAA to **ban all nonessential helicopters** over New York City;
2. Urge the NYS legislature to pass and the Governor to sign bills **establishing noise taxes** for nonessential helicopter flights; and
3. Would **prohibit certain nonessential helicopters at municipal heliports**, including the W. 30th St Heliport located in the Hudson River Park, which is jointly controlled by the City and the State.

# New York State Legislation

New York Assembly Bill 6962/  
New York State Senate Bill 7277

**ENACTED**  
**Moves W 30th St helipads onto  
barges**

New York Assembly Bill A05891A/  
New York State Senate Bill 1140

Establish a tax on noise from  
nonessential helicopter & seaplane  
flights

On June 5, 2025 Manhattan CB7 passed a resolution calling for a ban on nonessential helicopters

***We are requesting a resolution from your CB to...***

1. Ask the Mayor to close the 2 city-owned East River heliports to nonessential helicopter traffic
2. Ask the mayor and governor to work together to close the West 30th St heliport
3. Support us on relevant bills (Stop the Chop will provide a template)

# Questions?

FAQ on Website:



Email: [info@stopthechopnynj.org](mailto:info@stopthechopnynj.org)