

—TOWN OF—
MIDDLETON
Wisconsin

January 4, 2023

Gurdip Brar, Mayor and Plan Commission Chair; mayor@cityofmiddleton.us

Kathy Olson, Council President, Alder District 1: district1@cityofmiddleton.us

Dan Ramsey, Alder District 7 and Plan Commission Member; district7@cityofmiddleton.us

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Lisa Janairo, Alder District 6; district6@cityofmiddleton.us

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Re: Request to Include Town of Middleton Resolution 20230103-1 into the Official Public Record for the City of Middleton Plan Commission Public Hearing on 1/10/23, and in Public Input on the related upcoming Common Council Meeting Agenda Item (not yet publicly posted), regarding the City of Middleton's Petition to the State of Wisconsin, Department of Transportation, Bureau of Aeronautics, for state and federal funds for Middleton Municipal Airport-Morey Field development and improvement projects

Dear Mayor Brar, Common Council President, Alders, and Plan Commission:

We are requesting that you include this correspondence and the attached Town of Middleton Resolution 20230103-1 in the City of Middleton Plan Commission's 1/10/23 Official Record for the Public Hearing Agenda Item, and in Public Input on the related upcoming Common Council Meeting Agenda Item (not yet publicly posted) regarding the City of Middleton's Petition to the State of Wisconsin, Department of Transportation, Bureau of Aeronautics for state and federal funds for Morey Airport (a/k/a "City of Middleton Municipal-Airport Morey Field" and "C29") improvement projects.

As you must know, there is no safe level of lead in humans, especially in children. Lead exposure is cumulative and cannot be readily removed from the body once ingested. As stated in a 2/1/22 Wisconsin State Journal article, "The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention state no amount of lead is considered safe for children...Lead exposure can cause a host of health problems and is considered especially dangerous for young children because it can slow development and cause other troubles." (Wisconsin State Journal, 2/1/22, *Efforts to improve tap*

water face wary public by Michael Phillis, Associated Press; See also <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/lead/health-effects.htm>). Breathing airborne lead is one of the most dangerous ways to be exposed. Unlike lead in automobile gas, once inhaled, piston-engine aviation airborne lead cannot be expelled by the lungs due to its smaller particle size. . (See <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/33100835/>).

It is also noteworthy that many housing projects being developed by the City of Middleton are immediately east of Morey Airport are well within some of the heavier lead pollution areas. This means children living in those housing units are subject to a greater risk of lead poisoning than those living outside the pollution areas. (See <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3230438/>; <https://news.sccgov.org/sites/g/files/exjcpb956/files/documents/RHV-Airborne-Lead-Study-Report.pdf>).

Lead is not the only pollution problem at Morey Airport. As noted by the EPA in 2017, Morey Airport operations produce the following air pollutants on an annual basis:

1. 250,066 pounds per year of particulate matter, photochemical oxidants and ground-level ozone, carbon monoxide, sulfur oxides, nitrogen oxides, and **lead**).
2. 6,868 pounds per year of volatile organic compounds (“VOCs”): chemicals emitted as gases from certain solids or liquids, including over 300 pounds of toluene annually.
3. 2,433 pounds per year of hazardous air pollutants – substances which are known or suspected to cause cancer or other serious health effects, such as reproductive problems or birth defects, or adverse environmental effects.

City of Middleton Airport Survey Respondents Value the Environment

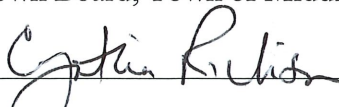
As you should also recall, in the City of Middleton’s recent Airport Survey, respondents overwhelming stated it was important to avoid negative impacts on groundwater quality (92%), air quality (81%) and noise pollution levels (86%). It was also significantly noted that seventy-percent of the City Survey respondents indicated they did not believe that an EPA mandated assessment would preclude negative environmental impacts.

Morey Airport is a recreational, hobby facility that is used by a very limited number of people, many of whom do not live in any of the municipalities impacted by the Airport’s operations. It is not an airport of necessity. Any development projects or expansion of this recreational facility will cause an increase in Airport takeoffs and landings and, therefore, will also increase the already serious levels of noise, air, and water pollution resulting from Morey Airport operations.

We urge you not to submit a Petition to the State of Wisconsin, Department of Transportation, Bureau of Aeronautics for state and federal funds for development projects at Morey Airport. In addition, it is imperative that the City immediately stop selling leaded aviation gas at Morey Airport to protect the health, safety, welfare, and environment of all persons living in the Middleton area.

Sincerely,

Town Board, Town of Middleton, Wisconsin



Cynthia Richson, Town Chair

Town Resolution Number 20230103-1 Approved on 1/3/23 by the Town Board of the Town of Middleton, Wisconsin, by a vote of 4-0 (Supervisor Opin, excused absence), including authorizing the transmittal of this information to the City of Middleton Plan Commission for inclusion in its Official Public Record for its 1/10/23 Public Hearing regarding the City's Petition to the State of Wisconsin, Department of Transportation, Bureau of Aeronautics, for state and federal funds for Morey Airport (C29) improvement projects.

Cc: Lorie Burns, City Clerk, City of Middleton; lburns@cityofmiddleton.us

Rebecca B. MacPherson, Regional Administrator, Federal Aviation Administration, Great Lakes Region; Rebecca.MacPherson@faa.gov

Governor Tony Evers; EversInfo@wisconsin.gov

Maggie Gau, Governor Evers Chief of Staff; Maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov

Brian Weaver, WI DHS, Governor Evers Lead Policy Advisor; brian.weaver@dhs.wisconsin.gov

Craig Thompson, Secretary, Wisconsin Dept. of Transportation; craigm.thompson@dot.wi.gov

David Greene, Director, Wisconsin Dept. of Transportation, Bureau of Aeronautics; david.greene@dot.wi.gov

U.S. Representative Mark Pocan; mark.pocan@mail.house.gov

U.S. Senator Tammy Baldwin; baldwin.tammy@mail.house.gov

State Senator Dianne Hesselbein; Sen.Hesselbein@legis.wisconsin.gov

State Representative Mike Bare; Rep.Bare@legis.wisconsin.gov

Joe Parisi, Dane County Executive; parisi@countyofdane.com

Josh Wescott, Chief of Staff, Office of the Dane County Executive; wescott@countyofdane.com

Jerry Halverson, M.D, Chair, Board of Public Health Madison and Dane County; Jhalversonmdphmdc@gmail.com

phbohsupport@cityofmadison.com

Robert Hesselbein, President, Board of Education, Middleton-Cross Plains Area School District; roberth@mcpasd.k12.wi.us

Brett Wilfrid, Principal, Sunset Ridge Elementary School; bwilfrid@mcpasd.k12.wi.us

Gretchen Mancieri, Head of School, Madison Community Montessori School; headofschool@madisoncommunitymontessori.org

Jim Pulvermacher, Town of Springfield, WI, Town Board Chair; chairperson@town.springfield.wi.us

Bryan Gadow, City of Middleton Administrator; bgadow@cityofmiddleton.us

TOWN OF MIDDLETON

RESOLUTION NO. 20230103-1

RESOLUTION OPPOSING IMPROVEMENTS RELATING TO THE CITY OF MIDDLETON'S APRIL 19, 2022 ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION 2022-25 ADOPTION OF MIDDLETON MUNICIPAL AIRPORT-MOREY FIELD (C29) MASTER PLAN AND AIRPORT LAYOUT PLAN FOR AIRPORT EXPANSION

WHEREAS, the City of Middleton Common Council (“Common Council”) approved Resolution 2022-25 on April 19, 2022 for the adoption of a Master Plan and Airport Layout Plan for the expansion of the Middleton Municipal Airport-Morey Field (“C29” or “Morey Field”); and

WHEREAS, the Common Council directed the City of Middleton Plan Commission (“Plan Commission”) to hold a public hearing on January 10, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. at the City Hall Council Chambers at 7426 Hubbard Avenue, in Middleton, Wisconsin to petition the State of Wisconsin, Department of Transportation, for state and federal funds for Morey Airport improvement projects described by the City of Middleton as follows: 1) Design Engineering and Reconstruction of Primary Runway and Taxiway; 2) Fuel Farm Acquisition and Upgrades, including purchase of Unleaded Fuel Tank; 3) Conduct Wildlife Site Visit/Assessment/Management Plan; 4) Purchase Mowing Equipment; 5) Purchase Terminal Building; 6) Sealcoat, Crackfill, and Marking of airport pavements; 6) Drainage improvement; 7) Clear and Maintain runway approaches as stated in Transportation Administrative Code Chapter 55; and 8) any necessary related work.

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Middleton, Wisconsin desires to express its opinion to the Mayor and the Common Council of the City of Middleton and others in opposition to the adoption by the Common Council of a petition to the State of Wisconsin, Department of Transportation, for state and federal funds for Morey Airport improvement projects, a recreational airport, as described-above by the City of Middleton as it relates to Morey Airport expansion, laying the groundwork for Morey Field expansion, including, but not limited to, increasing the runway pavement strength for use by larger, heavier aircraft to take-off and land at Morey Field or the continued sale of leaded aviation gas at Morey Airport or for the eradication of wildlife in the vicinity of Morey Field referenced-above as a Wildlife “Management Plan” or for the purchase of the Morey Field terminal building in accord with the July 20, 2016 Memorandum of Understanding between Capital Flight, LLC and the City of Middleton or to clear runway approach flight paths in the absence of avigation easements and fair market value property owner compensation in accord with FAA AC 150/5100-17 dated 7/10/2017, and any other related work deemed “necessary” by the City of Middleton.

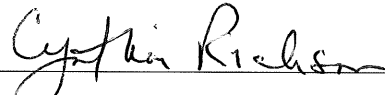
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF MIDDLETON, DANE COUNTY, WISCONSIN, AS FOLLOWS:

1. Morey Airport as currently operated is causing, and as proposed to be operated with the above-referenced improvements, will continue to cause damage and injury to residents and to residential neighborhoods, including private well drinking water, and other lands located in the Town of Middleton in the vicinity of Morey Field due to water contamination, noise and air pollution (including lead and other contamination and pollution from Morey Field aviation fuel), and low altitude overflights, and any increases related to the expansion or extension of any runways, the creation of any

new runways (paved or turf) or any increase in pavement strength for use by larger, heavier aircraft, and the establishment of additional and larger hangars at Morey Field, will increase the level of damage and injury suffered by these residents and neighborhoods and other lands in the Town of Middleton due to water contamination, noise and air pollution, and an increase in low altitude overflights.

2. The May 2021 Pavement Management Report and pavement evaluation inspection completed on June 12, 2020 for Middleton Municipal Airport-Morey Field prepared by Applied Pavement Technology, Inc. in association with Mead & Hunt, Inc. and prepared for the Wisconsin Department of Transportation Bureau of Aeronautics concluded that the 2020 area-weighted condition is 74 using the Pavement Condition Index (PCI) procedure. According to this Report on page 4, "...pavement with a PCI of 60 to 100 that are not exhibiting significant load-related distress will benefit from preventive maintenance or preservation, such as crack sealing and surface treatments. Pavements with a PCI of 40 to 60 may require major rehabilitation, such as a mill and overlay." Only the lowest PCI ratings justify "Reconstruction". Accordingly, in light of its high overall score of 74, the Town objects to the City of Middleton obtaining federal and state funds for "Reconstruction of Primary Runway and Taxiway".
3. Morey Field already has a 10,000 gallon tank that can be used to sell only unleaded aviation gas at the Airport. An additional aviation fuel tank is unnecessary and should be removed from the petition.
4. Avigation easements and fair market value compensation are required for any projects, per FAA AC 150/5100-7 requirements and guidance dated 7/10/2017, to "Clear and Maintain runway approaches as stated in Transportation Administrative Code Chapter 55; and any necessary related work."
5. In light of the foregoing, the Town Board of the Town of Middleton hereby oppose the adoption by the Common Council of any petition for improvements at Morey Field that are in any manner related to Airport expansion, pavement strengthening for larger, heavier aircraft at Morey Field, or the eradication of wildlife as a "Management Plan" in the vicinity of Morey Field.
6. The Town Board of the Town of Middleton directs that staff submit this resolution to the Mayor and the City Council of the City of Middleton, Wisconsin, to the Federal Aviation Administration and to the Wisconsin Bureau of Aeronautics.

Adopted and approved this 3rd day of January, 2023.



Cynthia Richson, Town Chair

ATTEST:



Barbara Roeslein, Town Clerk

It was moved by Supervisor Bryce and seconded by Supervisor Stemrich that the foregoing Resolution be adopted.

Those Supervisors voting in favor: Richson, Oberle, Bryce, and Stemrich. Opim was absent.

Those Supervisors voting in opposition: None.

The Town Chair declared the resolution adopted.