

REC'D NOV 23 2020



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Aviation
Administration**

Great Lakes Region
2300 East Devon Avenue
Des Plaines, IL 60018

November 19, 2020

Town of Middleton
Board of Supervisors
Town Hall
7555 W. Old Sauk Road
Verona, WI 53593

Town of Springfield
Board of Supervisors
Town Hall
6157 County Highway P
Dane, WI 53529

Dear Supervisors,

Thank you for your September 24, 2020 letter and packet of information. The information provided by Mr. Bartholomew raises two key concerns from interested members of the public regarding the ongoing airport master planning process at Middleton Municipal Airport. The first is whether the opportunity for appropriate public input and engagement has been provided. The second is whether the aviation forecast assumptions are valid.

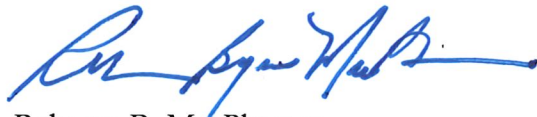
The State of Wisconsin is a State Block Grant Program participant in the Airport Improvement Program (AIP), and thus takes on certain functions that the FAA normally performs for non-primary airports within their state. Middleton Municipal Airport falls within the State Block Grant Program. The review of this planning effort, therefore, is led by the Wisconsin Department of Transportation Bureau of Aeronautics.

The FAA encourages any member of the public to share their input with the Middleton Municipal Airport throughout the planning process. The City of Middleton as the owner of the airport develops their strategy for the airport, and since these are primarily local decisions, it is the airport's responsibility to conduct the public engagement process. FAA's role is to ensure federal standards for public engagement are met where applicable.

The FAA does retain approval authority of key elements of the airport's final master plan such as the forecast. At the current time, the airport's master plan forecast was approved by the FAA, but the runway length justification has not been finalized. The FAA will conduct an environmental review on the proposed project. If the runway extension is selected as a preferred alternative, this will include revalidating the aviation forecast with current activity levels. During the environmental review, there will likely be an opportunity for the public to provide comments on the record for FAA consideration as required when seeking federal funds to build a runway.

I hope you find this information useful. If you need further information, please contact Deb Bartell, Manager, Chicago Airports District Office at 847-294-7335.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Rebecca B. MacPherson", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Rebecca B. MacPherson
Regional Administrator
Great Lakes Region