


Fw: document

From Brandy Steffen <brandy.steffen@jla.us.com>

Date Mon 2024-10-21 11:42 AM

To Jen Winslow <Jen.winslow@jla.us.com>; Ashley Balsom <ashley.balsom@jla.us.com>

 1 attachment (2 MB)

UAO airport risk analysis for ROFA mod of standards - 2024-8-29 Final.pdf;

BRANDY STEFFEN | JLA PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

Partner + Senior Program Manager

brandy.steffen@jla.us.com » [Schedule a 30 minute meeting](#)

From: BEACH Anthony <Anthony.BEACH@odav.oregon.gov>

Sent: Wednesday, October 16, 2024 11:55 AM

To: Samantha Peterson <SPeterson@CenturyWest.com>; Brandy Steffen <brandy.steffen@jla.us.com>

Cc: THOMAS Alex R <Alex.R.THOMAS@odav.oregon.gov>; W. Matt Rogers <WRogers@CenturyWest.com>

Subject: FW: document

FYI, please include this email received by one of our board members in the public record.

Thank you,

Tony Beach

OREGON DEPARTMENT OF AVIATION

STATE AIRPORTS MANAGER

OFFICE 503-378-2523 **CELL** 503-302-5455

M-F 7:30am – 4pm

From: LUCAS Sarah M (Avi Board) <Sarah.M.LUCAS@odav.oregon.gov>

Sent: Wednesday, October 16, 2024 8:45 AM

To: BEACH Anthony <Anthony.BEACH@odav.oregon.gov>

Subject: Fw: document

And here's another. I never did follow up with Tony regarding Aron's report.

From: Sarah Lucas <sarahlucas1982@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, October 8, 2024 8:26 AM

To: LUCAS Sarah M (Avi Board) <Sarah.M.LUCAS@odav.oregon.gov>

Subject: Fwd: document

You don't often get email from sarahlucas1982@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

This message was sent from outside the organization. Treat attachments, links and requests with caution. Be conscious of the information you share if you respond.

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Helbling, Tony <helbling@wilsonconst.com>
Date: Tue, Sep 10, 2024 at 2:13 PM
Subject: document
To: Sarah Lucas <sarahlucas1982@gmail.com>

Sarah,

This is the document we discussed a few weeks back. Aron gave me permission to send this directly. You can also get it thru ODAV as it was submitted as part of our feedback. Just thought as a professional working in the same field, it would be nice to share this analysis with directly. He'd be happy to discuss thoughts.

Aron Faegre is one of the smartest and kindest people I've ever met. He does sort of the same thing as you but is on the backside of his career/scaling back and only working for/with a few clients on a very limited basis.

Tony Helbling
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From: Wendie Kellington <wk@klgpc.com>
Sent: Monday, September 09, 2024 3:30 PM
To: Wright, Rebecca <Rebecca.Wright@mail.house.gov>; MacFarlane, Joe <Joe.MacFarlane@mail.house.gov>
Cc: Ted Millar <tmillar@wwpmi.com>; Aron Faegre <faegre@earthlink.net>; Helbling, Tony <helbling@wilsonconst.com>
Subject: RE: Aurora State Airport

Hi Rebecca and Joe,

Thank you. Aron points out that the one of the attachments was mislabeled. Attached are the properly labeled ones. Thank you! Wendie

From: Wright, Rebecca <Rebecca.Wright@mail.house.gov>
Sent: Monday, September 9, 2024 2:35 PM
To: Helbling, Tony <helbling@wilsonconst.com>

Cc: Ted Millar <tmillar@wwpmi.com>; Aron Faegre <faegre@earthlink.net>; Wendie Kellington <wk@klgpc.com>; MacFarlane, Joe <Joe.MacFarlane@mail.house.gov>

Subject: RE: Aurora State Airport

Hi Tony (and team),

Nice to see all your names here in my inbox. I hope you've all been well and had a nice summer.

Thanks for sending this over, Tony. I have cc'd Joe MacFarlane here, who handles the congresswoman's Aviation Subcommittee portfolio. I will give him some time to digest this, and we will be in touch.

Thanks,

Rebecca Wright

District Director

(971) 403-8977



From: Helbling, Tony <helbling@wilsonconst.com>

Sent: Monday, September 9, 2024 2:24 PM

To: Wright, Rebecca <Rebecca.Wright@mail.house.gov>

Cc: Ted Millar <tmillar@wwpmi.com>; Aron Faegre <faegre@earthlink.net>; wk@klgpc.com

Subject: Aurora State Airport

Good Afternoon Rebecca,

Always good to talk with you! Please forward this on to your colleague in Congresswoman Chavez-DeRemer's office along with my contact information. Also (taking advantage of friendship connections) please share with Christine Drazan (I have no shame). I'm hopeful she could work with us as well as Representative Lewis and Senator Girod.

I can't take credit for the masterful information shared below but it (and the attached) very clearly illustrates the situation at Aurora State Airport...

The Oregon Department of Aviation (ODAV – the state) is involved in a master planning effort costing \$ 1 million + in federal dollars producing airport 'alternatives" (attached) that all but guarantee the airport's demise. The state's proposed "alternatives" hold the desperately needed runway extension hostage to getting and spending hundreds of millions of dollars to fund "alternatives". These things are wholly unnecessary: like either moving Highway 551 and condemning many homes and businesses or moving the airport tower somewhere else (we note that the tower was just put in during 2015 at considerable cost), moving the entire runway and condemning all of the more than \$200 million in private investment from hangars to Atlantic's FBO, to parts Columbia Helicopters and Helicopter Transport Inc., among others, so that ODAV can basically start over at the airport.

Not only are ODAV's "alternatives" wasteful, unnecessary, and dangerous, there does not seem to be any oversight – at a recent work session (9/5/24) ODAV did not even inform their own board that the airport stakeholders gave ODAV the attached fully supported alternative on 9/3/24. An alternative the FAA will almost certainly approve, that costs very little, and that achieves all legitimate goals. ODAV blames regional FAA folks for their untenable alternatives, but the ODAV "alternatives" aren't even consistent with FAA's authority. If there is someone in the FAA playing along, we should consult with their superiors, because unnecessary multi-hundreds of millions of dollars in spending is not something FAA typically insists upon (if they really are – we do not know).

Aurora State Airport is one of the busiest Oregon airports – it features a vitally important hub for Life Flight, numerous natural disaster response companies and various Oregon businesses. We understand that Marion County’s governing body is concerned about the direction ODAV is going as well. We would greatly appreciate setting up a meeting with you for some advice about getting the attention of the appropriate people in the FAA about this slow unfolding disaster. Additional points:

- **None** of ODAV’s three “alternatives” for the airport are tenable and all are totally unnecessary, based entirely on false assumptions, would cost taxpayers hundreds of millions of dollars to implement (dollars that do not exist), significant loss of tax revenue, loss of good jobs, loss of area tourist revenue, loss of an extremely important state and regional natural disaster asset, all to gain some 27’ of separation between the runway and Highway 551, when federal standards allow imperfect compliance with, ODAV merely has to ask. As noted, the airport stakeholders have helped ODAV by giving them a fully supported “Modification to Standards” that meets all FAA standards prepared by an airport professional. Airports throughout the state and country all have such FAA approvals – ODAV just has to ask for it.
- The future of aviation is not just on the horizon, it is here... now! Electric airplanes and electric vertical aircraft (similar to helicopters) are already operating in US Airspace. Its owner has arranged to provide electrical capacity to support electric aircraft, which are the aircraft of the future. The airport boundary should be adjusted to include the one remaining remaining undeveloped through the fence property so it can be put to the aeronautical use it has been planned for since 1976. ODAV is ignoring that innovation which makes their 20-year plan not seem particularly useful for the long term and it is nothing short of appalling for the short term needs of the airport.
- ORS 836.642 clearly calls for ODAV to promote economic development and “Preserve investments in pilot sites...”. These proposed alternatives do the exact opposite!

Let’s set up a time to talk in person – happy to meet in Canby or up at the airport. I’m out of town till September 19 and pretty open after that. There is a group of smart people (cc’d) that would like to meet. We look forward to meeting with you and your advice.

Thank you in advance for all you do for us.

Tony Helbling
503-519-6059