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**Re: Aurora Airport Master Plan Preferred Alternative**

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

**Date** Mon 2024-10-14 12:56 PM

**To** Ben Williams <fofp99@gmail.com>

**Cc** THOMAS Alex R <Alex.R.THOMAS@odav.oregon.gov>; BEACH Anthony <Anthony.BEACH@odav.oregon.gov>; STEPHENS Cathryn E <CStephens@eugene-or.gov>

Hi Ben,

I'm sorry for a typo in the previous email: (7) should have been (6) in our response. It should have been written: "the Board makes a decision whether to reject or adopt the findings and the draft master plan under OAR 738-130-0055 (6)."

I will get back to you about your question about the cost estimates.

Thank you,

**BRANDY STEFFEN | JLA PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT**

Partner + Senior Program Manager

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

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

**Sent:** Friday, October 11, 2024 9:52 AM

**To:** Ben Williams <fofp99@gmail.com>

**Cc:** THOMAS Alex R <Alex.R.THOMAS@odav.oregon.gov>; BEACH Anthony <Anthony.BEACH@odav.oregon.gov>; STEPHENS Cathryn E <CStephens@eugene-or.gov>

**Subject:** Re: Aurora Airport Master Plan Preferred Alternative

Hi Ben,

Thanks for your questions. I will find you some answers and get back to you ASAP.

Thanks,

**BRANDY STEFFEN | JLA PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT**

Partner + Senior Program Manager

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

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**From:** Ben Williams <fofp99@gmail.com>

**Sent:** Friday, October 11, 2024 9:39 AM

**To:** Brandy Steffen <brandy.steffen@jla.us.com>

**Cc:** THOMAS Alex R <Alex.R.THOMAS@odav.oregon.gov>; BEACH Anthony <Anthony.BEACH@odav.oregon.gov>;

STEPHENS Cathryn E <CStephens@eugene-or.gov>

**Subject:** Re: Aurora Airport Master Plan Preferred Alternative

Brandy;

Thanks for the explanation of how subsections (5) and (7) work. It does seem that the explanation is missing the board's role in subsection (6). The board is charged with adopting the findings and the master plan. The board can presumably accept, reject, or revise the findings and/or the plan. The Court of Appeals emphasized the Board's role under subsection (6) in the very first paragraph of the opinion. See also pages 325-327, and 330-331.

Subsection (6) is the crucial piece of the land use compliance, and it feels like there's an effort to sideline the board on this and other topics. At a recent meeting the board requested more time to review the three alternatives, but that topic has not appeared on another board agenda. The board also asked about project costs for the alternatives. When will cost estimates be provided?

Sincerely

Ben Williams  
Friends of French Prairie

On Wed, Oct 9, 2024 at 4:10 PM Brandy Steffen <[brandy.steffen@jla.us.com](mailto:brandy.steffen@jla.us.com)> wrote:

Hi Ben,

Thank you for your email. Tony Beach passed it along to me since we're tasked with tracking all comments on this project. I see that you've noted Chair Stephens' confirmation of your email and questions which were: Has the Preferred Alternative been presented to the Board? Did the Board make the decision or approve the department decision? Is it a Department decision or a Board decision?

The Department as part of its planning duties under ORS 836.025(1) is charged with drafting all the components of the draft master plan, which includes the alternatives analysis and selection of the preferred alternative. The Department is then required to present to the Board the draft master plan and findings of compatibility and compliance with the appropriate acknowledged comprehensive plan and relevant statewide land use goals under OAR 738-130-0055(5). The Board then makes a decision whether to reject or adopt the findings and the draft master plan under OAR 738-130-0055 (7).

I hope that answers your questions, but if not, please let me know.

Thank you,

**BRANDY STEFFEN | JLA PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT**

Partner + Senior Program Manager

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

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**From:** Ben Williams <[fofp99@gmail.com](mailto:fofp99@gmail.com)>

**Sent:** Tuesday, October 8, 2024 11:38 AM

**To:** STEPHENS Cathryn E <[CStephens@eugene-or.gov](mailto:CStephens@eugene-or.gov)>

**Cc:** Oregon Department of Aviation <[mail.aviation@ODAV.oregon.gov](mailto:mail.aviation@ODAV.oregon.gov)>; WARNER Chris \* GOV <[Chris.WARNER@oregon.gov](mailto:Chris.WARNER@oregon.gov)>; BROOKS Kelly S \* GOV <[Kelly.S.BROOKS@oregon.gov](mailto:Kelly.S.BROOKS@oregon.gov)>; SUGAHARA Kenji <[Kenji.SUGAHARA@odav.oregon.gov](mailto:Kenji.SUGAHARA@odav.oregon.gov)>; Mayor Julie Fitzgerald <[fitzgerald@ci.wilsonville.or.us](mailto:fitzgerald@ci.wilsonville.or.us)>; Mayor Brian Asher ([mayor@ci.aurora.or.us](mailto:mayor@ci.aurora.or.us)) <[mayor@ci.aurora.or.us](mailto:mayor@ci.aurora.or.us)>; WYTOSKI Beth \* GOV <[Beth.Wyatoski@oregon.gov](mailto:Beth.Wyatoski@oregon.gov)>; HYZY Kathy \* GOV <[Kathy.Hyzy@oregon.gov](mailto:Kathy.Hyzy@oregon.gov)>; BEACH Anthony <[Anthony.BEACH@odav.oregon.gov](mailto:Anthony.BEACH@odav.oregon.gov)>

**Subject:** Re: Aurora Airport Master Plan Preferred Alternative

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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.

Chair Stephen's;

Thank you for acknowledging receipt of my email.

I hope you will also provide answers to the questions I asked.

Sincerely

Ben Williams  
Friends of French Prairie  
[fofp99@gmail.com](mailto:fofp99@gmail.com)

On Tue, Oct 8, 2024 at 10:49 AM STEPHENS Cathryn E <[CStephens@eugene-or.gov](mailto:CStephens@eugene-or.gov)> wrote:

Hello Ben,

I am acknowledging receipt of your email.

Thank you,  
Cathryn

Cathryn Stephens, A.A.E.  
Airport Director  
[28855 Lockheed Drive](#)  
[Eugene, Oregon 97402](#)  
541-682-5430  
[www.flyEUG.com](http://www.flyEUG.com)

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**From:** Ben Williams <[fofp99@gmail.com](mailto:fofp99@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 8, 2024 10:29 AM  
**To:** STEPHENS Cathryn E <[CStephens@eugene-or.gov](mailto:CStephens@eugene-or.gov)>  
**Cc:** [mail.aviation@odav.oregon.gov](mailto:mail.aviation@odav.oregon.gov); [Chris.warner@oregon.gov](mailto:Chris.warner@oregon.gov); [kelly.s.brooks@oregon.gov](mailto:kelly.s.brooks@oregon.gov); [Kenji.SUGAHARA@odav.oregon.gov](mailto:Kenji.SUGAHARA@odav.oregon.gov); Mayor Julie Fitzgerald <[fitzgerald@ci.wilsonville.or.us](mailto:fitzgerald@ci.wilsonville.or.us)>; Mayor Brian Asher ([mayor@ci.aurora.or.us](mailto:mayor@ci.aurora.or.us)) <[mayor@ci.aurora.or.us](mailto:mayor@ci.aurora.or.us)>; [Beth.Wyatoski@oregon.gov](mailto:Beth.Wyatoski@oregon.gov); [Kathy.Hyzy@oregon.gov](mailto:Kathy.Hyzy@oregon.gov)  
**Subject:** Aurora Airport Master Plan Preferred Alternative

[EXTERNAL ⚠]

To: Chair Stephens and Aviation Board Members;

I'm sending you and the Aviation Board this inquiry following delivery of the agenda for the next Aurora Airport Master Plan PAC meeting on October 15. The following was sent to the PAC:

**AC MEETING #7 AGENDA****Date/Time:** October 15, 2024, from 5:00-8:00 pm**Location:** Zoom Webinar: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84488377615>**Meeting Goals:** Continue discussions about the Aurora Airport Master Plan Alternatives.

<b>Time</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Person</b>
<b>5:00-5:15 pm</b>	<b>Introductions</b>	Brandy Steffen
<b>5:10-5:20 pm</b>	<b>Review feedback form results</b>	David Miller
<b>5:20-5:30 pm</b>	<b>PAC clarifying questions</b>	Brandy Steffen
<b>5:30-5:40 pm</b>	<b>Review refined alternatives</b>	David Miller
<b>5:40-5:50 pm</b>	<b>PAC clarifying questions</b>	Brandy Steffen
<b>5:50-6:10 pm</b>	<b>Review preferred alternative for Master Plan</b>	David Miller
<b>6:10-7:40 pm</b>	<b>PAC questions and comments</b>	Brandy Steffen
<b>7:40-7:55 pm</b>	<b>Public Comments</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Comments may be emailed before the meeting through the website: <a href="https://publicproject.net/AuroraAirport#">https://publicproject.net/AuroraAirport#</a></li> <li>· Commenters may have up to 2 minute to speak. We ask that only one representative from each organization speaks. We may not be able to hear from everyone.</li> <li>· <i>Reminder:</i> public comments typed into Zoom may not be answered during the meeting, but answers will be included in the written meeting summary.</li> </ul>	Brandy Steffen
<b>7:55-8:00 pm</b>	<b>Next Steps</b>	Brandy Steffen

A meeting summary with all PAC and public comments will be posted to the project website.

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I sent Brandy Steffen of JLA Public Involvement the following question: “What is there to ‘discuss’ given that the FAA orientation is one of the three and FAA said select one of these expansion alternatives or be moved to ‘maintenance only’?”

Her response was: “Thanks for the email. In the October PAC meeting we will review the refined alternatives, PAC feedback form results, answer PAC questions, and review the preferred alternative. We’ll also talk about next steps for the project. I hope that helps answer your question.”

The reason I send this email to you and the Board is that in the 2009-2012 Aurora Airport Master Plan process, the Department and their consultant presented to the Board at a scheduled Aviation Board meeting the alternatives in the master plan and formally presented the Preferred Alternative

(No Build) for the Board to approve and adopt. The Board did not do so, sending it back to the Department and directing them to do more work and return with an expansion alternative.

The point here is that the agenda implies that the Preferred Alternative decision has already been made by the Department without Board input and next week will be presented to the PAC. At the September Board meeting, Steve Nagy made the statement that the Preferred Alternative selection should be an ODAV decision.

Has the Preferred Alternative been presented to the Board? Did the Board make the decision or approve the department decision? Is it a Department decision or a Board decision? My understanding is that according to the Court of Appeals, the administrative rule OAR 738-130-0055, means the decision (approval and adoption) lies with the Board, not the Department.

The Board should take an active role in the selection of the preferred alternative, and consider a No-Build alternative as one of the potential alternatives.

Sincerely

Ben Williams, President

[fofp99@gmail.com](mailto:fofp99@gmail.com)

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Ben Williams  
Friends of French Prairie  
[fofp99@gmail.com](mailto:fofp99@gmail.com)