

RESOLUTION

TOWN OF WEST LAKELAND
WASHINGTON COUNTY, MINNESOTA

A RESOLUTION OPPOSING THE METROPOLITAN AIRPORT COMMISSION'S LAKE ELMO 2035 LONG TERM COMPREHENSIVE PLAN'S PROPOSAL TO EXPAND THE LAKE ELMO AIRPORT.

Whereas, West Lakeland Township is located on the St. Croix River, and is known for its small town-near the big-city lifestyle enjoyed by residents and

Whereas, the residents and neighboring communities of West Lakeland Township greatly contribute to the unobstructed, peaceful lifestyle of the Township, and

Whereas, the Metropolitan Airports Commission (MAC), has proposed expanding the Lake Elmo Airport by increasing runway lengths and rerouting 30th Street North, and

Whereas, the MAC's proposal will lengthen the runways, modify and increase the Runway Protection Zones (RPZ) and the Airport Overlay District (AOD), and

Whereas, MAC claims that these proposed modifications will improve aircraft safety, and

Whereas, the Town Board has determined that the Lake Elmo Airport aircraft crash records demonstrate that the eight crashes that have occurred over the past 30 years, all have been, as a result, of pilot error or airplane mechanical problems and not due to the length of the runway, and

Whereas, the Town Board has determined that these proposed modifications will compromise more township residents and their homes to potential aircraft accidents, arriving and departing the airport, and

Whereas, the Town Board has determined that MAC's proposal will not improve the safety of present aircraft safety, but only attract and accommodate larger, louder aircraft, and

Whereas, the Town Board has determined that MAC's proposed runway expansion will increase the number of larger, louder aircraft, and have a negative impact on the peaceful lifestyle of the surrounding residents and neighboring communities, and

Whereas, MAC proposes to realign 30th St N around the southern end of the extended runway, and

Whereas, the Town Board has determined that the rerouting of 30th St N (a minor collector road) would redirect more traffic into neighborhoods, and

Whereas, the Town Board has determined that the increased traffic and noise will also have a negative impact on airport's neighbors along the proposed rerouted 30th St N and residents on Neal Ave N, and

Whereas, the estimated cost of construction for MAC's proposal to expand the airport and realign 30th St N is estimated at \$11.5 million, and

Whereas, the Town Board has determined that the number of flight operations reported to occur at the Lake Elmo Airport is significantly overstated and not supported or demonstrated by real data, and

Whereas, the Town Board has determined that the significant cost of expansion as compared to the least costly alternative of just improving the present runway surface at the estimated cost of \$5.4 million doesn't justify the burden to taxpayers for the negligible forecasted additional aircraft operations for the next 20 years, and

Whereas, the MAC's proposal would significantly impact the scenic views and peaceful lifestyle West Lakeland is known for, and

Whereas, the MAC's proposal will result in increased air traffic and noise pollution, and

Whereas, the MAC's proposal will greatly and negatively impact the quality of life for the residents and visitors of West Lakeland that have worked so hard to maintain an unobstructed peaceful lifestyle,

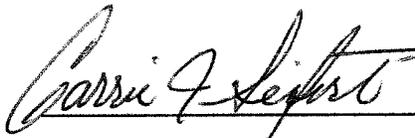
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of West Lakeland hereby resolves as follows:

1. The Town Board opposes the expansion of the Lake Elmo Airport and runways.
2. The Town Board opposes the realignment of 30th St N.

Adopted by the Town Board of the Town of West Lakeland this 3rd day of August, 2015.

 Daniel Kylo, Chairman

ATTEST:

 Carrie Seifert, Town Clerk