

Veliz, Kim

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 27, 2018 6:10 AM  
**To:** City Recorder  
**Subject:** Testimony for Tonight's airport hearing

Mayor Knapp and Members of the Wilsonville City Council:

My name is Camille Hammonds, I live in unincorporated Clackamas County. My home is directly north of the runway at the Aurora State Airport. I oppose this runway extension and urge Governor Kate Brown to direct the Oregon Department of Aviation to withdraw this unwise federal funding application immediately.

Thank you, Wilsonville City Council, for holding the only public hearing on the issue of the \$37 Million grant request to the FAA to expand the Aurora State Airport, including extending the Aurora Airport runway to accommodate larger corporate jets.

The Oregon Legislature should not approve the Oregon Department of Aviation request for retroactive approval of their \$37 Million supplemental grant request to the FAA. This request is unwise and unwanted by local residents and a waste of taxpayer money which benefits few and costs many far more than the millions of wasted federal tax dollars.

I oppose the expansion of the Aurora State Airport runway for a myriad of reasons, but the most important reason is the utter disregard this proposal shows for me and my neighbors, taxpaying citizens of rural Clackamas County, who will suffer from the increasing noise and pollution caused by large corporate jets landing ever more frequently at this rural airport.

Some Airport development advocates will say: "The Airport has been here since 1943, you knew it when you moved here, live with it." To this I say, we would gladly return to the relative peace and quiet of the way we lived for over 70 years until the big corporate jets started coming a couple of years ago. We'll be happy to take the smaller propeller driven aircraft of the past over the increasingly disruptive roar of today's corporate jets. We would be delighted to host the B-17s of 1943 that this training airstrip was built for! But that is not the choice before us tonight.

I work hard. On most days I rise at 4:30 AM. I am in bed every night by 9:00 PM. Imagine what it is like to have a big loud jet fly low over your house, rattling your windows and shaking you awake at 11 PM or later, every night.

The Aurora State Airport is NOT a considerate or good neighbor, and now they want to make it worse by bringing in louder, bigger and more disruptive jets. Please give us back the airport we had when we moved here, not an ever-larger one with more disruptive jets, with ever more noise, pollution and traffic.

When the Airport proponents pushed for the funding and construction of the tower five years ago, saying that it would provide "Safety & Noise Reduction", they mislead us to believe that having a tower would reduce aircraft overflights and resulting noise impacting our community. In fact, air traffic has dramatically increased! Noise and pollution are worse, hurting our quality of life, ruining our sleep, breaking our faith that the State of Oregon is looking out for us!

The "noise abatement" program at the Aurora Airport has been a total failure! The procedures we were promised were not established to mitigate the impact of fly-overs on neighborhoods; they are indicated as a 'suggestion', not a requirement and are routinely ignored. We are not buying any new promises of noise mitigation. We will not be fooled again by the airport promoters!

I have recently been told that because I live in Clackamas County, north of the county line from the airport where it resides in Marion County, not only am I not in the "impact zone", which is absolutely false, but that there is no place at the table for me, my neighbors, or even my elected County Commissioners to address existing Airport grievances. This is 'government by exclusion'. It is wrong and should be corrected by the Oregon Department of Aviation. Unfortunately, this Agency is an advocate for aviation development only, and does not care to regulate an industry that often does more harm than good. This is not good government.

Much is wrong about the Aurora Airport: noise, pollution, increased street traffic, poor governance and dominance by special interests. Let's start tonight to make this bad situation better. Governor Brown, pull back this foolish funding

request. Bring back the smaller propeller aircraft to Aurora and send the loud, corporate jets to Salem, where a completed airport exists, and no additional taxpayer money is required.

The Oregon Department of Aviation has done a poor job of managing this situation and this airport. Let's hope that reason will overcome self-interest and this wasteful special interest boondoggle will be sent to the trash heap of bad ideas promoted by an unhearing and uncaring State government.

Those of us who rise early to work, support our families, pay our taxes and commute long distances to our jobs long for a good night's sleep uninterrupted by the sound of jets rumbling overhead.

Thank you for hearing me on this important issue.

Camille Hammonds