

Glenda Wiles

From: Jay Melzer <jamelzer@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 24, 2014 12:23 PM
To: Glenda Wiles
Subject: attention Ravalli County Airport

I am writing you today because I strongly oppose the extension of the Ravalli County Airport near Hamilton where I live and vote.

The expense to the county, issues of liability and loss of property value to those living adjacent to the airport is not justified by the convenience provided to the few who wish to land larger corporate jets.

There are also questions regarding the cost of the land required to accomplish the extension and the very real problem of cronyism regarding that land purchase.

Additionally, we are facing a decision promoted by some lame duck county commissioners whom the voters have recently rejected. A Republican commission in 2003 passed a resolution giving us the right to vote before any contract was let to extend the runway. This was rescinded by the same county commissioners who are now trying to force this through before they leave office. This does not pass the smell test. We should table this at least until after the general election.

Lastly the FAA needs to review the safety issues regarding the current layout of the airport and clarify if any changes are needed to make the current airport safety compliant regarding runway width and setback from airport buildings. When that is completed then let the county address that issue alone and not the unnecessary lengthening of the runway for the benefit of a few at the expense of the many.

Simply put: No to increased airport traffic and pollution by larger jets. No to the expense and property value loss to those living around the airport. No to more lawsuits from shady deals and bad decisions from a rejected county commission with a self-serving agenda.

We don't want or need a longer runway at the Ravalli County Airport. We don't want to degrade the environment and experience of living in our beautiful valley.

Respectfully,

James A. Melzer
681 Bobcat Lane
Hamilton, MT

June 24, 2014