

## Glenda Wiles

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**From:** Monte Richardson <monterichardson@me.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 23, 2014 12:33 PM  
**To:** dan@rpa-hln.com; Glenda Wiles; drh29@bitterroot.com; mpaprez@gmail.com; Bryan Gold; Richardson John; Curtis Kyp; Richardson Wade  
**Subject:** Ravalli County Airport

Good afternoon,

This letter serves to promote the added development and infrastructure of the Ravalli County Airport. I am a frequent user of the airport, and hangar my airplane as well as my company airplane there on many occasions. I have family that lives in Ravalli County and the airport serves as a means of travel that is very efficient to me. I have flown in and out of many County airports around the country, and feel that the Ravalli County Airport could use some improvements, such as those that are proposed. Given the circumstances of its locale, the airport should have a longer, wider runway and upgraded taxiways. The proposed idea of moving the runway north and east will keep aircraft in the traffic pattern away from local homes and increase the safety of the field in general. The extension of the runway will create a more suitable environment for the arrival and departure of larger turboprops and jets.

As a former Mayor of a town the size of Hamilton, I can speak candidly regarding the benefits of economic development projects. In Texas, we have sales tax based dividends that are allotted towards economic development in certain areas, such as my hometown. In the ten years that I served in City politics, the economic development projects generated an increase in local business revenue of over seventeen million dollars. Much to my dismay, we did not have an airport in the that rivaled Ravalli County--something I feel could have contributed even more so to the prosperity of the region. In the case of Ravalli County, the region is a great place to live and more than suitable for low impact type businesses that would serve to enhance the community in job creation.

Infrastructure improvements, such as roads, bridges and thoroughfares are the lifeblood of any county. These items and their proper care and maintenance are vital to the links within the community and the outside periphery. So should improvements toward airfields such as Ravalli County as they additionally provide great economic value in the area. I am very much in favor of this project and stand behind these proposed improvements for the safety and welfare of the local citizens as well as the increased opportunity for job growth and accessibility.

Kind Regards,

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