

July 18, 2014

Daniel Norderud, FAA Engineer; dan@rpa-hln.com

Ravalli County Commissioners; gwiles@rc.mt.gov

I am opposed to the expansion of the Ravalli County airport for the following reasons:

- Potential increase in noise and air pollution
- Diminished property values specifically in those areas that are within the airport zone;
- An increase in air traffic also increases the risk of possible air crashes;
- There is not a guarantee, other than the word of the Aviation Safety Foundation, that they will pay the \$700,000 needed after the FAA funds the project;
- Less than 5% of the population of Ravalli County support an airport expansion;
- Less than 1% of the population of Ravalli County use the airport;
- Loss of peace in the valley.

Additionally, tell the FAA:

- Leave the big jets in Missoula;
- Spend the tax dollars on something that benefits more of the population

Ask the FAA the following questions:

- How big and how many more jets will be able to land on the longer, thicker runway and what are those possible environmental impacts?

Also please note that if the airport is not enlarged NOTHING will happen to the citizens of Ravalli County. The hobby pilots, Forest Service, medivac and others will continue to safely use and enjoy our tax supported airport and the valley will maintain its character and serenity.

Please take into consideration the views of the majority of the population before you approve an airport expansion.

Barbara & Earl Verduynssen
251 Skyline Dr.
Hamilton, Mt 59840

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Ravalli County Commissioners

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