

Daniel Norderud, Ravalli County Commissioners:

I am writing to oppose the new runway at the Hamilton Airport.

In an effort to save money on someone's part, the new FAA plan does not include moving or buying out the Daly Ditches Irrigation District offices that are presently located south and east of the airport. In the new proposal the Daly Ditches Irrigation District property will border the new runway with no safety for the employees of the Irrigation District. What happens if a plane has a malfunction during landing or take-off? How will the employees be able to protect themselves in that situation or adjust to constant noise of jets or airplanes of all sizes?

The new runway proposal for the Hamilton airport has not taken into consideration the financial cost to the Daly Ditches Irrigation District. The property owned by Daly Ditches will be unusable, unsafe and worthless to the district and no responsible property owner will purchase the property due to its close proximity to the new runway. Since other properties will be eventually purchased for an airport expansion and a protection zone, why is the Daly Ditches Irrigation District property not addressed as important?

I am all for saving money, but at what cost? Property, people and safety are more important than a new runway that is being proposed at this time. Please address these concerns before a decision is made on a new runway!

Mary Rodriguez

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