



Columbus Flight Watch

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To Preserve and Enhance the Airports of Central Ohio.

April 28, 2003

Doug Hammon, Airport Director

OSU Airport
2160 West Case Road
Columbus, OH 43235

Dear Mr. Hammon;

We **support** the proposed North Runway extension at OSU Airport.

We participated in the 1990 Airport Master Plan process. That plan was approved, and many positive comments were received. The plan provided for the extension of the north runway, 9L-27R, to 6000 feet.

The airport has a 65 million dollar economic impact in the area and provides critical medical transport services.

The benefits of the runway extension include:

- 1. Safety.** The FAA recommended runway length is 6500 ft for the type of aircraft that Worthington Industries, Wendy's, Advanced Drainage, Jack Nicholas, Cardinal Health, and other leading businesses in Central Ohio fly. It is not possible to lengthen the south runway to any extent, and it is not feasible to extend to the recommended 6500 feet on the north side.
- 2. Less Noise.** The proposed runway extension, with a precision Instrument Landing System (ILS) from the East to the Airport, will keep the landing aircraft higher initially, and in a much quieter flight mode. Due to siting considerations, it was not possible to put the ILS to the East on the South runway.
- 3. Space.** Due to the runway protection areas at the ends of the crosswind runways there is not much building area left on the south side for hangars, so the plan is to eventually move the locally based aircraft to the North side, with access from Rt. 161. This also provides a much greater industrial/commercial area as a buffer from the ramp area and from taxiing turbine aircraft operations. This buffer area would not be as noise sensitive as the residential areas on the south side.
- 4. Business Attitude.** Corporate Aviation brings in a lot of business to Central Ohio. We are 40 minutes by air to Chicago, and 45 minutes to the New York area. Organizations that utilize general aviation aircraft in filling their travel needs have a very positive attitude about their business and their customer's time and convenience, and favor locations that accommodate their needs.

5. Always Open. The additional length proposed for the north runway provides the redundancy to keep the airport safely open when runway maintenance or snow removal is required on either of the two main runways. If you have flown up from Dallas or any distant location, for example, it is important that you are able to land when and where your contacts are expecting to pick you up.

There are other good reasons for this project, and I will elaborate on them if you wish.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Regards,

Alan Harding
President, Columbus Flight Watch
al@thentshop.com

cc:

Congresswoman Deborah Price
Congressman Patrick Tiberi
Senator George Voinovich
Senator Mike DeWine
State Representative Linda Reidelbach
State Representative Jim Hughes
State Senator Dave Goodman
State Senator Ray Miller
State Senator Steve Stivers
Rudy Rudolph, Director, Ohio Office of Aviation
Elaine Roberts, President, The Columbus Regional Airport Authority
Ed Ray, Executive VP, The Ohio State University
Bill Shkurti Senior VP, The Ohio State University
James F. Patterson, Chair, The Ohio State University Board of Trustees
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Columbus Flight Watch is a membership organization of Central Ohio aviation enthusiasts dedicated to preserving, protecting, and enhancing the airports, the airspace, and the land immediately surrounding these vital aviation assets of Central Ohio.