

## Ruth Stellmacher

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**From:** Phil Carver <philiphcarver@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, October 9, 2022 9:34 PM  
**To:** CityRecorder; SALEM Manager  
**Cc:** Laurie Dougherty  
**Subject:** Comment on Agenda Item 5a. 22-422

City Council meeting of October 10, 2022  
Comment on Agenda Item 5a. 22-422  
350 Salem Oregon  
Phil Carver, Co-coordiantor  
Oct. 9, 2022

Thank you to the Mayor, Councilors and Staff for the opportunity to comment.

The staff report on the financial prospects for the commercial air service is conclusive. Even under optimistic assumptions the costs to the City to provide this service are greater than the revenues by \$925,000 in the fifth year. There is no way to make up for the larger deficits of years one through four.

This scenario is the most optimistic. A more realistic scenario is that some time in the first five years, most of the airlines would cancel service as uneconomic. That is what happened in the past.

Under no conditions should the City subsidize this service. It would mostly serve upper income people. The City is facing serious deficits over this period. Even if there were a way to raise more revenue, it should not go to this luxury service. There are many other additional services that are more vital to Salem residents. The effect of this service on tourism in Salem would be minimal.

Now is the time to make the difficult decision. The City should immediately return the federal and private grants that it accepted at the last council meeting. No more money from any source should be wasted on this doomed project.

Thanks again for the opportunity to comment.