

From: [Kourtney Linebaugh](#)
To: [CityRecorder](#)
Subject: Comments for City Council meeting June 12, 2023
Date: Monday, June 12, 2023 10:43:25 AM
Attachments: [061223 City Council Comments re Municipal Airport.docx](#)

Hello, please see my comments attached and below for the City Council meeting this evening for item 3.3e. Thank you!

RE Comments for City Council meeting agenda item 3.3e upgrades to the Salem Municipal Airport

Hello Members of the Council,

Thank you for your time. I wanted to comment on item 3.3e in regards to moving forward with the Salem Municipal Airport and upgrades that are being voted on today.

I wanted to ask the City Council to consider the possible noise pollution to residents in Salem who are under the flight paths of the soon to be Salem commercial flights. I live in Ward 1 and currently am under a flight path that already creates loud overhead airplane noise throughout the day.

I am not for, or against, commercial flights at the Salem Municipal Airport at this time, but as you are starting to move in the direction of commercial flights please take notice of the serious health impacts that noise from an increase in air traffic can cause on residents of Salem and seek out mitigation efforts (i.e. no flights evenings or Sundays). Noise pollution effects low income and minority residents at higher rates since they do not have options to move due to disturbances.

The New York Times posted an article today specifically sharing relevant research about the impacts of noise and the health of people living near transportation and airport noise, the article states “When researchers analyzed the brain scans and health records of hundreds of people at Massachusetts General Hospital, they made a stunning discovery: Those who lived in areas with high levels of transportation noise were more likely to have highly activated amygdalas, arterial inflammation and — within five years — major cardiac events...In fact, noise may trigger immediate heart attacks: Higher levels of aircraft noise exposure in the two hours preceding nighttime deaths have been tied to heart-related mortality” (New York Times, 2023).

Link: <https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2023/06/09/health/noise-exposure-health-impacts.html>

I hope you will continue to keep in mind the impacts of noise on residents as you are furthering your progress towards expanding access for the Municipal Salem Airport commercial flights. Thank you again for your time. Please reach out if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Kourtney

Downtown Salem Resident, Ward 1

Master of Social Work Graduate Student at Portland State University

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Kourtney Linebaugh (she/her)

Portland State University, MSW Graduate Student

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June 12, 2023

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