

From: [Steve Hayden](#)
To: [Oregon Department of Aviation](#)
Subject: Comments for the 10/1/26 ODAV meeting in Oakridge
Date: Tuesday, September 29, 2026 9:41:01 AM

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Hello,

My name is Steve Hayden. I own the hangar on the Oakridge ramp. I also own property and a home alongside the runway.

I feel the airport has been underutilized for quite some time, due to the fact that there are no services available. Oakridge has a lot to offer, with Willamette Pass nearby, mountain biking and other outdoor activities. A viable airport would serve to bring in air traffic and revenue to local businesses and further the development of the City of Oakridge.

I am considering the feasibility of developing the hangar to provide aircraft services. I am a retired ATP. I am also an A&P mechanic with Inspection Authorization as well as a CFII and MEI. My vision is to offer a furnished lounge with internet for flight planning and other amenities, hangar space for transient aircraft, eventually evolving into a basic FBO with minor maintenance, flight instruction and possibly aircraft for rent. These services would benefit the current and proposed future users of the airport, specifically the Forest Service and Lane Community College.

The main hinderance to this proposal is the tendency for the airport to be closed to GA aircraft during the height of the season, for firefighting. Of course, protecting our forests and mountain communities is essential. Helicopters and fixed wing aircraft coexist at other airports without conflict. It seems they could here, as well. Procedures could be put in place to ensure the safety of all participating aircraft, retaining closure as an option in extreme circumstances.

Please consider these possibilities.

Thank you.