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Public Comment Topic	Aurora State Airport Master Plan

Public Comment	Opposition to the Proposed Aurora Airport Expansion I oppose the proposed Aurora Airport expansion for the following reasons: •Noise and property values: Larger jets will increase noise, disrupt quality of life, and threaten property values in Charbonneau and nearby communities. •Farmland preservation: Rezoning French Prairie's highly productive farmland threatens Oregon's agricultural heritage and risks encouraging urban sprawl. •Safety and traffic: Increased jet traffic raises safety concerns and adds congestion to already overcrowded roads. •Unnecessary expansion: Four nearby airports-McMinnville, Hillsboro, Salem, and Troutdale-already have facilities capable of accommodating larger aircraft. •Misuse of public funds: Spending $185 million, largely funded by passenger fees, to serve a small, affluent private aviation market is not a responsible use of public resources. •Inappropriate commercial use: Aurora Airport's proximity to residential communities makes it unsuitable for a commercial drone hub due to noise and safety risks. •Better regional priorities: Aurora Airport is well suited to small and medium-sized aircraft and could serve as a valuable regional emergency preparedness center. Investments should prioritize safety, sanitation, and local jobs. •Lack of justification: Air traffic has not grown as forecast, and approximately 90% of operations involve Category B-II aircraft. Noncompliant use by larger jets should not justify expanding the airport to accommodate them. •Private interests over community needs: Expansion primarily benefits private aviation businesses and wealthy aircraft owners, while imposing noise, safety, and environmental costs on surrounding communities. Aurora Airport should retain its established role, protect surrounding farmland and communities, and prioritize public safety and regional emergency preparedness over private aviation expansion.
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