

Representative Lewis and Senator Girod,

I am writing again with regard to HB4092. Many citizens of Aurora are against this bill as you may know. The Mayor of Aurora and City Council held a Town Hall meeting on Tuesday January 30<sup>th</sup> for concerned citizens to voice their opinions – in support of, or opposition to – this bill and what it might mean to them and to the City of Aurora.

I understand there were nearly 100 civic minded community members that showed up. I was one of those. We heard statements made by many community members of how this bill may affect their lives and the livability of our town. We heard from Airport business owners and County Commissioners speak of (subjective) evidence of how the Aurora Airport brings jobs and commerce to the general area. However if you ask any of the community members that attended, the message that roared with applause was when we had a number of our city elders speak in opposition and ask our Mayor and City Council members to please vote to OPPOSE this bill. It was exhilarating to think that we were finally going to get our point across and that perhaps we could sway our council to see that an opposition vote would be the right thing to do in representation of our small town. A 'win' for small town values.

But in the end, what has become extremely frustrating to many of us in the community is that even when we think we have spoken loud and clear about our concern over this bill – to our City Council, the Mayor and to you Sirs Girod and Lewis - our concerns are muted by the efforts of those who stand only to profit from the resulting expansion without regard to what the citizens of Aurora want. Our own Mayor as I just found out, has been seeking to create a new business venture at the airport .. a quote from <http://caapilots.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/06/PAAM-Minutes-February-23-2017.pdf> .. **Mayor Graupp..** *"I gave a presentation and announced the formation of CTE, a company I started, Career Technical Education. It is bringing students into this region, and we will be using a Vans Aircraft Kit as the first educational tool .."* Note that these minutes are from last year.. Our Mayor has had no intention of going against anything the Aurora Airport has been a proponent of because it may jeopardize his own agenda. This is sad news for Aurora. So our voices first fall on deaf ears locally, then again in Salem. Aurora is simply too small to be taken seriously as a constituent base, so our concerns are marginalized.

It is easy to see why so many people lose faith in their government.

I do have one question for you. Can you please provide background information on how the number of aircraft based at Aurora (as noted in the bill) was determined? I'd like to verify that for myself.

Also – I notice that on the official page for HB4092, there are mostly testimonials in support of the bill. Is it not customary to provide testimonial of opposition to the bill? I wrote in opposition, surely there were others? I know of at least 2 other people who wrote in opposition.

Tom Potter  
Aurora, OR 97002