

# CONSTRAINED OPERATIONS AT AURORA AIRPORT

## AURORA STATE AIRPORT FACTS:

Runway length of 5,003 x 100 feet

Weight bearing capacity: Single wheel = 30,000 lbs.; Double wheel = 45,000 lbs.

## OBSERVED: On Friday, February 2, 2018 at Aurora Airport



Bombardier BD-700 Global Express. Length = 99ft 5in.; Wingspan = 94ft; Maximum Takeoff weight = 98,000 pounds; Empty Weight = 51,200 pounds.

## QUESTION SUBMITTED TO OREGON DEPT. OF AVIATION

“Does FAA/ODA have any size/weight/wingspan restrictions on aircraft using Aurora Airport or is it left up to the pilot to decide if it is safe to use it?”

## REPLY: from Oregon Department of Aviation

“You are correct that the aircraft that was at Aurora on Friday does not meet the airport design standards. You are also correct that it is the pilot in command to decide whether or not to land a plane at an airport for which the airport does not meet minimum standards for the aircraft that is being flown. This would be classified as a “constrained operation.” The pilot assumes the liability for movement around the airport and responsible for any damage incurred to the aircraft or the airport as results of its operation.

Your point about the big jets having already arrived at Aurora is true also and they have been there for some time. Maybe not with the frequency that we have today, but they have been coming in and operating at minimum fuel and cargo in order to use Aurora. This is why the runway extension is so important and why we are doing the constrained operations study, we want the airport to safely handle the aircraft that are using the airport today. This is why this study is important to the FAA as well; they don't fund projects of this magnitude based on what may operate out of the airport, they will fund it based on what is operating out there today. That is what the 500 hundred constrained operations is all about”

**RESULT: An oversized jet coming into Aurora Airport qualifies as a “constrained operation” even though the pilot already KNOWS that his plane is beyond that airports' rated capability**