

Proposed Statute Changes to Airport Zoning Public Outreach – International Falls, May 7, 2015 Summary

These meetings notes are a summary of the above meeting. Any corrections should be sent to Rylan Juran, Rylan.Juran@state.mn.us.

Attendance: See the attached attendance sheet.

Agenda

- Introductions
- Airport Zoning History
- Purpose of Airport Zoning
- Current Airport Zoning
 - Airspace
 - Land Use
- Issues/Solutions
- Next Steps
- How to Provide Further Comments
- Questions

MnDOT delivered a presentation on the agency's proposed changes to airport zoning statutes. The presentation included the history and purpose of airport zoning, current MN airport zoning requirements, and the work of the airport zoning advisory committee.

The airport zoning advisory committee identified issues with current airport zoning and provided input to guide a statutory change proposal. This proposal seeks to provide for better integration with local zoning and planning efforts and provide more flexibility into airport zoning efforts.

MnDOT asked for input on custom-zoning criteria and modifications to Established Residential Neighborhood provisions, and feedback on the proposal in general.

A discussion session followed the presentation and is summarized below:

Question: Are there opportunities to negotiate the safety zones?

Response: Small communities will likely use the basic zoning. Custom zoning is developed from the ground up and will likely require professional services. There will always be the "cookie cutter" zoning. The larger airports would benefit most from the custom option.

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Question: Will there no longer be an A and B zone in airport zoning?

Response: The rulemaking effort will change the way that basic zoning looks. This could change the sizes, shapes, and uses allowed in zones A and B, but more than likely there will be zones similar to A and B in the future.

Question: Koochiching County is looking to upgrade a road in Zone A by adding a bike trail adjacent to the road. Will this custom ordinance allow this type of addition in the future? Right now FAA is requiring the project to move the bike trail onto the road; making the trail less safe.

Response: If the bike trail is located in the Runway Protection Zone FAA will have concerns about uses in the RPZ. If it's a Zone A issue outside the RPZ there is a chance that a custom ordinance could contain a variance process. Zone A restrictions, like the sizes, etc. will be vetted during the rule-making process. A bike path is potentially allowable in Zone A under current rules.

Comment: Koochiching County's comp plan is old (2000).

Question: Who enforces airport zoning?

Response: Whoever is named in the ordinance. This generally points to city zoning administrator and county zoning administrator.

Question: Will there be a checklist for custom zoning?

Response: There has been suggested that items such as safety, operations, economic, development etc. would be some of the areas to address with custom zoning. We hope to receive feedback from this outreach effort.

Question: How does this proposal affect takings claims? Will MnDOT assist in determining takings without pursuing litigation?

Answer: Only a court can determine a takings claim.

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Attendees:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Organization</u>
Bob Anderson	International Falls Airport Commission
Ken Anderson	City of International Falls
Kyra Briggs	International Falls Airport Commission
Paul Nevanen	International Falls Airport Commission
Thor Einarson	Airport Manager
Steve Sindelir	City of Baudette
Dale Olson	Koochiching County
Tara Kalar	MnDOT Office of Chief Counsel
Ryan Gaug	MnDOT Office of Aeronautics
Rylan Juran	MnDOT Office of Aeronautics
Kathy Vesely	MnDOT Office of Aeronautics
Julie Carr	MnDOT Office of Aeronautics