

## Proposed Statute Changes to Airport Zoning Public Outreach – Bemidji, May 28, 2015 Summary

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These meetings notes are a summary of the above meeting. Any corrections should be sent to Rylan Juran, [Rylan.Juran@state.mn.us](mailto: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: If a manufactured housing park is purchased and then new development replaces the existing use, could it be deemed an Established Residential Neighborhood (ERN)?

Response: According to Minnesota Statute and Administrative Rules, to be considered an ERN the use must have existed prior to January 1978.

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Question: Should residents in airport zoning be reminded they are in an airport zone every so often?

Response: At a prior outreach meeting, staff from the St. Cloud Airport explained that the City has created an Airport Residential (AR-1) Zone for properties in the vicinity of the airport. This zoning designation makes it clear to property owners that they are close to an airport and may be impacted by decisions the city makes about the airport. This is just one innovative way to raise awareness of airport zoning and its impact to property owners in the vicinity.

Comment: If a Joint Airport Zoning Board (JAZB) has members that are also landowners potentially affected by the airport zoning ordinance they have been tasked to create, this constitutes a conflict of interest

Response: We have heard of situations like this occurring and agree that the situation could present difficulties for a community.

Question: Can a JAZB be disbanded?

Response: JAZBs more often than not disband upon completion of their work (i.e., an approved and recorded Airport Safety Zoning Ordinance). A community's individual ordinance may specify what the ongoing role of the JAZB is.

Question: How do we relate Santa Monica and Midway to rural MN? They are currently on opposite ends of the spectrum.

Response: Even rural Minnesota communities have pressure to expand and that often is in the direction of the airport. Without long-term planning undesirable outcomes similar to those in Santa Monica and Midway can result.

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Attendees:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Organization</u>
Paul Fairbanks	Cass County
Richard Hample	Jackson Airport
David Konshok	Park Rapids Airport
Karen Weller	Bemidji Airport
Mayana Rice	Greater Bemidji Area Joint Planning Board
Lou Tasa	MnDOT District 2
Ryan Gaug	MnDOT Office of Aeronautics
Rylan Juran	MnDOT Office of Aeronautics
Kathy Vesely	MnDOT Office of Aeronautics
Julie Carr	MnDOT Office of Aeronautics