



**PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING SUMMARY**

Project: Environmental Assessment (EA) & Environmental Impact Evaluation (EIE) for Obstruction Removal – Hartford-Brainard Airport (HFD)  
Location: Wethersfield Town Hall  
Meeting: Public Information Meeting #1  
Date: January 12, 2017 – 6:30 p.m.

**Summary:**

A public information meeting (PIM) for the Environmental Assessment & Environmental Impact Evaluation for Obstruction Removal – Hartford-Brainard Airport (HFD) was held at the Wethersfield Town Hall – Media Center on January 12, 2017 – 6:30 p.m. The meeting presentation outlined the overarching purpose of the EA and EIE, which is to promote safety by bringing the airport into compliance with Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) design standards and regulations regarding clear airspace as well as the process of identifying and evaluation potential obstructions. The study documents potential impacts of tree obstruction removal, includes trees both on and off the airport, satisfies the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and Connecticut Environmental Policy Act (CEPA) and is consistent with applicable FAA guidance.

There were approximately 60+ persons in attendance, including the following representatives of the Connecticut Airport Authority and Airport.

<b>Attendee</b>	<b>Affiliation</b>
Colin Goegel	Connecticut Airport Authority
Molly Parsons	Connecticut Airport Authority
Alex Peterson	Connecticut Airport Authority
Bob Bruno	Connecticut Airport Authority
Barry Pallanck	Connecticut Airport Authority
Matt Kelly	Connecticut Airport Authority
Sally Snyder	Connecticut Airport Authority
Paul McDonnell	CHA Consulting
Stephanie Parsons	CHA Consulting

The following is a summary of comments and questions discussed during the meeting:

- Q1. What is the height and number of the trees that will be removed?
- A1. The height and the number of trees are unknown at this time.
- Q2. Is this a possible precursor to a runway extension?
- A2. There is no runway extension planned for the airport at this time.

- Q3. Could the tops of the trees be cut instead of cutting the whole tree down?  
A3. This option is not out of the question, however eventually they will need to be cut.
- Q4. Are they changing the flight patterns and is this why they are doing this study?  
A4. The CAA is not changing flight patterns, this study is required to ensure safety of the aircraft using the airport.
- Q5. If you remove the trees, will this project have to be done again in the future?  
A5. If the trees grow and create a safety hazard in the future this process will need to be completed again.
- Q6. If you remove the trees, will the noise level increase due to the tree removal?  
A6. Acoustical studies show that tree removal has little impact on the airport noise levels as the vast majority of off-airport noise is from airborne aircraft flying at height above the trees. The flood control levee would potentially provide a greater barrier for aircraft ground noise than existing trees.
- Q7. Will the tree removal allow for more or larger aircraft?  
A7. Tree removal will have no impact on design aircraft for the airport. It is unknown if this project will increase the number of aircraft using the airport.
- Q8. Will there be a public hearing and if so could they be held in different locations?  
A8. Yes, there will be a public hearing which could be held in multiple locations.
- Q9. Were bird collisions included within this report?  
A9. The EA and EIE was not based on wildlife hazardous reports.
- Q10. Why weren't mitigation procedures evaluated within this report?  
A10. Mitigation procedures are evaluated during the permitting phase of the project.
- Q11. If the Hartford-Brainard Airport is under review and has a potential of closing, why not evaluate the tree removal issue once the decision has been made to close or not to close the airport?  
A11. The CAA has no plans to close the airport; tree cutting is necessary to ensure safety of the aircraft using the airport.
- Q12. Will removing the trees effect the erosion control of the cove?  
A12. It could, however that will be taken into consideration during the permitting phase of the project.
- Q13. Was environmental justice taken into consideration during this process?  
A13. Yes, none of the trees are on public property, so there are no anticipated environmental justice impacts.
- Q14. If you remove the trees, will this increase the odor smell from the treatment plants?  
A14. Trees can have a small beneficial impact on odors, however the tree removal locations are east of the odor sources and do not provide a buffer between residential areas and the treatment plants.

In addition to the questions that were answered at the meeting a number of other concerns were raised regarding the project during the meeting. These comments and concerns are summarized below.

- Comment 1: Multiple residents concerned about the trees to be removed.
- Comment 2: Residents concerned about the mitigation procedures and why were they not addressed within the PowerPoint.
- Comment 3: Resident mentioned the 2008 Zoning Regulations were rewritten in 2016.
- Comment 4: Residents addressed that they would like more than one Public Hearing Meeting  
- (i.e. in East Hartford, Hartford and Glastonbury, CT).
- Comment 5: Multiple residents stated that Hartford was not aware of this project nor the Public Information Meeting.  
- One resident stated that she learned of the meeting 3 days prior (Monday). Stated they received one letter in June but not anything recently.
- Comment 6: Resident (Wethersfield, CT) stated areas within the proposed 40 acre tree removal area should not be left to the discretion of the designer. The public should have a say on what is to be cut, and not the designer.
- Comment 7: Residents stated that they would like there to be public river access in order for nearby residents enjoy the area for recreational use.
- Comment 8: Many residents vocalized that environmental justice was not taken into consideration during this project.
- Comment 9: Residents are concerned about the bald eagles within the area. Many have seen them nesting on the north end of the property and in the vicinity of the proposed trees in question.
- Comment 10: Residents addressed that the planes do not follow the correct flight pattern. The planes are supposed to fly over the river and not over the residential community.
- Comment 11: Residents worried about environmental effects including but not limited to:  
- Noise: Trees act as a noise barrier  
- Odor : Trees block the smell from the surrounding treatment plants  
- Visual: By removing the trees, the area will lose its aesthetic feel.
- Comment 12: Residents concerned, once trees are removed if flight patterns will change.  
- Planes will come down earlier and fly down lower  
- Bigger planes will come into the airport.

# Sign-In Sheet (Public Information Meeting)



**PROJECT:** Environmental Assessment & Environmental Impact Evaluation for Obstruction Removal at Hartford-Brainard Airport

**LOCATION:** Wethersfield Town Hall

**DATE:** 01/12/2017

	Name	Affiliation	Phone Number	Email (Print Clearly)
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3	Holly Alessi	N/A	(860) 680-3163	whoop24@aol.com
4	Patti Silva	Resident	(860) 529-7766	pattisilva5@gmail.com
5	Ryan O'Hallon	Resident - Hartford ICNOX	(860) 951-7694	ryano@lenoxhartford.org
6	Alicea Charamut	CT River Watershed Council	(860) 704-0057	acharamut@ctriver.org
7	Judith Melchreit	Resident	(860) 490-1205	jmelchreit@gmail.com
8	Heleno Reilly	Resident	(860) 712-3083	N/A
9	Barbara Clancy	Resident	(860) 721-0707	bclancy11@msn.com
10	Jeff Bridges	Town of Wethersfield	(860) 721-2801	jeff.bridges@wethersfieldct.gov
11	Alex Pererson	CAA	(860) 292-2030	apeterson@ctairports.org
12	David Gumbart	Nature Conservancy	(203) 568-6290	dgumbart@tnc.org
13	Charmaine Craig	Hartford Tree Commission	(860) 830-9261	treeladycharmaine@gmail.com
14	Heather Dionne	City of Hartford, City Forester	(860) 372-2674	dionh001@hartford.gov
15	Shaun John Aforismo	N/A	(860) 571-8733	innkeeper@silaswrobbins.com
16	C. Bueu	N/A	N/A	N/A
17	Kathy Dolan	N/A	(860) 563-4941	kathdol1@yahoo.com
18	Tom Baptist	City of Hartford	(860) 757-4961	thomas.baptist@hartford.gov
19	Debra Cohen	Citizen	(860) 563-5327	debracohen51@gmail.com
20	Thomas Skorbek	Citizen - Wethersfield	(860) 701-7446	N/A
21	Patricia Toce	Citizen	(860) 214-6486	tocepatricia@gmail.com
22	Robert O'Connor	Citizen	(860) 614-0759	robert.oconnor@gmail.com
23	Elaine St. Ange	N/A	(860) 529-7821	wesargent@att.net
24	Cynthia G. Browne	Great Meadows Weth. Garden Club	(860) 529-0039	cindyct9@cox.net

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	Name	Affiliation	Phone Number	Email (Print Clearly)
25	Janet Hansen	Great Meadows Weth. Garden Club	(860) 529-1700	N/A
26	James Stamoos	Great Meadows Weth. Garden Club	(860) 563-6145	N/A
27	Nancy Bates	Resident	(860) 563-7105	nsbates@snet.net
28	Daniel Silver	Resident	(860) 778-5456	N/A
29	Heidi Green	Resident	N/A	heidie.green@gmail.com
30	Louise Griswold	Resident	(860) 529-5847	N/A
31	Jack Hale	Hartford Tree Commission	(860) 371-8026	jack.hale@comcast.net
32	Peter H.	31 State - Resident	(860) 250-6728	N/A
33	Matthew C. Atwoto	Hartford Ave - Resident	(860) 716-9273	N/A
34	Margaret Downie	Hartford Ave - Resident	N/A	maggie@personaleuphoria.com
35	Tom Mazzarella	Town Resident	N/A	tmi.tom@snet.net
36	Amy Bello	Resident	N/A	N/A
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43	Yisenia Martina	Vecinos unidos	(860) 897-8611	yedicmi@gmail.com
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45	Kristi Salters	Wethersfield Resident	(860) 882-4414	ksalters@gmail.com
46	Anthony Cherolis	Hartford South Green NRZ	(860) 204-2704	acherolis@gmail.com
47	Pam Boardman Simpson	Boardman Family	(203) 606-7843	pamboardsimp@hotmail.com
48	Kristen Wands	Wethersfield Resident	(860) 707-9633	kristenwetzels@hotmail.com
49	Billeye Logan	Wethersfield Resident	(860) 529-8023	billyecann@cox.net
50	Tracy Gale	Hartford Citizen - On the cove	(860) 232-9019	tracytgale@gmail.com
51	Pam and Dan Harrison	Wethersfield Resident	N/A	bitzerp@aol.com

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	<b>Name</b>	<b>Affiliation</b>	<b>Phone Number</b>	<b>Email (Print Clearly)</b>
52	Tim Courtney	Hartford Resident/Pilot	(773) 490-4253	tim@timcourtney.net
53	Eric Doyle	Wethersfield Resident	(551) 427-8892	ericdoyle@cox.net
54	Heather and Alex Feliciano	Wethersfield Resident	(860) 305-9906	haf92603@gmail.com
55	Mary Pelletier	Park Watershed	N/A	maryp@parkwatershed.org
56	Mark Mitchell	CT Coalition Env. Justice	(860) 794-9497	mmitchell@erviro-ma.com
57	Sara Bronin	Hartford	(860) 840-1408	sara.bronin@gmail.com
58	Mark Walsh	Wethersfield Resident	N/A	mark.marsha@cox.net

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Pam + Dan Harrison	Weth. resident		bitzerp@aol.com
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