



The Honorable Governor Maura Healey  
Office of Constituent Services  
Massachusetts State House, 24 Beacon St.  
Office of the Governor, Room 280  
Boston, MA 02133

October 20, 2023

RE: Proposed North Airfield Expansion at Hanscom Airport and Contradiction to Commonwealth's Climate Goals

Dear Governor Healey,

We, the undersigned Select Boards of Bedford, Concord, Lexington, and Lincoln, extend our appreciation for the bold and ambitious Climate Goals you have set forth for our Commonwealth. We write to bring your attention to a pressing environmental concern regarding the proposed North Airfield Expansion at Hanscom Airport and its potential contradiction to the state's climate objectives.

At the forefront, we must address the critical issue of greenhouse gas emissions. While this expansion project may be in our backyards, we recognize that carbon emissions impact the atmosphere regardless of their origin. We respectfully request your support in opposing any private jet hangar expansion at Hanscom or elsewhere, emphasizing the urgent need for all sectors, in all locations, to work collaboratively towards reducing CO2 emissions.

Our towns have been diligently working hand-in-hand with the State government to achieve our greenhouse gas emission reduction targets by 2030, and we have made significant progress. However, the proposed North Airfield expansion would undermine these efforts, exacerbating greenhouse gas emissions and directly contradicting the climate goals pursued by our towns, the Commonwealth, and the nation. Furthermore, this expansion stands in stark contrast to Massport's own Master Plan of 1978 and the MAPC MetroCommon 2050 plan. It undermines Massport's goal of zero greenhouse gas impacts by 2031, a commitment acknowledged in the project's ENF. Although Massport doesn't regulate individual airplanes, excluding reduced carbon emissions goals from the airplanes using its facilities seems inconsistent with setting these goals.

In light of the above, we humbly appeal to your leadership and authority to limit the expansion of private jet capacity at Hanscom Airport or any other airport in the state. Taking such a stand would send a resolute message to Massport and other airport owners that these expansions are incongruent with the drastic and unprecedented steps we must take to reduce CO2 emissions.

To address this matter effectively, we respectfully request your attention to the following actions over the coming months:

- Ensure a comprehensive and accurate Environmental Impact Review (EIR) takes place, with a specific focus on climate change and the carbon footprint. The EIR should incorporate a comprehensive public cost/benefit analysis, addressing noise levels, air quality, vehicle traffic, impacts on rare species, and effects on the local economy.
- Give serious consideration to the environmental justice implications of this project and, based on such considerations, exercise the full extent of your powers to halt Massport's expansion plans for private jet capacity at Hanscom Field.

We, the undersigned Select Boards, stand ready to join forces with you in this crucial endeavor to combat climate change. Please inform us of specific actions we can collectively undertake to support this cause.

Sincerely yours,

*Bedford Select Board*

  
 Bopha Malone (Oct 13, 2023 11:41 EDT)  
 BOPHA MALONE, CHAIR

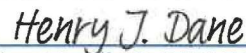
  
 Shawn Hanegan (Oct 12, 2023 11:48 EDT)  
 SHAWN HANEGAN

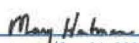
  
 Margot F. Fishman  
 MARGOT F. FISCHMAN

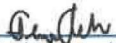
  
 Emily Mitchell  
 EMILY MITCHELL

  
 Paul Mortenson (Oct 12, 2023 11:34 EDT)  
 PAUL MORTENSON

*Concord Select Board*

  
 Henry J. Dane (Sep 21, 2023 12:33 EDT)  
 HENRY DANE, CHAIR

  
 Mary Hartman (Sep 21, 2023 13:18 EDT)  
 MARY HARTMAN

  
 Terri Ackerman (Sep 21, 2023 14:41 PDT)  
 TERRI ACKERMAN

  
 Linda Escobedo  
 LINDA ESCOBEDO


  
 Mark L. Howell (Sep 21, 2023 20:22 EDT)  
 MARK HOWELL

*Lexington Select Board*

  
 Joseph N. Pato, Chair  
 JOSEPH N. PATO, CHAIR

  
 Suzanne E. Barry  
 SUZANNE E. BARRY

  
 Douglas M. Lucente  
 DOUGLAS M. LUCENTE

  
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 JILL I. HAI

  
 Mark D. Sandeen  
 MARK D. SANDEEN

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 JAMES HUTCHINSON, CHAIR

  
 Jennifer Glass  
 JENNIFER GLASS

  
 Kimberly Bodnar  
 KIMBERLY BODNAR

CC:

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 MassDOT Board of Directors  
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Secretary Rebecca Tepper  
 Executive Office of Energy and Environmental  
 Affairs  
 100 Cambridge St., 9th Floor  
 Boston, MA 02114

Lisa S. Wieland, CEO, Massport  
Patricia Jacobs, Chair, Massport Board of Directors  
Melissa Hoffer, Office of Climate Innovation and Resilience  
Senator Elizabeth Warren  
Senator Ed Markey  
Congresswoman Katherine M. Clark  
Congresswoman Lori Trahan  
Congressman Seth Moulton  
Sen. Cindy F. Friedman  
Sen. Michael J. Barrett  
Rep. Michelle L. Ciccolo  
Rep. Kenneth I. Gordon  
Rep. Simon Cataldo  
Rep. Carmine Gentile  
Rep. Tom Stanley  
Town of Lexington, Town Meeting Members