

I am the owner of an aviation insurance brokerage that has been located at Brainard Airport since 1986. This business has 8 employees. We strongly oppose the closing of Brainard Airport.

We operate a light 4-seat airplane in support of our business. It is hangared 100 yards from our office, also at Brainard.

Our clients are aviation businesses, and most are based at airports as well.

2-3 days per week, we use the airplane to visit customers, prospective customers, and insurers. The airplane allows us to make meetings 400 miles away and be back at our desks the same business day.

This airport and its array of instrument approach procedures allows us to reliably come home in all kinds of weather, and be home at night.

When we land at Brainard, we are all minutes from home.

Often, customers who are at Brainard doing business themselves in Hartford or nearby, also visit our office.

The fact that we operate an airplane means that we contribute to other businesses here on the airport, including aircraft maintenance business, aircraft parts business, aircraft radio and electronics business, and aircraft hangars.

It also means that we rely upon the technicians from sources like the CT Aero Tech. We feel that closing the aviation tech schools is short-sighted, and will hurt businesses and the state.

Having a downtown airport is a big part of what draws other businesses to Hartford. If Hartford wants to be a world class city, it needs resources like Brainard Airport.

Without Brainard Airport, we could not conduct business as efficiently as we do. If Brainard were closed as an airport, our business would be forced to relocate.

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