

**Pam Sawyer**

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Bolton, CT 06043

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Dear PRI Chairmen, Ranking Members and Committee Members:

**What does the capitol city of Hartford have other cities in the region do not have?**

*A well run, in-town airport.*

Brainard Airport gives the city an upper hand competitively against other cities that have a large corporate presence. But also it is a great recreational airport and it is a superior educational hub for aviation mechanics because of location. This airport adds a big business competitive edge as a workhorse and if given some private/public attention it could be a *showpiece!*

The economic edge the airport brings Hartford over other cities is:

- \$44.9 million of output,
- Averaging 368 jobs ( 2010 data ),
- Over a \$1.4 million in state tax revenue,
- 120 aircraft based there (2011 data)
- More than 81,000 operations per year ( FAA data ),
- \$21 million in labor income.
- Indirect to benefits of hotel, ground transport and abutting businesses.\*

The airport boasts one of the best aviation mechanics training schools in the Northeast, CT Aero Tech. It is a state technical post-graduate trade school located at the end of the airport on the runway that also can provide annual FAA aircraft inspections.

**What does Brainard Airport need to bring it up a notch ?**

1. A cleaner, sharper looking entrance, with new fencing and improved signage along the road that would give a positive first and last impression.
2. A small corporate conference center to accommodate the meetings and events at the airport. It will draw more air traffic to the airport and more non-aviation ground traffic to the facility.

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22 year member Transportation Committee  
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\* Source of data , the National Business Aviation Association