

To our elected officials on the CTGA Transportation Committee,

I'm writing in opposition to H.B. 7143 which seeks to lengthen the runway of Tweed New Haven Airport. I'm opposed to this for a number of reasons which include the lack of transparency between the City of New Haven and the largest stakeholders of this project, the community which will bear the burden of pollution in all its forms, environmental impact, and traffic. When the MOA was reached between the city of New Haven and the town of East Haven, it was codified for one purpose only: so that what is happening now with H.B. 7143 doesn't happen again, and here we are, again. Additional reasons for my opposition include:

1. An international airport 50 minutes away which offers nonstop flights across the country.
2. Newly initiated rail service and track upgrades that will allow for platform to terminal travel in the very near future.
3. The fact that the airport SITS in a wetland.
4. The fact that the airport SITS in a residential neighborhood.
5. The fact that current traffic routes to and from the airport run down residential streets with on-street parking that are so narrow, there aren't even lines painted down the middle.
6. The fact that airports such as Oxford operate in the black. I'm not against Tweed, let it operate as a small regional airport like Oxford, with proper leadership, and let it pay its way vs. throwing good money after bad to try and sustain it.
7. There is ZERO guarantee that increased service will come. Zero. We've seen this again, and again, lastly with the installation of two 500 foot overrun sections at each end of the runway. Did the flights increase then?

We love New Haven, and in particular the Cove. New Haven is thriving, and to say that it is somehow hampered by not having an airport on its doorstep is ludicrous. Hartford has ALWAYS had one on its doorstep, and it continues to struggle.

I am opposed to lengthening the runway in any way, shape, or form.

Respectfully,

David Zakur
95 Kneeland Road
New Haven, CT 06512