

RESOLUTION 7366

**CITY OF MOUNDS VIEW
COUNTY OF RAMSEY
STATE OF MINNESOTA**

**RESOLUTION OPPOSING EXPANSION OF THE ANOKA COUNTY-BLAINE
AIRPORT RUNWAY(S) AND OPPOSING ANY LEGISLATIVE EFFORTS TO
RECLASSIFY THE AIRPORT AS AN INTERMEDIATE STATUS FACILITY**

WHEREAS, the Anoka County Board of Commissioners is giving consideration to a resolution that would support an effort to extend the east-west runway at the Anoka County-Blaine Airport to 6,000 feet; and,

WHEREAS, the draft Anoka County Board of Commissioners' resolution proposes to support legislation that would allow for the extension of the runway; and,

WHEREAS, the Anoka County Board of Commissioners' resolution proposes to support application for Federal funds to accomplish the runway extension; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Mounds View has steadfastly opposed extension of the airport's runways beyond their current lengths of 5,000 feet (east-west runway) and 4,855 (north-south runway); and,

WHEREAS, an extension of the east-west runway to 6,000 feet would require changes in state law and would change the defined class of the airport from minor to intermediate; and,

WHEREAS, proponents of the runway extension claim the additional runway length is for safety purposes; and,

WHEREAS, there are no documented reports of unsafe landings or take offs from this runway or any accidents to suggest the runway length is anything but safe for all minor airport aircraft that use the Anoka County-Blaine airport; and,

WHEREAS, the Metropolitan Council is required by law and has provided an Airport Development Guide that is required to take into consideration the physical, social and economic needs of the Metropolitan area and as a result of those considerations, the Airport Development Guide plan calls for the Anoka County-Blaine Airport to be a minor airport; and,

WHEREAS, significant airport enhancements have already been made at the Anoka County-Blaine airport to enhance the safety of aircraft that use the airport, such as a precision instrument landing system, high intensity lights and an operational control tower; and,

WHEREAS, these improvements were intended to reduce the number and frequency of noise complaints; and,

WHEREAS, the extension of the runway to 6,000 feet and upgrade of the airport class to intermediate status would significantly expand the types of aircraft that could regularly utilize the Anoka County-Blaine Airport and would result in significant increases in noise to residents of Mounds View and other communities near the airport; and,

WHEREAS, the recent activity level increase related to the Republican National Convention demonstrated the significant impact any expansion of the airport would have as significant numbers of noise complaints occurred during that time period; and,

WHEREAS, the existing tower control personnel do not have sufficient time to advise incoming aircraft of noise abatement procedures and that lack of noise abatement would only be exacerbated by expanded use of the airport; and,

WHEREAS, noise complaints about the airport have been a significant and ongoing issue for Mounds View residents; and,

WHEREAS, while the north-south runway is not permitted to be expanded until after 2020, if the east-west runway is lengthened and becomes busier, more air traffic could be diverted to the north-south runway which would erode Mounds View residents' quality of life; and,

WHEREAS, if the east-west runway is lengthened, the airport becomes more inviting to cargo and freight carriers who would utilize the facility during the day and at night, whose aircraft tend to be louder and more disturbing than pleasure craft and corporate jets, which would further erode the peace and comfort enjoyed by Mounds View residents.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council of the City of Mounds View, that the City is in complete and resolute opposition to the Anoka County Commission's resolution to extend the Anoka County-Blaine airport runway and to any legislative efforts to reclassify the airport to an intermediate status facility, and directs the following to occur:

1. The City Council will take appropriate steps to aggressively oppose any legislative attempts to expand the east-west runway at the Anoka County-Blaine Airport.
2. That the Clerk - Administrator is to forward the city's opposition to the proposed Anoka County resolution to the Anoka County Commissioners.

3. The Clerk - Administrator is directed to notify Legislators for Mounds View of the City's opposition to any expansion of the Anoka County-Blaine Airport.
4. The Clerk - Administrator is directed to take further steps as necessary to oppose any legislative changes to the Anoka County-Blaine Airport's minor airport status.

Adopted this 24th day of November, 2008.



Rob Marty, Mayor

ATTEST:



James Ericson, Clerk - Administrator

(SEAL)