

**Veliz, Kim**

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**From:** Bob <bwharland@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 27, 2018 1:25 PM  
**To:** City Recorder  
**Subject:** Testimony for tonight's hearing

City Recorder:

Below is testimony what I plan to deliver orally at this evening's hearing about the airport.

Bob Harland

**Aurora Airport Runway Extension Hearing**  
City of Wilsonville  
Tuesday November 27, 2018 7:00 PM

Mayor Knapp and Members of the City Council:

My name is Bob Harland. I am Chair of the Charbonneau County Club Civic Affairs Committee, a group that advances the interests of over 2,500 Wilsonville citizens who live in Charbonneau.

First of all, thank you all for holding tonight's hearing. As far as I know, **this is the only public hearing that's been held, or is scheduled to be held**, concerning the \$37 million funding request being made by the Oregon Department of Aviation for FAA approval! There should have been more opportunity for public input.

But let me make three points:

1) Over the last decade, the local residents have been **repeatedly** and **routinely** surprised by development interests at the Aurora State Airport. And here we are again, at the **ONLY** public hearing about an issue that has significant quality of life implications for the local communities. And again, this hearing is only because you, the Council, insisted upon it.

2) The last time runway extension was discussed publicly was almost seven years ago. A runway extension was NOT “APPROVED” then. At that time an extension was only mentioned as a possibility for the future, not as a certainty!

3) A handful of aviation developers regularly use “end runs” around good public process, around land use laws, and around their neighbors, by running to the Legislature with what they call a “special case.”

Now, there is a group called PAAM (Positive Aurora Airport Management) that was formed with the explicit intent of building rapport and effective communication between the airport and local communities. Maybe you have heard of it. I have been attending the monthly PAAM meetings for the past two years. Rarely, if ever, are these types of airport development matters discussed at PAAM. I must surmise, therefore, that those pushing development have separate meetings so as to avoid discussions with surrounding communities. **Perhaps if PAAM were true to its charter, we would not be here tonight.**

What we need going forward is:

- An open and fair public process including discussions about all the issues, with adequate notification, transparency and candor;
- A new Master Plan in which the conclusions are not subverted by one or two developers;
- An Intergovernmental Agreement that involves local governments and citizens in a meaningful way;

- A complete Environmental Impact Study, one which includes an 'Alternatives Analysis,' to assess honestly the impacts of development of the Aurora Airport on our quality of life;
- And if there is to be urbanization, there needs to be municipal governance of the Aurora Airport, i.e., annexation by a local city that can provide unbiased government, a government that balances the interests of all stakeholders, and not just to developers seeking economic gain.

On behalf of the people of Charbonneau, thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Bob Harland

8100 SW Winchester Way

Wilsonville, OR 97070

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Let me make three points:

- 1) Over the last decade, the local residents have been repeatedly and routinely surprised by development interests at the Aurora State Airport. Here we are again, at the ONLY public hearing about an issue that has significant quality of life implications for the local communities. And this hearing is only because you, the Council, insisted upon it.
- 2) The last time runway extension was discussed publicly was almost seven years ago. A runway extension was NOT "APPROVED" then. At that time an extension was only mentioned as a possibility for the future, not as a certainty!
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**Bob Harland, Chair**  
**Charbonneau Civic Affairs Committee**  
**8100 SW Winchester Way, Wilsonville, OR 97070**