

Statement for Canton Select Board Meeting

Good evening. My name is [Your Name }, and I live in Canton at [Your Address] a resident since [xxxx]

I am here to express my deep concern about the impact of the increasing Norwood Memorial Airport operations on our community, especially our children.

Daily, low-flying aircraft (small planes and helicopters – NON law enforcement, news or life flights) are being routed directly over Canton neighborhoods, including **Kennedy Elementary School, Hansen School, and our playgrounds**. This exposes our children and families not only to **constant disruptive noise**, but also to **toxic lead emissions from aviation fuel**. Both have serious, well-documented effects on learning, development, and long-term health. This repetitive operation goes on from 8AM through Midnight.

These repetitive overflights are for profit flight school operations and are specifically routed over our town and away from the town of Norwood. Norwood is profiting from the operation while our families health is suffering. We can't sit on our decks, enjoy family dinner or sometimes sleep with this continued exposure. Is this right? We worked hard to build our homes and our lives here in Canton, it's unacceptable to be exposed to this pollution and impact on our quality of life.

To our knowledge, **there has never been a lead or pollution study conducted including the town of Canton**. The only airport noise study was done back in 1997, and it focused only on the Town of Norwood— excluding Canton and surrounding communities.

The Airport has a master plan that includes expanding its runways and operations! It appears that this initiative has been planned and being implemented without the knowledge, input and approval of our residents or of any surrounding towns. This expansion is to the detriment of our quality of life, our children's health and education and is of benefit to very few elite aircraft users and the town of Norwood.

We are asking the Select Board to collaborate with the Board of Health to take the follow in action:

- Alert and inform our residents about the airport's expansion plans, the current situation, pollution and noise impacts on our families.
- Engage with the Norwood Airport commission and FAA to STOP all repetitive low-level overflights of the Town of Canton. Redesign all flight paths to mitigate residential area overflights. They can do it if properly motivated
 - We have more than adequate open space – non-residential areas, in closer proximity to the airport than our homes, schools and playgrounds.
- Petition MassDOT Aeronautics, the FAA and our government representatives to defund all airport expansion initiatives.
- Petition MassDOT Aeronautics and the FAA for comprehensive independent noise and environmental (lead impact) studies that include Canton.

- Engage our state and federal representatives to ensure Canton is heard and protected, this includes having the airport management board include equal voting representatives from Canton and the surrounding towns.

Our children and our families deserve safe schools, safe playgrounds, and a healthy environment. We need leadership from this Board and the Board of Health to hold the appropriate agencies accountable and to protect the well-being of our residents, families and children.

What are the next steps and actions, we are ready to collaborate with our town leaders to act now.

Thank you for your immediate attention to this matter