



TOWN OF EAST HAMPTON

159 Pantigo Road
East Hampton, New York 11937

KATHEE BURKE-GONZALEZ
Councilwoman

Tel: (631) 324-2620
Fax: (631) 324-6280
kburke-gonzalez@eamptonny.gov

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HMMH HIRED TO CONDUCT SECOND PHASE AIRPORT NOISE STUDY

East Hampton, NY – At today’s Town Board work session, Councilwoman Kathee Burke-Gonzalez, liaison to the East Hampton Airport, introduced a resolution to hire Harris, Miller, Miller & Hanson (HMMH) to commence a second phase Noise Study addressing disturbance from operations at the East Hampton Airport. The resolution was adopted unanimously at a cost to the Airport fund of \$40,000. It should be noted that the Airport is self-funded – with revenue generated by landing fees, leases on the Airport proper as well as the Industrial Park, the fuel flowage fee, advertising revenues, among other sources – and does not rely on taxpayer monies.

On October 30, 2014, the East Hampton Town Board held a Special Meeting to hear and consider the “Phase 1 Noise Analysis Interim Report.” The meeting included presentations by the Town’s aviation counsel, Peter Kirsch of Kaplan, Kirsch & Rockwell, noise consultants Henry Young and Les Blomberg of Young Environmental Sciences and community member/volunteer Peter Wadsworth who provided an analysis of the PlaneNoise complaint data. As part of Mr. Kirsch’s presentation a preliminary draft problem definition and a list of potential alternatives to address that definition were proposed. (See attached.)

There are two related objectives for the next phase of the noise study: (1) recommending a final problem definition and (2) recommending a refined list of the alternatives that offer the best promise for addressing the problem. It is expected that HMMH will present their findings at the December 2nd work session so that the Town Board will have the information it needs to make decisions regarding potential future study phases and ultimately the measures needed to address community concerns regarding disturbances from aviation operations at East Hampton Airport.

Councilwoman Burke-Gonzalez stated, “The Town Board is committed to finding a solution to disturbance from Airport operations. As it is our intent to adopt whatever lawful measures we can to ensure the peace, quiet, tranquility, and health of communities affected by Airport noise. We are also committed to following a transparent and inclusive process to get there. And will thoroughly consider all points of view before we take any formal action.”

The proposed scope of work for the second phase Noise Study identifies the following tasks to be performed by HMMH: (1) review Phase 1 Interim Report and Analysis; (2) collect and analyze most recent 12 months of complaint data; (3) refine problem definition and identify most relevant alternative(s); and (4) prepare for and participate in the December 2, 2014 Town Board work session. (See HMMH Proposal attached.)

Founded in 1981 to provide the highest quality noise consulting services to airports, HMMH is an international leader in environmental noise and vibration control and airport and airspace planning. They are a full-service firm with vast experience in the public sector. Having worked with the Town since 2003, HMMH was deemed the most qualified to undertake the work required in the second phase of the study. More can be found at www.hmmh.com.

Other Airport Projects

“While the Town examines solutions to our very serious noise problem, we must not forget our continuing obligation to operate a safe airport,” noted Town Board member Burke-Gonzalez. “We are committed to addressing potential obstructions and ensuring that our capital plan funds appropriate and necessary airport maintenance. With our new consulting engineer on board, we are now engaged in a deliberate and thoughtful effort to ensure that our airport meets professional standards.”

Obstructions

At the Town Board meeting held November 6, 2014, the Board approved an obstruction analysis of the Main Runway 10-28. Quantum Spatial will perform the aerial photography and photogram metric mapping via a flyover and Michael Baker Engineering will analyze the aerial data of obstacle penetrations to the 20:1 OIS (Obstacle Identification Surface). The flyover is expected to take place in the next week.

Capital Projects

The paving of 4-22 for taxiing aircraft began on Monday, November 10 and will be completed by Thursday, November 13 should the good weather continue.

Also at the Town Board meeting held November 6, 2014, the Board hired Baseline King Corporation to install new edge lighting on Taxiway A. The work is expected to begin xxx.

Upcoming Projects

Michael Baker Engineering is in the process of developing a scope of services and fee estimate for the following projects:

- 1.) Design and bidding assistance for perimeter (deer) fencing for the entire Airport property
- 2.) Development of performance specifications for installation of an FAA-certified AWOS III or IV
- 3.) Feasibility analysis/TERPS study for dedicated approach and departure procedures for helicopters on-Airport
- 4.) Development of a comprehensive and prioritized 5-year Airport Capital Improvement Program (ACIP).

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