



February 2, 2015

Larry Cantwell, Supervisor
Town of East Hampton
159 Pantigo Road
East Hampton, NY 11937
lcantwell@eamptonny.gov

RE: East Hampton Airport

Dear Mr. Cantwell:

We are contacting you on behalf of three trade associations – the National Business Aviation Association (NBAA), the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association (AOPA) and the National Air Transportation Association (NATA). As you may be aware, our associations represent the interests of numerous companies and individuals who are involved in aviation – many of which are located at, use, and/or have an interest in ensuring the continued accessibility and viability of East Hampton Airport (HTO).

Our associations support the continued availability of East Hampton Airport to all types of aeronautical operations, and would like to have an opportunity to express and explain our concerns to you and the other members of the town board. Accordingly we would like to request a meeting – preferably in early February – which we believe could be beneficial for all parties interested in the airport.

In particular, we would like to outline why it is important that HTO remain open and accessible, both for economic and practical reasons; the airport’s benefits are not just local but also are an essential part of the national airspace system. We would also like to better understand the specific restrictions that may be under consideration, and whether there could be some common ground or other flexibility that would benefit from an in-person exchange between town and association officials.

Finally, the often-cited 2005 settlement agreement – which suggests that the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) will waive the enforcement of certain federal grant-based obligations applicable to East Hampton Airport – leaves numerous obligations in effect, and we believe that it would helpful to discuss the grant-based as well as statutory requirements that will continue to be applicable to HTO irrespective of the terms of the settlement agreement.

Thank you for your prompt attention to these matters and we look forward to meeting with you and other appropriate town officials.

Sincerely,



Steve Brown
NBAA, Chief Operating Officer



Jim Coon
AOPA, Senior Vice President Government Affairs



William R. Deere
NATA, Senior Vice President for Government and External Affairs

CC: Peter Van Scoyoc, Deputy Supervisor, pvanscoyoc@ehamptonny.gov
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