

INTRODUCED BY:

COURT OF COMMON COUNCIL

James Sanchez, Councilman

City of Hartford, May 24, 2021

WHEREAS, Brainard Airport is a publicly owned airport situated on 201 acres of developable land, and

WHEREAS, Brainard airport is located 3 miles away from downtown Hartford bordering the west bank of the Connecticut River, creating environmental justice concerns, and

WHEREAS, Brainard airport is tax exempt, so there is no tax revenue from the real estate, and

WHEREAS, The City of Hartford Assessor's Office get about \$10,600 in personal property taxes from a handful of businesses, and

WHEREAS, Hartford's Town and City Clerks Office, only receives Aircraft Registration fees, about \$8,340.00, and

WHEREAS, the Brainard Airport does not bring both economic and environment benefits to the City of Hartford and its residents, and

WHEREAS, According to Air Transport Action Group (ATAC), aviation is responsible for 12% of CO2 emissions from all transport sources, and { <https://www.atag.org/facts-figures.html> }

WHEREAS, the State's Act Concerning Enhancements to The State's Environmental Justice Law, identifies, "Affecting facility" means any major source of air pollution, as defined by the federal Clean Air Act, and { <https://ega.ct.gov/2020/ACT/PA/PDF/2020PA-00006-R00HB-07008SS3-PA.PDF> }

WHEREAS, Section 112 of the Clean Air Act addresses emissions of hazardous air pollutants, and

WHEREAS, The United States Environmental Protection Agency released a Regulatory Announcement in November 2005 stating aircrafts engines contribute about 1 percent of the U.S mobile source NOx emission, yet, in some U.S. airport areas, aircraft currently can contribute up to 4 percent of mobile source NOx emissions, and { <https://nepis.epa.gov/Exec/ZyPDF.cgi/P1001YUC.PDF?Dockey=P1001YUC.PDF> }

WHEREAS, The Regulatory Announcement identified NOx emissions as a precursor to the formation of ground-level ozone, also called smog, and

WHEREAS, Ozone affects can lead to respiratory effects, and

WHEREAS, In 2018 the CDC released the most recent Asthma State or Territory Data, Connecticut has 290,278 number of Current Asthma among children and adults, and { https://www.cdc.gov/asthma/most_recent_data_states.htm }

WHEREAS, According to CT.gov, residents from the five largest cities (Bridgeport, Hartford, New Haven, Stamford, and Waterbury) account for 18% of Connecticut's total population, yet they account for nearly half (44% or \$43 million) of the \$102 million asthma acute care charges in 2018; now, therefore be it { <https://portal.ct.gov/dph/Health-Education-Management--Surveillance/Asthma/Asthma-Program> }

RESOLVED, that the Court of Common Council urges the closure and decommissioning of Brainard Airport, and

RESOLVED, that the City of Hartford reclaim the 201 acres of land for more beneficial and environmental friendly economic redevelopment, and

RESOLVED, that the City of Hartford and its residence benefit from the natural resources of the Connecticut River.