



Why We Oppose Proposed Expansion at Flying Cloud

It is a waste of taxpayers' money.

- 82.9 million dollar expansion (Final EIS at page V-23)
- Expansion is not for increasing the number of operations, but for accommodating larger business jets (Final EIS at page II-1 through II-5)
- Only 3% of operations at Flying Cloud are business jets; most operations are recreational or flight training (Final EIS at page II-5)
- Only 0.5% of operations at MSP are stopovers from larger Flying Cloud jets (II-5)
- MAC has been greatly subsidizing Flying Cloud and significantly undercharging for rent and gas fees compared to other similar airports in the country. Flying Cloud doesn't support itself now. (MAC and Northwest Airlines' consultant reports)
- Operations at Flying Cloud have been diminishing since 1994 (232,130) and were at the lowest levels in decades in 2008 (117,000). (City of Eden Prairie web site)
- Northwest Airlines' consultant shows MAC that financial incentives can be used to keep general aviation away from MSP, instead of huge expansion costs at Flying Cloud.
- Operations at MSP are already down due to the NWA merger with Delta and the loss of NWA headquarters. The entire reason for expanding Flying Cloud was to reduce congestion at MSP. Congestion at MSP is no longer a problem.

Conclusion: 82.9 million dollars for 3% of Flying Cloud users for a return of 0.5% at a subsidized, diminishingly used airport is a waste. A better alternative is to use *financial incentives* for stopovers from Flying Cloud to use Holman Field instead of MSP.

MAC predicts huge increases in noise and aircraft emissions only 3 years after completion, which will decrease property values in Eden Prairie

- With expansion, an additional 1,421 people in Eden Prairie will have residences in areas where aircraft noise is "incompatible" for living. (page V-45) MAC will not tell us how loud the increases will be for all of us, even though it is able to calculate it.
- Aircraft emissions include toxic chemicals and small particulates that cause adverse health effects, including cancer. Before expansion, 5 of these toxins are already in such high concentrations in the air in Minnesota that they are over adult health benchmarks. Children have lower tolerances for toxins, so it's much worse for them.
- Years of research show property levels decrease with increasing noise from and proximity to airports. How much money will you lose on your house?

To stop proposed expansion at Flying Cloud, you should:

1. Contact **Federal Legislators**. They control the money that funds the expansion. **Amy Klobuchar** - 202-224-3244 or 612-727-5220 or email at kelly_scanlan@klobuchar.senate.gov - **Erik Paulsen** - 202-225-287, 952-405-8510 or email at - Andrew.christianson@mail.house.gov - **Jim Oberstar** - 202- 225-6211 -Currently, neither Al Franken nor Norm Coleman provide any contact information.
2. Call your representatives: **David Hann** at 651-296-1749 and **Jenifer Loon** at 651-296-7449 give them the facts and tell them you are against the expansion.

3. Call **MAC Commissioners** at 612-726-8100 and tell them you are against expansion and the waste of taxpayer money when data shows Flying Cloud expansion is unwarranted and cheaper alternatives exist.
4. Call **Governor Pawlenty's Office** at 651-296-3391 and tell them MAC is out of line on the expansion of Flying Cloud, is wasting taxpayer money, ignoring hard facts on airport usage, and the MET Council needs to re-evaluate its 1992 decree to expand Flying Cloud.
5. **Tell your neighbors what you learned, or give them a copy of this update.**

If you have any questions, or would like more information visit (web site). www.zeroexpansion.org

