



COMMISSIONERS
Jimmy Dimora
Timothy F. Hagan
Peter Lawson Jones

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*Commissioners' Joint Statement
about Airport Expansion*



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Timothy F. Hagan
Peter Lawson Jones

**Cuyahoga County
Board of Commissioners**

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Cleveland, OH 44114

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For Immediate Release
Cuyahoga County
April 2, 2007

**Cuyahoga County/Lake County Commissioners Joint Announcement
on Cuyahoga County Airport Expansion**

The Cuyahoga County Commissioners invited the Lake County Commissioners to meet because of the growing interest in the expansion plans for Cuyahoga County-owned airport on Richmond Road straddling the county line. A representative of Congressman LaTourette, who has been closely following the developments, also attended.

The meeting was cordial and productive.

All Commissioners agreed that the staff's recommendation(known as Alternative #29) to extend the existing runway entirely eastward into Willoughby Hills was not acceptable and would not be selected by Cuyahoga County as the preferred alternative to be submitted to the FAA.

The parties agreed to work together to devise an expansion plan that will shift the focus of the runway expansion planning. The need to acquire additional properties not already owned by the Cuyahoga County Airport will be minimized. Emphasis will continue to be placed on reducing noise.

All six Commissioners acknowledged the importance of maintaining safe, modern and FAA-compliant airports. All agreed that modern airports are an integral part of the regional economy. More than 1000 people work at the Cuyahoga County Airport, including a significant number of Lake County residents. Important businesses in Greater Cleveland rely on that facility which has been owned and operated by Cuyahoga County since 1946.

More

Communication between the two Boards about the future of Cuyahoga County Airport will continue. Further public input will also be gathered.

The Commissioners also discussed the possible benefits of working together on airport operations and planning if and when Lake County finishes the acquisition of Lost Nation airport. The Commissioners also agreed that continued dialogue and future planning for airport transportation issues was necessary and were needed to be formalized in an intergovernmental agreement between the two Boards of Commissioners to provide a regional approach for the future.

In an additional effort to spur regional collaboration, the Commissioners discussed current voting problems and agreed to contact the Secretary of State jointly to urge her to pursue greater use of voting by mail.

Cuyahoga County Commissioners Jimmy Dimora, Peter Lawson Jones and Timothy F. Hagan, and Lake County Commissioners Robert E. Aufuldish, Raymond Sines and Daniel Troy