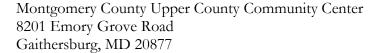
# **Airpark Community Advisory Committee (ACAC) Meeting Minutes**

October 21, 2025 7 – 8:30 PM





## **Attendees:**

Members:

Jake Adler representing Ruben Rosario, non-voting Bobbi Besley

Lynne Stein Benzion

Justin Bollum, non-voting H Michael Brown

H Michael Brown Karen Kodjanian

Aaron Kraut representing Councilmember Luedtke, non-voting

William "Skip" Reindollar, Chair

Dale Tuttle

**Guests:** 

Mollie Hilty Slava Mordevaev Lucy Seifert Sandy Poe

Marc Newman Sean Montgomery
Nate Young George Cois

Harold Maldondo

## **Action Items**

# **Month Meeting Minutes Approval**

During the review of the draft September 16<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes, a committee member caught a couple of grammatical errors. The committee voted to approve the minutes with corrections to these errors. The vote passed unanimously and the minutes have been posted on the <u>ACAC Webpage</u>.

# **Progress on FY25 Report Recommendations**

To begin the meeting, the committee chair offered clarification on discussion of a tower at the Airpark, which many residents have voiced concerns over. There has been no proposal to pursue a tower, nor have there been any plans for a tower at the Airpark. The goal of the committee is to gain a full understanding of the impact a tower has on an airport and the surrounding community.

Joe Pospisil

The committee moved to discussion on progress made towards the recommendations in the FY25 ACAC Report. Not all recommendations had updates. Summaries of the 15 recommendations have been attached.

# Recommendation 1

The Montgomery County Revenue Authority (MCRA) has made progress with plans for a new hangar on the north side of the runway. They are awaiting approval from the Department of Permitting Services (DPS). The MCRA has followed up with the FAA regarding the existing hangar waiting list and grand assurances.

#### Recommendation 2

Thus far there have been no requests from the MCRA for additional funding or resources. County Council has also not recommended additional money or resources at this time.

#### Recommendation 3

There were no updates on possible oversight actions from the County Council, although members would like to see improvements at the Airpark. Councilmember Luedtke will continue following up with other council members and the County Executive on these matters. The committee chair also indicated he was trying to schedule meetings with council members. It was brought up during discussion that the Airpark's budget is not set by the County Council but rather the MRCA Board.

# The following motion was made after discussion:

Members of the ACAC will attend and speak at an upcoming MCRA Board Meeting with the goal of presenting FY25 ACAC Report findings and to emphasis a need for more resources for the Airpark.

This motion was unanimously approved.

#### Recommendation 5

It was confirmed that a representative from the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association (AOPA) would be at the November meeting to discuss Fly Friendly best practices. It is the hope of the committee that this will provide some ideas on how to improve Fly Friendly procedures compliance at the Airpark.

#### Recommendation 6

It was reiterated by the Airpark committee representative that the Fly Friendly procedures were voluntary and that the Airpark could not discipline pilots and flight schools for non-compliance. The committee discussed the need to engage with pilots more, potentially set up a pilot user group to help disseminate information. It was noted that the last Airpark meeting for pilots was held in July 2025.

#### Recommendation 7

The Chair indicated that he began submitting complaints to the Flight Standards District Office (FSDO) about unsafe flying practices and concerns with the Airpark airspace. He has also encouraged other pilots to do the same. In previous meetings it has been discussed that FSDO is generally reluctant or slow to take actions. However, noting a comment made by a resident during a previous meeting, the committee hopes more reports and documentation of these unsafe practices may help move FSDO.

#### Recommendation 9

Committee members heard from a number of residents regarding their frustration with the updates to the Airpark Noise Complaint Form. In an effort to screen entries submitted using bots, the Airpark added CAPTCHA. This requires the re-entry of a code that is displayed on the screen before a complaint can be submitted. Many residents, and some committee members who tested the noise complaint form, were unable to submit a complaint because of this CAPTCHA. They found the characters of the code difficult to decipher and read.

Some committee members questioned if noise complaints submitted by bots necessitated this new verification feature. The Airpark representative committee indicated there was a noticeable increase in bot submittals, which they can determine using various methods. These submittals reduce the quality of the data and slow the response time to actual noise complaints submitted by residents.

Additional efforts would be made in the coming months to improve the noise complaint form and make additional changes to the Airpark website. The discussion highlighted the committee's conclusion that the Airpark needed additional staff and resources, such as more IT support. It was pointed out that several of the recommendations made towards the Airpark in the FY25 Report would be different to achieve without more staff and resources.

# The following motion was made after discussion:

The ACAC will send a formal request to the County Council and County Executive (CE) asking that the County allocate more resources to the Airpark and to communicate to Keith Miller, MCRA CEO, urgency for implementing ACAC recommendations.

This motion was unanimously approved. Attached is an email sent by the ACAC chair to Councilmember Luedtke and Rueben Rosario, committee representative for the CE, making these requests.

# **Tower Discussion**

Discussion of what additional information, and where this information may be available, to help learn more about the impact a tower has on an airport and surrounding community. A committee member would follow up with the AOPA, which has staff that may have data on locations with towers, both pre and post installation.

Another committee member suggested a FIOA request to the FAA for Benefit-Cost Analysis (BCA) for tower projects over the past 5-10 years. This could be helpful for finding examples outside of the Washington Metro Area of smaller airports in close proximity to residential areas like the Airpark.

#### **New Business**

When the committee reconvened in September following a summer hiatus it initially scheduled meeting though November. Committee members felt that continuing to hold monthly meetings was appropriate and were content with the date and meeting time.

The following motion was made after discussion:

The ACAC will continue to hold meetings every third Tuesday of the month for the remainder of Fiscal Year 2026, which ends on June 30, 2026.

This motion was unanimously approved.

It was also discussed that during the December meeting time should be spent planning future meetings. For example, when should the committee hold another meeting dedicated to community input.

# Community Input/Feedback

Three members of the community signed up and spoke at the meeting.

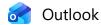
Harold Moldando, a longtime resident, continues to be concerned with late night and early morning flights. He was also concerned with all the discussion surrounding a tower.

Mollie Hilty's comments and materials are attached.

Lucy Seifert echoed complaints about changes to the Airpark noise complaint form. She thought committee had done a good job with the report but was unhappy with response from County Council.

Following a unanimous committee vote the meeting was adjourned at 8:29 pm.

Number	Recommendation
1	MCRA proactive management and oversight of Airpark processes, uses, and tenants.
2	MCRA additional resources for operations, monitoring and management.
3	County Council/County Executive more oversight of MCRA Airpark management.
4	If warranted, County Executive and County Council transfer oversight of the Airpark to another entity.
5	MCRA create very specific Fly Friendly guidelines.
6	MCRA provide continuous and robust Fly Friendly awareness, promotion, education, monitoring, and positive enforcement.
7	MCRA, in conjunction with the FAA, provide more overt education, monitoring, and feedback to better adhere to FAA guidance on non-towered airport operations.
8	MCRA correct all Montgomery County Code violations.
9	MCRA plan, develop, and deploy a professional noise complaint tracking system with a centralized database.
10	Noise complaint tracking system should be made available in Spanish.
11	MCRA should publish noise complaint summary data in both English and Spanish on the Airpark website.
12	MCRA should fund enhancements to the existing aircraft monitoring system to better capture touch-and-go operations and identify aircraft deviating from noise abatement procedures.
13	MCRA update existing daily operational reports on the website to allow for the identification of specific aircraft/operators violating noise abatement procedures and show the number of touch-and-go operations.
14	MCRA create a centralized information hub on the Airpark website with all relevant operational and administrative documentation.
15	MCRA perform proactive outreach to the greater Montgomery County community.



# Request for County Support to Implement ACAC Data and Systems Recommendations

From William Reindollar <w\*\*\*\*\*@.com>

Date Wed 11/5/2025 3:09 PM

- To Luedtke, Dawn < Dawn.Luedtke@montgomerycountymd.gov>; Rosario, Ruben < Ruben.Rosario@montgomerycountymd.gov>
- Cc Adler, Jake <Jake.Adler@montgomerycountymd.gov>; Pospisil, Joseph <Joseph.Pospisil@montgomerycountymd.gov>; Kraut, Aaron <Aaron.Kraut@montgomerycountymd.gov>

## [EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Council Member Luedtke and Mr. Rosario,

The Montgomery County Airpark Community Advisory Committee (ACAC) requests immediate assistance from both the Council and County Executive's Office.

#### The Issue

The ACAC published its 2025 Annual Report in June 2025 with 15 recommendations. During our October ACAC meeting follow-up, we learned that the Montgomery County Revenue Authority (MCRA) lacks the data management and information technology resources to implement critical recommendations and may not have allocated budget to implement recommended improvements.

The ACAC 2025 Report revealed fundamental deficiencies in the Airpark's data systems:

- **Noise Complaint System**: The system has suffered several technical challenges. Responding to these issues has been difficult given the lack of technical support available to the Airpark Manager who lacks the technical experience to deal with these issues;
- **Aircraft Operations Monitoring**: There seems no intent on the part of the MCRA to improve the capture of touch-and-go operations and or identify aircraft deviating from noise abatement procedures

Delays in addressing these issues deeply frustrate community members who have raised concerns for years and reinforces their distrust of Airpark management.

#### **ACAC Identified MCRA Resource Constraints**

The Airpark operates with only one MCRA full-time employee, severely limiting technical capacity. Comparable airports like Frederick Municipal Airport maintain 3-4 full-time employees plus part-time staff.

## **ACAC Request**

We respectfully request that the Council and County Executive's ACAC representatives:

- 1. Contact MCRA Chief Executive Officer Keith Miller to reinforce the urgency of implementing ACAC recommendations,
- 2. Request a specific timeline and resource allocation plan from MCRA,
- 3. Ensure MCRA applies additional skilled IT and data management resources; and
- 4. Request quarterly progress reports on implementation status.

Addressing these deficiencies is essential for informed decision-making and rebuilding community trust.

Thank you for your attention to this urgent matter.

Skip Reindollar w\*\*\*\*\*@.com xxx-xxx-xxxx October 21, 2025, The 15<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Airpark Community Advisory Committee (ACAC)

Mollie Hilty, Tygart Court, Gaithersburg, 20879, Hadley Farms Community, 595 homes. My house to runway 32 is 1.9 miles.

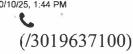
My observation of Training Flights from runway 32 – They bank left over Cypress Estates continue in an oval circular pattern over a portion of the East Village, continue visually over my home in Hadley Farms headed toward the Airpark. On a clear day currently Monday, Thursday, and especially Saturday and Sunday at low altitude and not fly friendly, sometimes every 5, 10 to 15 minute intervals. Those aircraft most irritating are C172 and C182 as research on the Flightaware.com website.

Please make clear on the next report to the Montgomery County Council, Revenue Authority, and the Federal Aviation Administration to alter the flight pattern of these low flying training flights away from residential communities for the health, safety, and sanity of this resident.

And now some genius has added a required box called Captcha. Maybe a robot can decipher the symbols required, this human cannot. Please remove this required block from the complaint form. Why make this form more complicated than it is?

BY THE WAY REFRESH DOES NOT WORK.

10:07 pg 2025





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number if known)

Description/Question (\*)

Sat. 9/27/2025 10:00,10:05,10:15,10:25,11: 00a, 11:30a, 11:50a, noon 12:20p low flying, loud, seen and heard from inside home

124/1000

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Response requested (\*)

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October 2025

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RE: New submission from 'Contact Us'! Subject:

Date:

10/17/2025 12:56:52 PM Eastern Daylight Time

From:

JBollum@mcra-md.com

To:

m\*\*\*\*\*\*\*@.com

Good Afternoon Molly, MOLLIE

This will be discussed at the meeting on Tuesday, and I hope to see you there. In the meantime, I have increased the size of the font in the CAPTCHA.

Thanks Justin

From: Montgomery County Airpark <website@montgomerycountyairpark.com>

Sent: Friday, October 17, 2025 12:37 PM To: Justin Bollum < JBollum@mcra-md.com> Subject: New submission from 'Contact Us'!

You have a new form submission:

Full Name: mollie hilty

Email Address: mXXXXXXXQ.com

Phone Number: xxxxxxxxxx

Specific Info or Remarks: I cannot read the characters required box (I guess to verify I am not a robot!) Why is that even required on this site?? This is the third time to post a complaint (not working) Why don't your try it!!!! REMOVE THIS REQUIREMENT MOLLIE HILTY

: Score was 0.9