

# Airpark Community Advisory Committee (ACAC) Meeting Minutes

September 16, 2025  
7 – 8:30 PM

Montgomery County Upper County Community Center  
8201 Emory Grove Road  
Gaithersburg, MD 20877



## Attendees:

### Members:

William “Skip” Reindollar, Chair  
Bobbi Besley  
H Michael Brown  
Karen Kodjanian  
Lynne Stein Benzion  
Dale Tuttle  
Rony Ledany  
Justin Bollum, non-voting  
Jake Adler representing Ruben Rosario, non-voting  
Aaron Kraut representing Councilmember Luedtke, non-voting

### MCDOT Staff Liaison:

Joe Pospisil

### Guests:

Jeanie Bayer  
Mollie Hilty  
Aaron A. Goerlich  
Seth Meyers  
Doreen Kaufmann

*Note: It was discovered during the meeting that the audio and video feeds had not been set up properly and those joining via Teams could hear or see the committee. This error was corrected around 7:15 pm.*

## Reading of Summary of 19 Official Opinions of the Compliance Board 170 (2025)

A complaint was filed against the ACAC to the Maryland Open Meetings Compliance Board (OMCB), which provided its opinion on June 25, 2025. The claims in the complaint were that improper notice was provided for the January 29, 2025 ACAC meeting, that the ACAC meeting minutes were inadequate and that the community should have access to subcommittee meetings and minutes. Prior to the start of the meeting the committee chair, Mr. Reindollar, read the County Attorney’s summary of the complaint. Both the summary and the Open Meetings Act Compliance Board opinion have been added to the [ACAC Webpage](#).

## **Action Items**

### **June 18th Meeting Minutes Approval**

No modifications were proposed by committee members to the June 18th meeting minutes. Minutes were approved unanimously by the committee and posted on the [ACAC Webpage](#).

### **Previous Meeting Minute Amended Approval**

To comply with the aforementioned OMCB opinion, minutes for the August 20, 2024, September 17, 2024, December 17, 2024 and January 29, 2025 were amended and resubmitted to the ACAC for review. These amended meeting minutes were approved unanimously by the committee and posted on the [ACAC Webpage](#).

## **TE/ECON Joint Council Worksession**

On Monday September 15, 2025 the County Council Transportation and Environment (TE) and Economic Development (ECON) Subcommittees held a joint session to discuss the ACAC's FY25 Report. ACAC members Reindollar, Tuttle, Stein Benzion and Bollum as well as Montgomery County Revenue Authority (MCRA) CEO Keith Miller participated in this worksession. Presentations were provided by Mr. Reindollar and Mr. Miller on behalf of the ACAC and MCRA, respectively, and participants were involved in answering council members questions and comments. A YouTube link for this TE/ECON Joint Council Worksession has been added to the [ACAC Webpage](#).

### **ACAC Discussion of Worksession**

Overall, ACAC members were pleased with council feedback and discussion of the FY25 report during the worksession. An issue brought up several times during the worksession was the challenges and limitations facing the Airpark and changes that could be made. This included the fact that licensing of flight schools and enforcement of potential aircraft safety violations, both in the air and ground, are under the purview of the FAA. The existing Airpark lease structure also provides challenges for the MCRA.

Even with these constraints a key take way from the worksession was that all parties involved wanted to find ways to make improvements to the Airpark community. Some options, such as further exploration into a control tower or re-examining the Airpark lease, could take longer to examine. Other possible remedies, such as improving community outreach and education or reviewing the County Code's disclosure requirements for properties within 5 miles of an airport or heliport, could be explored more quickly.

### **Response from DC Metro Aviation Services**

Chair Reindollar shared a letter he received addressed to both him and Councilmember Luedtke from Furey, Doolan & Abell, LLP, who represents DC Metro Aviation Services (MCAP). This letter refuted several of the claims in the FY25 report and its "portrayal of how MCAP operates its business at the Airpark." A copy of the letter has been attached to these minutes.

## **New Business**

### **FY25 Report Follow Up**

The committee discussed the need to monitor progress made on the 15 recommendations in the ACAC FY25 Report to ensure actions are being taken and issues resolved. It was determined that time would be set aside during the Old Business portion of each meeting for any updates or progress made on the recommendations.

### **Control Tower Discussion**

A subject the ACAC determined needs further investigation is the impact a control tower could have on the Airpark community. The goal of this investigation would be to provide the most informed recommendation to elected officials. Part of this process will involve reaching out to other airports of comparable size that have control towers. Conveniently, the Leesburg (VA) Airport recently went through this process of transitioning from a virtual, to temporary, to full time control tower.

A review of FAA requirements will also be necessary. An ACAC member familiar with FAA requirements and documentation volunteered to look into these topics and provide materials to the committee. Other considerations that need to be addressed would be community outreach, input, and education. Additionally, there are financial impacts and obligations that need to be explored.

### **Fly Friendly Discussion**

A topic that came up during the worksession and has been discussed at several other ACAC meetings was the Fly Friendly noise abatement procedures. There is still a need to improve compliance with these voluntary procedures by Airpark users to reduce the noise burden on the surrounding communities.

The ACAC will continue to examine how noise data can be best utilized to improve pilot and flight school conduct. Ensuring that information and messaging reaches the correct players was touched on. An example provided during the meeting was an instance where the aircraft owner, and not the pilot, was made aware their plane had been used to do pattern work prior to 8am. The aircraft owner then spoke to the pilot to address this issue.

Another idea discussed was looking at how other places promote their Fly Friendly procedures and educate pilots and other users. It was noted that the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association (AOPA), an organization that has hundreds of thousands of members in 75 countries, is based in Maryland and could be a good resource for this.

### **The following motion was made after discussion:**

Contact the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association (AOPA) to see if they could send a representative to an upcoming meeting to discuss Fly Friendly best practices.

This motion was unanimously approved.

## **Community Input/Feedback**

One member of the public signed up to speak but was unable to attend the meeting. Because the meeting ended early, the ACAC took a few questions from the community members who attended the meeting. Residents at the meeting were curious if the council asked about the flight schools. It was made clear that council members are aware of the concerns surrounding the flight school operations. It was also made clear that other pilots report incidents involving flight school aircraft to federal authorities, but little to no actions have been taken as the result of the reports. However, it was noted that FAA has been more involved in investigating flight school aircraft maintenance.

Following a unanimous committee vote the meeting was adjourned at 8:33 pm.