

ATTACHMENT 3

Horace Williams Airport

Assistant to the Town Manager Greg Feller stated that the staff's report included the status of several items, including private designation of the airport facility. Mr. Feller said that discussions concerning the private designation were being held with the Attorney General's Office.

Mr. Feller noted that the Town of Carrboro has asked to be informed of matters pertaining to airport operations. Mr. Feller added that both Chapel Hill and Carrboro were requesting annual operation reports from the airport.

Town Manager Taylor noted that the Town and University would continue to strive to enhance safety at the airport. Town Manager Taylor stated that the University has pledged to continue its dialogue with the Town about airport operations. Town Manager Taylor expressed his appreciation to Chancellor Hardin for the University's willingness to work with Town officials on this situation. Town Manager Taylor said adoption of resolution 6 was recommended to the Council.

Council Member Andresen expressed appreciation for the University's willingness to meet with Town officials concerning the status of the airport facility. Council Member Andresen proposed that two changes be made to resolution 6a prior to adoption by the Council. Town Manager Taylor concurred with Council Member Andresen's amendments to resolution 6a.

Council Member Werner requested further information concerning the term "private" facility. Town Manager Taylor stated that aviators could not use the facility without permission, except in case of emergency. Town Manager Taylor said that transient aircraft would not be permitted to land at a private facility. Council Member Werner inquired what would happen when aircraft are diverted, noting that he did not want to generate a situation where pilots would have to land on area roadways. Town Manager Taylor noted that planes directed to land at Horace Williams by personnel at Raleigh-Durham air control will be permitted to do so.

Council Member Wilkerson stated that the individual killed in the recent air crash near Horace Williams had not been directed to land at Horace Williams by RDU personnel.

COUNCIL MEMBER ANDRESEN MOVED, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER PASQUINI, TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 6A, AS AMENDED. THE MOTION WAS ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY (8-0).

A RESOLUTION CONCERNING THE NEED TO MINIMIZE SAFETY RISKS ASSOCIATED WITH HORACE WILLIAMS AIRPORT (89-10-10/R-6a)

WHEREAS, the location of and aircraft operations associated with Horace Williams Airport have been of concern to the Town for many years; and

WHEREAS, the Chancellor and other representatives of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill have participated in several discussions with representatives of the Council and with interested citizens; and

WHEREAS, in his letters of August 4 and 31, 1989 to the Mayor and Council, the Chancellor has described in detail the consideration and implementation of measures to limit activities and enhance safety of the Airport; and

WHEREAS, the Council desires with the University to build upon the progress achieved to date in addressing concerns related to the Airport; and

WHEREAS, all but one of the accidents associated with Horace Williams Airport in recent years have involved flights by transient aircraft, whose use of Horace Williams Airport should be eliminated at the earliest feasible time; and

WHEREAS, increasing commercial operations at RDU and the consequent limitation of general aviation at RDU are likely to increase demand for use of other airfields in the region, including Horace Williams Airport; and

WHEREAS, the Chancellor has affirmed the position that the University does not have plans to expand operations at Horace Williams Airport and the University's intention to continue efforts to minimize transient use of the facility;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Chapel Hill Town Council that:

1. The Council affirms its desire that, pending its relocation, Horace Williams Airport

--be designated as "private," to eliminate its use by transient aircraft;

--be closed to non-University operations between the hours of 9 p.m. and 6 a.m.; and

--be continuously monitored as to the volume, aircraft type and purposes of aircraft operations;

2. The Council requests that the University provide a status report to the Towns of Chapel Hill and Carrboro before the end of the 1989 calendar year regarding the matters identified as under consideration in the Chancellor's letters of August 4 and 31, 1989 to the Mayor and Council.
3. The Council requests the University provide information to the Chapel Hill Town Council and Carrboro Board of Aldermen annually regarding:
 - * The level and types of aircraft activity at the Airport.
 - * A review of significant Airport regulations important in limiting safety risks associated with aircraft operation around the airport, including limits on types and levels of activity such as those identified in the Chancellor's letters of August 4 and 31, 1989.
 - * Planned or potential measures to further increase safety and/or reduce activity levels, and the University's plans in general for the Airport.

The Council requests the opportunity for the Town and other interested parties to receive information on proposed procedural changes and to offer comments.

 - * An assessment of the effectiveness of previous changes in the regulation of Airport-related activities.
4. The Council requests the University to continue to enhance the safety of air operations associated with the Airport, with the goal of making safety improvements whenever practical.
5. The Council affirms its desire that air operations at Horace Williams Airport, other than those for public purposes, be carefully limited until they are relocated.
6. The Council welcomes and requests the opportunity from time to time to have discussions among representatives of the University, the Town, and other interested entities including community organizations, in the spirit of cooperation and good faith efforts to address matters of interest to the University.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Council expresses its appreciation to Chancellor Hardin and the University administration for their diligent work to respond to concerns of citizens, to better control activities at the Airport and to make the Airport operations safer.

This the 10th day of October, 1989.

Mayor Howes noted that the University had been forthcoming in its willingness to discuss airport operations with Town officials and citizens. Council Member Wilkerson stated that the airport issue is a highly emotional one. Council Member Wilkerson said that Orange County Commissioners should be working on relocating the facility to a site in the County.