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Agency of Transportation

April 20, 2023

Vermont Aviation Advisory Council, Caledonia County State Airport Lease Holders and Users,
and Statewide Aviation System Users

I am writing to make you aware that I will be testifying before the Senate Transportation Committee and the Senate Institutions Committee today regarding the Caledonia County Airport. My testimony will provide background regarding the current conditions at the airport and I will discuss a unique opportunity for investment which could result in long-term sustainability for the airport. I apologize for the late notification, but many pieces have recently come together, leading the Agency to act expeditiously.

The Agency of Transportation is required to obtain authorization from the General Assembly to sell any major asset of the Agency, such as an airport. We have made the determination to seek such authorization to pursue the sale of the Caledonia State Airport. So there is no confusion or concern, in any potential sale, the Agency would require the Caledonia State Airport remain open to the public for aviation uses and that all current leases would be honored. This would be achieved in the deed and any purchase and sales agreement.

We arrived at this decision for several reasons. First, we know the Caledonia Airport is in need of significant repair, to the tune of at least \$14 million dollars. Second, FAA funding for potential upgrades to the Caledonia Airport would not be on their priority list for several years. And third, Kyle Clark of BETA Technologies has expressed interest in investing in the Caledonia State Airport.

The potential for further aviation economic development, educational offerings, and community revitalization opportunities that could come from a sale is very intriguing to the state, and we expect the local community. The timing of all these elements makes this a unique opportunity to seriously explore our options.

The legislative authorization would allow the Agency to seek Requests for Proposals (RFPs) through an open bid process. This means any person, or entity, could submit a proposal for consideration.

The Agency would outline critical elements which any proposal must include, as well as the evaluation criteria used to assess proposals.

Below are the links where you can watch the testimony that will be given in the Committees today. You can also watch the recordings from these links if you are not able to watch these live.

Senate Transportation Committee, 11:00 a.m.

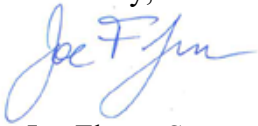
<https://legislature.vermont.gov/committee/streaming/senate-transportation>

Senate Institutions Committee. Approximately 1:30-2:00 p.m. following Senate Floor action

<https://legislature.vermont.gov/committee/streaming/senate-institutions>

If you have questions or would like to discuss this please feel free to reach out to Trini Brassard, Deputy Director, Policy, Planning & Intermodal Development at 802-522-8112 or trini.brassard@vermont.gov or Dan Delabruere, Rail & Aviation Bureau Director at 802-279-2647 or dan.delabruere@vermont.gov.

Sincerely,



Joe Flynn, Secretary
Agency of Transportation

