

# Airpark Community Advisory Committee (ACAC) Meeting Minutes

November 18, 2025  
7 – 8:30 PM

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



## Attendees:

### Members:

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

### MCDOT Staff Liaison:

Joe Pospisil

### Guests:

Mollie Hilty  
Sean Montgomery

## Action Items

### Month Meeting Minutes Approval

A grammatical error was identified in the draft October meeting minutes. No additional modifications were proposed to the meeting minutes aside from correcting this error. The minutes were approved unanimously by the committee and posted on the [ACAC Webpage](#).

## Old Business

Before the guest speaker arrived, updates on two motions made during the October meeting were provided.

### MCRA Board Meeting

ACAC members Dale Tuttle and Skip Reindollar attended and spoke at the November MCRA board meeting. They briefly introduced the ACAC and its mission and emphasized the need for the MCRA to devote more resources to the Airpark to address issues and concerns outlined in the ACAC FY25 Report. It was also suggested that the economic benefits and value of the Airpark

could improve immensely with more resources and attention based on how other small airports in the DC-area contribute to their communities. No feedback was provided by the MCRA board during the meeting.

### **Request Made of the County Council & CE**

Chair Reindollar sent an email to the County Council and County Executive to request assistance and additional resources. A copy of this email is attached to the October meeting minutes. Aaron Kraut indicated that Councilmember Luedtke met with representatives from the MCRA to discuss these issues. The possibility of the Airpark providing quarterly updates for some recommendations found in the ACAC FY25 Report was discussed; however, no determinations were made at that time.

### **New Business**

#### **Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association (AOPA) Discussion**

The remainder of the meeting was devoted to a guest speaker, Leon Jackler, who is the Vice President of the AOPA. The AOPA ([organization's website](#)), based in Frederick, Maryland, is the largest aviation association in the world. Mr. Jackler did not give a formal presentation or bring materials; however, afterward he emailed documents that he referenced, the *AOPA Airport Guide to Noise and Compatible Land Use* and the *AOPA Noise Awareness Steps*, to the ACAC liaison. These documents can be found on the [ACAC Webpage](#).

Mr. Jackler summarized AOPA's mission as promoting safety, providing education and outreach. Another goal of the organization is to promote the benefits an airport can provide. Friction between an airport, its users and the surrounding community are not uncommon, and noise and safety concerns associated with airports and aircraft are not unique to the Airpark. The AOPA strongly emphasizes that pilots follow Fly Friendly procedures, which are in place to help reduce the negative impacts on surrounding communities.

Adherence to Fly Friendly procedures can vary based on how pilots are approached regarding the matter or how the procedures are emphasized. Mr. Jackler noted that flight schools, or individual instructors, may not prioritize Fly Friendly procedures. One suggestion to address low compliance was to request that Designated Pilot Evaluators (DPEs) stress knowledge of Fly Friendly and other local noise abatement procedures when conducting their certification evaluations. This led to a brief discussion of potentially asking a DPE to attend an ACAC meeting, though no determination was made. A key takeaway from this discussion was that more direct and constructive dialogue with the flight schools, clubs and individual pilots was necessary.

Another key takeaway from the discussion between Mr. Jackler and the ACAC members was a need for more community outreach and engagement by the Airpark. Mr. Jackler provided a [YouTube video](#) as an example of an outreach event conducted by the Friends of the Everglades Airpark, which hosted an auto show as a way to engage the surrounding community. The Airpark has held events in the past and would like to restart holding events again. The AOPA could be a resource when it comes to planning future Airpark events. It was also suggested to engage the surrounding community when planning an event.

## **Community Input/Feedback**

Mollie Hilty provided in-person comments during the community input portion of the meeting. Her comments were also submitted in written form and are attached.

Following a unanimous committee vote the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm.

November 18, 2025, The 16<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Airpark Community Advisory Committee (ACAC)

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

Today, I want to share with the Committee the low flying training aircraft activity over my home for the last several weeks. Heard or scene. The following is from a log I keep when I can.

Sunday, October 26, 2025, 12:40p, 1:00p, 1:15p, 1:30p, 1:50p, 2:10p, 2:20p, 2:50p, 3:05p, 3:55p, 4:10p, 4:20p, 5:40p.

Friday, October 31, 2025, Midnight to 12:30a, in bed, heard jets every two to five to ten minutes for 30 minutes. My understanding jets would bank right from runway 32.

Tuesday, November 4, 2025, 8:30a, 9:25a, 9:30a, 10:00a, 10:05, (10:40a helicopter), 10:50a, 12:15p, 1:00p, 2:00p, 3:00p.

Thursday, November 6, 2025, 6:50a jet, 11:00a, 11:10, 11:15a, 11:20a, 9:05 jet.

Saturday, November 8, 2025, Midnight jet, 9:55a, 10:00a, 10:20a, 10:25a, 10:35a.

Friday, November 14, 2025, light wind 5 to 10 mph, 8:40a, helicopter, 9:30a, 3:15p, 6:15p.

The loudest aircraft heard are the C172 and C182.

The Federal Aviation Administration should establish alternate patterns<sup>NS</sup> for training flights to avoid residential communities.

AARON KRAUT, 11/18/25  
MAY NOT ATTEND  
ALL MEETINGS.  
I WILL EMAIL MY  
TESTIMONY TO YOU  
REP. LUKETKE AND  
EXECUTIVE. AND JOE.  
MOLLIE HILTY

Addendum: 6

Summary of 15 recommendations made in the FY25 ACAC Report.

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.

16 <sup>should</sup> The FAA establish alternate patterns for training flights to avoid Residential Communities.