
M E M O R A N D U M

DATE: September 10, 2004
TO: City Council Members
FROM: Russell Weeks
RE: Proposed Ordinance to Amend Sections of Salt Lake City Code Title 16 Pertaining to General Aviation Regulations
CC: Cindy Gust-Jenson, Rocky Fluhart, Tim Campbell, Ed Rutan, Gary Mumford, Jodi Howick

This memorandum is meant to address issues involved in a variety of proposed amendments to *City Code* Title 16 that pertain to general aviation regulations. It should be noted that in the context of City ordinances “general aviation” largely involves regulating small aircraft, not commercial jets.

The Administration is scheduled to brief the City Council on the proposed ordinance at the Council’s work session September 9. The Council also tentatively has placed formal consideration of the proposed ordinance on the Council’s agenda for September 14.

POTENTIAL OPTIONS

- Adopt the proposed amendments.
- Do not adopt the proposed amendments.
- Adopt some but not all of the proposed amendments.

POTENTIAL MOTIONS

- I move that the City Council adopt the ordinance subtitled *General Aviation Technical Revisions to Title 16*.
- I move that the City Council consider the next item on the agenda.
- I move that the City Council adopt the ordinance subtitled *General Aviation Technical Revisions to Title 16* with the following exception: That Section 16.16.180 retain the following language: **Exemption for Flying Reindeer on Christmas Eve**. On Christmas Eve only, flying reindeer and any cargo they may be towing shall be exempt from the two thousand foot height restriction and other provisions of this section.

KEY POINTS/DISCUSSION

The proposed ordinance is the result of an extensive review by a group known as the General Aviation User Group and the Department of Airports. The group is made up of the owners and operators of small aircraft, including those who lease hangars at the Salt Lake City

International Airport and Airport No. 2 in West Jordan. John Short, the current chair of the Airport Board and an aircraft owner and pilot, led discussions among the group. After Mr. Short was appointed to the Airport Board he began working with the group to suggest changes to the general aviation section of Title 16.

According to the Administration's transmittal, the group "has reviewed and accepted this document." The Administration supports adoption of the proposed ordinance.

The bulk of the proposed changes involve repealing sections of the ordinance that address "technical flight requirements" already governed by federal laws. According to the Administration's transmittal, "... the Department does not believe these local enforcement measures add value to the enforcement process."

Other proposed amendments of note:

- An amendment to Section 16.04.050 would add Salt Lake City's facilities in Tooele to the definition of "airport."
- Amendments to sections 16.12.090, 16.12.210, and 16.56.110 would appear to allow aircraft owners to make some aircraft repairs in hangars they lease from the City, but only to their own aircraft; allow some aircraft mechanics to work on aircraft without leasing space at the airport (Some mechanics have their businesses outside the airport and would like to go to hangars to work on aircraft.); and require anyone who works on small aircraft to "possess all applicable licenses" as well as obtain permission from the Director of Airports.
- Amendment 16.12.250 would allow animals besides dogs in airport facilities if they are "controlled by a leash or other means which will secure the control thereof by the owner or person in charge of" the animal.
- Amendment 16.12.260 would appear to allow the transportation of an unloaded firearm "or ammunition" in a private aircraft "in a manner that complies with law."

The proposed ordinance also would eliminate the following language from Section 16.16.180 titled *Flight Over the City – Minimum Altitude*: "Exemption for Flying Reindeer on Christmas Eve only, flying reindeer and any cargo they may be towing shall be exempt from the two-thousand foot height restriction and other provisions of subsection A of this section."