

Dear Michael,

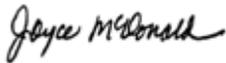
I wanted to thank you for bringing your concerns regarding airport gate access and airport operating rules to my attention.

As an update in response to your concerns and concerns raised by others, Councilmembers will be conducting a site visit/tour of Thun Field airport in January to observe how the gate system operates. During the January visit, I also hope to be able to visit with airport businesses to better understand their experience with the gate system. The Council will also be discussing on the gate access issue to give the airport advisory commissions, airport businesses, and the public an opportunity to address the Council further on the topic. This study session will be useful to me in determining if a resolution regarding gate access should be introduced.

The Council has also decided to conduct additional review of Ordinance 2014-108 and will be sending the proposal back to committee. Similar to your suggestion, the Council may consider an amendment to the ordinance to require that all airport rules be subject to ratification by the Council. Such an approach preserves some of the flexibility that the airport administrator needs to operate the airport on a day to day basis but also ensures that the Council continues to have an oversight role. I anticipate that Ordinance No. 2014-108 will be sent back to committee and discussed at the January 27th @ 9:30 am Economic and Infrastructure Development meeting.

If you have any further questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joyce McDonald". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Joyce McDonald
Council District 2
Pierce County Council, Exec. Pro Tem

From: Michael E. Thompson [<mailto:avstarair@att.net>]

Sent: Monday, December 29, 2014 8:21 AM

To: Daniel Roach; Joyce McDonald; Jim McCune; Connie Ladenburg; Rick Talbert; Doug Richardson; Stanley Flemming

Cc: Brian Ziegler; Deb Wallace

Subject: Two very bad things for the Pierce County Airports

I hope you all had an enjoyable Christmas holiday!

I requested help from the county on the subject of the 24-hour security that was placed upon the users of Pierce County Airport / Thun Field, and all I received in return was delay tactics in not answering my questions, or simply, no response. This became clear upon finding the trail of Ordinance 2014-108. The delay you displayed is now fully understood. You were given multiple opportunities to discuss this, but I was met with 'not open to debate'. I am distressed that as elected officials on the county council, you would not even take the time to respond to my individual request, so I have taken this to a more public arena to gather support.

The following release was sent out, Saturday, to news organizations and airport users.

December 27, 2014

To: News organizations and interested parties

Subject: Two very bad things for the Pierce County Airports

Good Day;

This past summer, 24-hour security was applied to Pierce County Airport / Thun Field. The promise is that will also be applied to Tacoma Narrows Airport in the spring of 2015, as both airports are under the jurisdiction of Airport and Ferries Administrator Deb Wallace, an employee of the Pierce County Public Works Department.

This application of authority was not well conceived or installed at Thun Field, with numerous deficiencies including, but not limited to, erratic gate operation, un-fair competition questions due to placement of the fences & gates, etc. Additionally, the security is/was not required by Federal Law, State Law, or County regulation; rather, it was at the whim of Ms Wallace as she thought it was a good idea, and as she stated on several occasions, 'not open for debate'.

As an independent business owner, I contacted the Director of Public Works and the Pierce County Council with my concerns; the (very) limited response was without resolution and contained no admission of problems. As a member of the Thun Field Advisory Commission, I participated in the unanimous vote of the TFAC in requesting the security gate closures be returned to their previous 12-hour operation. The only constant was a lack of response, what appeared to be a delay tactic. Last week, a close business associate brought my attention to Pierce County Ordinance 2014-108, set to be voted on January 13, 2015 by the County Council. This ordinance, if passed, will "Repeal.. the Pierce County Airport – Thun Field Rules Adopted pursuant to Ordinance No, 2000-2s; and **Authorize the Director of the Public Works and Utilities Department to Administratively Establish Rules** for use of the Pierce County Airport – Thun Field and the Tacoma Narrows Airport" (Emphasis added)

No truer statement applies here: Two wrongs do not make a right. Giving full autonomy to the Airport Administrator will only create more onerous regulations that we will have to abide by, that would also be not open to debate.

The word of this back-door cover-up must be disseminated to the general public without delay. The full timelines of these conjoined issues are available for viewing at the following website:

http://www.avstarair.com/news/Running_Amok.htm

I not only encourage you to read it, but also by this statement, give you permission to further circulate the information contained within that page.

The County Council meetings are open to the public; I support attendance and peaceful dissent at the 3:00pm meeting of January 13, 2015.

Michael E Thompson,
President, AVSTAR Aircraft of Washington, Inc.