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President and CEO

David Yeoman  
Chairman  
Cedar Rapids Airport Commission  
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Dear Chairman Yeoman,

On behalf of the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association, I am writing to take special notice of the Cedar Rapids Airport Commission's efforts to offer 100LL avgas self-service fueling and alternative ramp parking to general aviation users of the Eastern Iowa Airport, a critical component of the national and local transportation system which is funded substantially with local, state, and federal funds.

The Airport Commission's decision to make a self-serve fuel facility available as competition to the only fixed-base operator (FBO) at the airport is particularly noteworthy. AOPA also applauds the airport's ongoing efforts to offer its own transient parking ramp as an alternative to the FBO, which currently provides the only point of entry and exit for transient operators. These are imperative steps for airport operators to take in their role as an oversight body responsible for ensuring that prices for critical aeronautical services are reasonable, fair, and not discriminatory. These requirements are a major focus area for AOPA nationwide.

Based on my personal experiences at the airport, the steps you have taken are both warranted and deeply appreciated. I also believe a self-service Jet A fueling option would further promote competition and would like to know if this is under consideration as well.

AOPA has over 3,000 members in the State of Iowa and general aviation is an economic engine that contributes \$3.1 billion in output to the state, according to a 2015 PwC study. But that engine, and the more than 37,000 operations at Eastern Iowa Airport, rely on access, and unreasonable prices and fees deter pilots and operators from airports. Introducing competitive options for parking and fueling services at Eastern Iowa Airport will serve as a beacon for the entire general aviation community as an airport willing to take action and protect affordable access to our nation's public-use airports.

Please feel free to reach out to us if there is anything we can do and we look forward to working together to protect general aviation and the freedom to fly.

Best Regards,

Mark R. Baker

cc: Marty P. Lenss, Airport Director, *m.lenss@flycid.com*