



601 Pennsylvania Ave NW, Suite 250  
Washington, D.C. 20001  
T. 202-851-7501  
[www.aopa.org](http://www.aopa.org)

March 13, 2026

Daniel J. Edwards - Associate Administrator for Airports  
Federal Aviation Administration  
800 Independence Ave SW  
Washington, DC 20591

Via Electronic Mail – [dan.edwards@dot.gov](mailto:dan.edwards@dot.gov)

**Re: AOPA Support for Proposed Transfer of Caledonia County Airport (KCDA), Vermont to CRAFT VT.**

Dear Mr. Edwards,

On behalf of the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association (AOPA) and our members across Vermont and New England, I am writing to express strong support for the proposed transfer of Caledonia County State Airport (KCDA) from the State of Vermont to CRAFT VT (Clark Rothblatt Airports for Tomorrow Vermont).

Caledonia County State Airport is a critically important public-use general aviation facility for the region — supporting personal and business aviation, pilot training and proficiency, community connectivity, and aviation access for public-service missions and local economic activity. Preserving this airport as a safe, accessible, public-use airport aligns directly with AOPA’s mission to protect the freedom to fly by supporting activities that ensure the long-term health of general aviation and GA airport and fighting to keep general aviation accessible to all.

AOPA recognizes that KCDA faces serious facility and operational challenges and that the Vermont Legislature has directed that it be sold or leased, with the condition that it remain open to public use. The current challenges, including runway condition and fuel system issues, are the unfortunate result of budgetary constraints and priorities under the current structure, resulting in a situation where the airport may be at risk of closure or curtailed operations if a viable path forward is not approved. AOPA is deeply concerned whenever a public-use general aviation airport faces closure—particularly when there is a responsible, aviation-focused solution available that can restore safety and protect long-term access. We have spoken with Vermont Transportation Secretary Joe Flynn, and he made it quite clear to us that the proposed transfer would be in the best interest of all stakeholders.

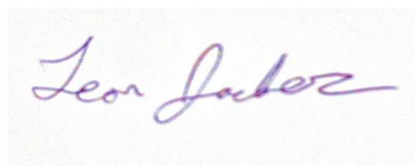
In discussions with AOPA, CRAFT VT has committed not only to keeping KCDA open for public use, and to undertake the investments necessary to return the airport to a safe, functional condition, but to create a thriving General Aviation environment. The plans they have shared with us include flight and maintenance training, STEM education, community engagement, light manufacturing, and expanding the Vermont Aviation Museum. AOPA is familiar with CRAFT VT’s principals, Martine Rothblatt and

Kyle Clark, as AOPA members and active aviators. They are widely recognized within the aviation community as passionate supporters of aviation access, with strong ties to Vermont and a demonstrated commitment to responsible airport ownership and stewardship. We believe that their aviation experience and long-term dedication to supporting airports, flight training, and innovation put them in a unique position to be effective caretakers of KCDA's future. We also hope that the KCDA could eventually serve as a model for other similarly situated GA airports around the country.

For these reasons, AOPA respectfully urges the Federal Aviation Administration to approve the proposed transfer and to work with all parties to complete the necessary review steps efficiently—so that urgent safety and infrastructure improvements can proceed and KCDA can remain available as a public-use airport. AOPA appreciates the FAA's role in ensuring compliance with applicable federal requirements and in protecting the integrity of the national airport system. Based on the commitments presented, AOPA believes the proposed transfer is consistent with those goals and strongly in the public interest.

Thank you for your consideration and for your continued work in support of general aviation and safe, accessible airports. Please feel free to contact me at 202-851-7501 or [leon.jackler@aopa.org](mailto:leon.jackler@aopa.org) if AOPA can provide additional context or assistance during the review process.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in purple ink that reads "Leon Jackler". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Leon J. Jackler, J.D. CFI-I

Vice President, Airports and State Advocacy

Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association

cc: Jessica Sypniewski, [jessica.sypniewski@faa.gov](mailto:jessica.sypniewski@faa.gov)

Luke Garrison, [luke.garrison@faa.gov](mailto:luke.garrison@faa.gov)

Kyle Clark, [kyle@beta.team](mailto:kyle@beta.team)

Dennise Casey, [dennise@dennisecasey.com](mailto:dennise@dennisecasey.com)

Kristen Costello, [kcostello@beta.team](mailto:kcostello@beta.team)

Joe Flynn, [joe.flynn@vermont.gov](mailto:joe.flynn@vermont.gov)

Trini Brassard, [Trini.Brassard@vermont.gov](mailto:Trini.Brassard@vermont.gov)

Evan Robinson, [Evan.Robinson@vermont.gov](mailto:Evan.Robinson@vermont.gov)