



421 Aviation Way  
Frederick, Maryland 01

T. 301-695-2000  
F. 301-695-2375

[www.aopa.org](http://www.aopa.org)

September 30, 2010

The Honorable Daniel D. McArthur  
City of St. George  
175 East 200 North  
St. George, UT 84770

Dear Mayor McArthur:

The Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association (AOPA) represents the general aviation interests of 410,000 members, more than two-thirds of the nation's pilots – including more than 3,000 in the state of Utah. On behalf of our membership, AOPA is committed to ensuring the future viability and development of airports and their facilities as part of a national transportation system and to accommodate all types and categories of aircraft.

For the past several months, we have been in contact with members regarding issues that are developing with the city's transition to a new replacement airport. We have been advised that the City of St. George intends to open its new airport on or about January 13, 2011 and at that time cease operating the current airport. We have serious concerns about the availability of GA facilities at the new airport. Recently our members have indicated that due to several key factors including, execution of leases unfavorable to the new GA tenants and required Federal Aviation Administration evaluations of proposed hangar locations, they will be unable to move to the new airport because the GA facilities will not be ready to accommodate them. In attempting to resolve these concerns we understand that the city has not been willing to meet to work out equitable arrangements.

It is important to note that at the current airport, the greater majority of operations are GA in nature including significant transient traffic, even while offering commercial service and filling a national role as a non-hub primary airport. As an AOPA member and aircraft owner you are no doubt aware of the benefit that GA aircraft and operations bring to the city's airport. We are unable to understand why the city is reluctant to resolve your fellow tenants concerns and ensure a smooth transition to the new airport. We would like to help both sides come to a reasonable resolution.

Thank you for taking our views into consideration and I will be calling you soon to discuss this matter.

Sincerely,

John L. Collins  
Manager  
Airport Policy