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May 11, 2026

To: Columbia Missouri City Council
De'Carlon Seewood

Re: Columbia Airport

Greetings:

I am writing to you today as the Chair of the Columbia Missouri Airport Advisory Board (AAB).

We are grateful for the tremendous growth that has been experienced by COU in the last year. Growth comes with additional challenges.

At our meeting on Wednesday, April 29, 2026, the AAB unanimously voted to support the changes being recommended by City Manager Seewood, including the elevation of the operation of the airport to its own Department within city government. Also included in that recommendation is to eliminate the title of Airport Manager and add Airport Director to reflect more consistent titles with industry standards. This recommendation also allows the appointment of a Deputy Director for COU which would stabilize the future of COU management. The unanimous support also included the other job title changes suggested by City Manager Seewood.

This is a progression that is in line with other airports comparable to COU – and continues to stabilize the future of COU.

If you would like to discuss this matter with me on behalf of the AAB, please feel free to contact me at reinspahr57@gmail.com or 573-999-2234.

Thank you for your consideration of this important issue.

Sincerely,



Randa Rawlins