



**AIRCRAFT OWNERS AND PILOTS ASSOCIATION**

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December 22, 2005

Mr. Edward N. Agnew  
Manager, Airports Development Office  
Federal Aviation Administration Southwest Region Airports Division Arkansas/Oklahoma Airports  
Development Office, ASW-630  
Fort Worth, TX 76193-0630

Re: Notice on Surplus Property Release at Shawnee Regional Airport, Shawnee, OK  
Federal Register, December 1, 2005, page 72144, FR Doc. 05-23526

Dear Mr. Agnew:

The Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association (AOPA) represents the general aviation interests of 406,000 members, more than two-thirds of the nation's pilots - including 5,000 of our members in the state of Oklahoma. On behalf of our membership, AOPA is committed to ensuring the future viability and development of general aviation airports and their facilities as part of a national transportation system.

We are writing to express our concern with the intended purpose for the property release notice referenced above. The Association believes that constructing an early childhood development center on this property could create an incompatible land use situation with the airport. AOPA is strongly opposed to locating schools near airports and encourages airport sponsors to build schools no less than two miles from airports. AOPA does not oppose the release of the 8.2 acres of land as it does provide a benefit to civil aviation at Shawnee Regional Airport; however, we would like to see a more compatible land use at that location.

The Association respectfully requests that the Federal Aviation Administration rule against releasing the property until such time as a more compatible use is provided by the City of Shawnee.

Thank you for your consideration of AOPA's views on this issue. If we can be of any further assistance, please contact me at 301-695-2119.

Sincerely,

John L. Collins  
Government Technical Specialist  
AOPA Airport Support Network Program

cc: Mr. James C. Collard, City Manager, City of Shawnee  
Mr. Victor N. Bird, Director, Oklahoma Aeronautics Commission  
Ms. Shelly Lesikar, AOPA Southwest Regional Representative