

ONCE AGAIN, THE AIRPORT LOBBYISTS STRAFE THE TOWN OF EAST HAMPTON WITH HALF-TRUTHS, OUTRIGHT LIES, AND BOGUS STATISTICS.

There's a dense fog of confusion surrounding the East Hampton Airport and its supposed value to the Town - largely caused by a group that calls itself the East Hampton Community Alliance. Misinformation is their specialty. We simply can't allow their malevolent fear-mongering go unanswered. We think voters have a right to know the facts. The plain, unbiased, undistorted, verifiable, documented facts.

THE FACT: No doubt an unintended bit of truth! Yes, shutting down the airport would definitely have an impact on all of the voters of the Town of East Hampton and all of their East End neighbors - an impact we'd all be happy to live with! No more ear-splitting noise, no more air pollution, no more poisoned aquifer and Wainscott wells, and better uses for 610 acres of some of the most valuable land in America. Things that would benefit the whole of the community rather than merely the selfish and uncaring 1%.

THE FACT: Aside from the statistical, physical, and legal improbability of that made-up number, according to the Town's independently conducted Analysis, of the 1.7 million people who visit East Hampton each year, less than 1% used the airport to get here. And, of those, 48% say that they would continue to come to East Hampton if they were unable to arrive by aircraft.

THE FACT: Huh? Take a look at a map. Why would any pilot choose to fly over land to a water-side airport like Montauk? That would be called a Spite Flight. It makes no rational sense. We really don't need to waste more time with this one. Even the "Alliance" can't think anyone would take this seriously.

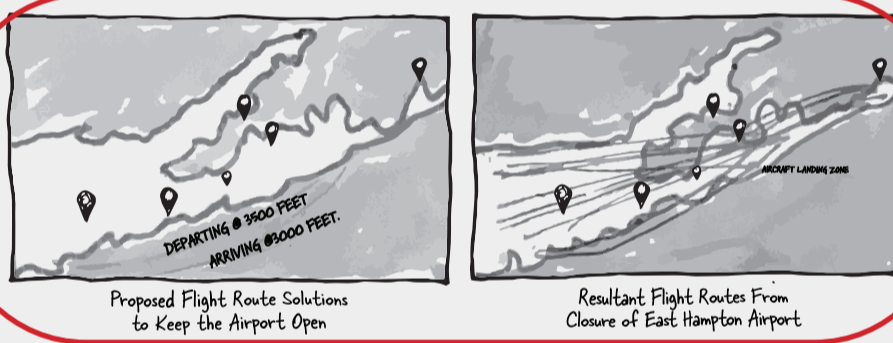
THE FACT: Actually, shutting down the airport only shifts the problem to you if you are one of the 1% who insist on flying to the Hamptons whatever the consequences and the rest of us be damned. And that is a problem that the terrorized 99% of us are quite willing to deal with.

THE FACT: The East Hampton Community Alliance, while purporting to represent the community, is actually a business alliance founded by two pilots to protect the interests of the companies that profit by transporting a tiny handful of people to the Hamptons on variously sized jets, seaplanes, propeller planes, and helicopters.

Full-page Ad, The East Hampton Star,
October 14, 2021 - Section B, Page 3

The East Hampton Star, October 14, 2021 B3

Closing East Hampton Airport Will Have an Irreversible Impact on Montauk and Southampton Residents



- Over 90% of fliers who use East Hampton Airport for transportation will continue to fly to neighboring landing zones in the event of closure.⁽¹⁾
- Montauk Airport, the Southampton Heliport, and local waters surrounding Southampton are key destination alternatives for all fliers.
- Closing East Hampton Airport will result in many more aircraft flying over land on the way to and from Montauk, in addition to shifting flights to Southampton

By adopting routes that are entirely over ocean to and from East Hampton Airport, flights over residential areas can be eliminated by nearly 100%

Closing the airport doesn't solve the problem, it shifts the problem to you.

EAST HAMPTON COMMUNITY ALLIANCE

⁽¹⁾Based on Summer 2021 surveys of passengers who actively fly to and from East Hampton Airport.

THE FACT: Wow, a far cry from the 200 feet they're flying now. We hope this absurd bit of magical thinking wasn't proposed by a real pilot flying real people around. Because it could only be accomplished by a fighter plane called the Harrier Jump Jet that the military uses to make vertical takeoffs and landings from aircraft carriers.

THE FACT: Apparently the "Alliance" counts on East Hampton voters being both uninformed and hopelessly gullible. A). The tiny airport in Montauk, the "Alliance's favorite Boogie Man, with its short runways, iffy weather, and lack of any facilities at all (no fuel, no parking, not even a port a potty) has, by formal FAA agreement, been designated a Prior-Permission Airport. Which means that the Montauk Airport has the absolute unqualified power to say no. B). Given its pages-long list of draconian restrictions, weight and size prohibitions, limited time-slots, remote location, and physical limitations, to suggest that the Southampton Heliport is even a remotely viable substitute for the East Hampton Apocalypse Now fleet is just plain silly. C). And, as for the idea that local waters will take the place of the East Hampton airport, the Town of East Hampton has banned seaplanes from landing or taking off within 1500 feet of the shore. Southampton has imposed similar severe restrictions. Wading to shore from a seaplane toting their children and their Vuitton luggage hardly seems like an attractive long-term alternative. And it's safe to say that the occasionally mentioned scheme to construct offshore landing strips, is a nonstarter as well.

THE FACT: Since the East Hampton Airport is land-locked, this just isn't physically possible. And we're sure that if it were possible, as good neighbors, the offending aircraft would have been doing this all along, right?

THE FACT: Statistically valid or more misinformation? Actually, this "research" is totally at odds with the Town's analysis.

THEFACTHOUNDS

[Everyone is entitled to their own opinion, but not their own facts.]
Daniel Patrick Moynihan

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