

DOING THE RIGHT THING CAN TAKE COURAGE. IT'S NOW TIME FOR THE CANDIDATES RUNNING FOR THE EAST HAMPTON TOWN BOARD TO STAND UP, RAISE THEIR HANDS, AND TELL VOTERS WHERE THEY STAND ON THE EAST HAMPTON AIRPORT.

FOR THE FIRST TIME IN TWO DECADES, THE TOWN OF EAST HAMPTON HAS THE POWER TO TAKE BACK CONTROL OF THE 610 ACRES IT HANDED OVER TO THE EAST HAMPTON AIRPORT WITH EMBARRASSINGLY LITTLE TO SHOW FOR IT. AND ALL FOR THE CONVENIENCE OF AN UNCARING AND SELFISH 1%. VOTERS NEED TO KNOW THE FACTS.

How about its contribution to the economy?

FACT: According to the unbiased, independent Economic Impact Analysis commissioned by the Town itself, estimated passenger spending amounts to 1%–3% of the Town's taxable sales revenue. An amount, they say, that's "less than the price of a medium-sized home in East Hampton."

How about jobs?

FACT: According to The Town's Economic Impact Analysis, the airport employs an estimated 15 people full-time and brings in no more than 100 - 230 tourist-related jobs. To be charitable, the "Alliance's" oft-used claim that passenger spending generates "thousands of jobs" is simply a deceptive and self-serving fantasy.

Air, water, and noise pollution are the airport's main contributions to the Town of East Hampton.

FACT: During takeoffs and landings, airplane emissions contain a variety of noxious air pollutants including carbon dioxide, methane, and nitrous oxide. According to the Environmental Protection Agency, during one hour of flight, a typical private jet emits more carbon into the air that you breathe than a typical car does in one year.

FACT: Aircraft using the East Hampton Airport spew out approximately 51.5 million pounds of carbon emissions each year! The Environmental Conditions Analysis commissioned by the Town concluded that 6% of the Town's harmful emissions are produced by the 1% of the population – which just happens to be the 1% that insist that the airport be maintained for their convenience. We can't eliminate cars, but we can certainly eliminate aircraft.

FACT: The Magothy Aquifer is the Town of East Hampton's sole source of drinkable water. Needless to say, maintaining its purity is essential. The East Hampton Airport sits directly atop the deepest and most critical part of the Aquifer. You hardly need a scientist to tell you that pumping a million gallons of fuel annually, thousands of landings and takeoffs, and the inexcusably unwise practice of testing firefighting foam on airport grounds is not a healthy idea. The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation has detected four different locations on airport property that show evidence of contamination. It is likely that this contamination is responsible for the poisoning of wells in Wainscott. A further investigation is in process at this moment. Remedial action is liable to cost taxpayers tens of millions of dollars. Ah, but of course somebody is profiting from pumping all that fuel: primarily it's the one single operator, Sound Aircraft Services.

DON'T BE FOOLED BY INCORRECT INFORMATION OR FRIGHTENED BY FEAR-MONGERING. CONSIDER INSTEAD THE MANY EXCITING ALTERNATIVE USES THAT 610 ACRES COULD BE PUT TO, PROJECTS THAT WOULD BENEFIT THE WHOLE OF THE COMMUNITY.

THEFACTHOUNDS

[*Everyone is entitled to their own opinion, but not their own facts.*]

Daniel Patrick Moynihan

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