



Rhode Island Airport Corporation

To: Master Plan Study Resource Committee Members

From: Michael Cheston *MC*  
Executive Director

Subject: Airport Tour

Date: June 5, 2001

I wanted to thank you for your participation in the airport tour conducted on May 30, 2001. The tours seem to be well received by all attendees and offered a snapshot perspective of the airport's control tower, terminal building, airfield and surrounding neighborhoods. As usual, there was great interest in the tower tour and I wish to extend a special thank you to Cully Beasley, Tower Manager, and Tom Lafen, Operations Manager for their excellent insight to important safety and airport efficiency issues.

Some of the airport's constraints viewed on the tour included the lack of standard runway safety area for both ends of Runway 16-34; the lack of appropriate separation between Runway 16-34 and parallel Taxiway "C"; the awkward geometry between the terminal gates, taxiways and runways, that sometimes limit the tower's ability to maneuver aircraft without delay; the lack of airport property control for land use within the Runway 16 Protection Zone which decrease safety margins for aircraft using that runway; and the lack of available aircraft parking areas to serve our current airline tenants for overnight aircraft parking.

During both the morning and afternoon tours, the winds were strong out of the northwest, favoring Runway 34 departures over Ann and Hope. Unfortunately, this limited the group's ability to fully appreciate the aircraft noise impact on the airport's closest neighbors. In this regard, RIAC's Board and master plan staff will be separately touring some of the surrounding neighborhoods in the early morning as soon as possible. I encourage all SRC members to similarly visit the surrounding neighborhoods to gain some insight into the problems experienced by these stakeholders.

Chairman, E. Colby Cameron  
William J. Clegg  
Ronald Coia  
James Forte  
Charles A. Gaffney  
Kathleen C. Hittner, M.D.  
Bruce S. Holland  
Executive Director, Michael Cheston

For any SRC member that was not able to take the tour, or for any member that took the tour and would like to see specific areas again, please contact Wayne Schuster, Director of Planning & Development to arrange for a suitable time to accommodate you.

Thank you again for your participation in this important study, and I look forward to seeing you at the next SRC meeting scheduled for June 28, 2001 from 5:30 P.M. to 9:30 P.M. at the Sheraton Hotel on Post Road near the airport.

cc: RIAC Board Members  
M. Brewer  
W. Schuster  
P. Goldstein  
S. Traficante